

**Monday, July 10, 2023**  
**Minutes of the Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting**

The Monday, July 10, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was called to order by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 4:46 p.m. at The Lodge in Steamboat Rock.

**Board Members Attending:** Trent Lambert (Chair), Kirk Rice (Vice-Chair), Bryan Meints, Jo Baumann, and Julie Jeske

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Attending:** Wes Wiese (Director), Laura Carr (Office Assistant)

**Guests:** None.

**Approval of Agenda:** Kirk Rice made a motion to approve the July 10, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Julie Jeske made a motion to approve the June 12, 2023 regular and special meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Kirk Rice. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Approval of Claims:** Jo Baumann made a motion to approve the July 10, 2023 monthly claims. The motion was seconded by Julie Jesse. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Monthly Special Reports:**

**Chair Report:** Trent Lambert noted the amount of usage he's seen at Cross' Ford & Bates while mapping out the UTV with Bryan Meints. He also reported on the meeting that Bryan and he presented at with the Hardin County Endowment Fund.

**Board Member's Report:** Bryan Meints noted that the new parking lot at Ruby looks good.

**Special Committee's Report:**

**The Lodge Committee:** The Director, Wes Wiese, presented the board with illustrations for a new building for The Lodge. The Board and Director discussed the layout and features of the new building. The old building will be torn down.

**Fundraising Committee:** The Director stated that he would like to incorporate a memorial float for Nancy Slife along with the Fall Festival. The Board and Director discussed alcohol at the UTV Fundraiser. Wes noted that there is currently no update on the special event insurance policy. The Board is waiting on insurance details to make decisions on alcohol. Bryan stated that he is still looking for live music. The Board also discussed raffle ideas for the event.

**Salary Committee:** None.

All reports were given and discussed. Julie Jeske made a motion to approve all monthly reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Jo Baumann. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Calkins Alcohol Policy:** No update from the Friends of Calkins Board.

**The Lodge HVAC:** The Director stated that the funds given by the Hardin County Endowment Fund may be transferred and used for the new plans for The Lodge.

**New Business:**

**The Lodge Donation CD:** The Director proposed placing the current donations for The Lodge, approximately \$42,000, in a 12-month CD to earn interest. Kirk Rice made a motion to place \$42,000 in a 12-month CD. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried. The Director is to follow up with the board on local CD rates.

**The Lodge Septic Project:** The Director informed the Board that the City of Steamboat Rock had received bids for the septic project. The City of Steamboat Rock is proposing the Hardin County Conservation Board pay a surcharge of \$600 per month over 10 years. The total contribution of Hardin County Conservation would be \$75,000 towards the septic project. The Board discussed the proposal. It was the consensus of the Board that the payment be made in full rather than paid out over a 10-year span. Kirk Rice made the motion to approve up to \$75,000 towards the septic project, contingent upon other funds, with 90 days to receive a signed contract with the City of Steamboat Rock guaranteeing the project will be completed, and that the city provide a tentative start date. The motion was seconded by Julie Jeske. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Motus Tower Gift:** The Director informed the Board that Tom Shilke has expressed interest in donating a Motus Tower at Headquarters in memory of Nancy Slife. Julie Jeske made a motion to accept the donation of a Motus Tower at Headquarters. The motion was seconded by Bryan Meints. All members voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Informational Items:**

**ICCS Fall Conference:** The Director informed the Board of the date and tentative agenda for the ICCS Fall Conference.

**Adjournment:** Next Hardin County Conservation Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 6 pm. The Monday, July 10, 2023, meeting of the Hardin County Conservation Board was adjourned by Chair, Trent Lambert, at 6:03 p.m.