

The Town of
Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming
NATURAL RESOURCE BOARD MINUTES
Monday, October 25th, 2021

Present: Greg Greenhoe – Chairman
Victor Padilla – Member
Paul Bordwell – Member
Ruzena Rok – Member

Absent: Taylor Ellis (TSVR NRB Council Liaison)
Deb Adler – Alternate Member
Craig Adler – Chair, Trails Committee/Trail Crew

Guests: Shirley Greenhoe, Chair, Parks and Landscaping Committee

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Chairman G. Greenhoe called the meeting to order at 2:10pm.
2. **Review and Approval of Prior NRB Meeting Minutes.** V. Padilla motioned to approve the final minutes from the September 21st, 2021 NRB Meeting. P. Bordwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **NRB Donation Account Report.** G. Greenhoe stated that the donation account report is maintained on Google documents as a spreadsheet. G. Greenhoe said he would ask the Town Clerk (Kristin) to provide access for V. Padilla to the spreadsheet to facilitate him being able to begin maintaining the spreadsheet. The expectation is that at future NRB meetings V. Padilla will provide the account report with regard to expenditures and income. G. Greenhoe provided the account report by stating that since the last NRB meeting in September there was no change in the General Donation account which contains a balance of \$6,434.52. For the Trails Account, the only change since the last meeting is a \$200 expenditure for the September rent payment for the two portable toilets at the Green Canyon and Cedar Creek trailheads. There was brief discussion of whether or not the toilets stay at the trailheads during the winter. G. Greenhoe said they would remain unless the vendor, Dry Creek, decides to pull them out for some reason. The Trail Account balance is \$6,304.15; and total available funds for the two accounts is currently \$12,738.67. R. Rok made a motion to approve the donation accounts report. P. Bordwell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **NRB 2022 Budget.** G. Greenhoe noted that the members needed to approve the Budget for 2022 and that the fiscal year ends June 30th. G. Greenhoe also advised the members that during the September 2021 NRB meeting when the 2022 budget had been discussed that inclusion of the Weed/Bounty Program had been overlooked. The Weed/Bounty Program adds a \$2,000 expenditure. This brings the total 2022 expenditures to \$21,715. G. Greenhoe further noted that \$1,000 from Lincoln County Weed and Pest (LCWP) should

also be included in the 2022 budget as income as half of the \$2,000 expenditure is matched by LCWP. Following review of these changes, V. Padilla motioned to approve the 2022 budget with P. Bordwell seconding. The motion for approval of the 2022 Budget passed unanimously.

5. **Trails Committee/Trail Crew Report.** G. Greenhoe distributed a copy of the Trail Report provided by C. Adler (C. Adler was not present at the meeting). G. Greenhoe reviewed the items from the Trail Report (see Appendix I to these meeting minutes). G. Greenhoe discussed the recent damage to fencing along the road at the Cedar Creek Trailhead caused by a vehicle. The vehicle, a pick-up truck came in at 12:30am and departed at 2am on Wednesday, October 7th. Enough parts of the truck were broken off during its high-speed encounter with the fencing to enable identification of the vehicle as a 2004-2008 Dodge Ram. The incident was reported on the Trail Crew Facebook Page and the Star Valley Independent (SVI) subsequently ran a story about the incident. A report was filed with the Lincoln County Sheriff. The Sheriff was ultimately able to cite an individual for the damage. G. Greenhoe noted he wrote SVI's Duke Dance a note yesterday to thank him for doing the article in the paper as the publicity likely contributed to the citation by the police. The cited individual will be appearing in the Town of Star Valley Ranch (TSVR) Municipal Court and will have to make restitution. Deputy Cody Call will follow-up as needed and there may be another article in the SVI newspaper as well.
6. **Parks & Landscaping Committee.** S. Greenhoe provided the Parks & Landscaping Committee report (see Appendix II for full report details). S. Greenhoe noted that this Saturday is the TSVR front entrance clean-up as well as rehab of the Town Hall flower pots. The Crop Circles Community Garden has had a successful first season with all gardeners now out of their tanks. Approximately 37lbs of food was donated by gardeners to the Thayne Food Bank. Of 15 gardeners 10 want to reapply for a crop circle again next year and S. Greenhoe further noted she has 7 new people requesting tanks. The Seed Money fundraiser begins mid-November and will continue to mid-December. S. Greenhoe would like folks to share the Seed Money email when it goes out. The cost to install a new crop circle tank is about \$500 per tank (when considering the cost of the tank, soil, cloth, etc.). P. Bordwell asked if tanks were totally cleaned out by gardeners. S. Greenhoe responded "Yes" with one exception due to a family emergency. The Crop Circle Community Garden has room for 9 more circular tanks within the fence. If enough money is raised during the fundraiser then S. Greenhoe stated it would be possible to also gravel in the area between the dog park and the community garden and also install 6 x 2 tanks to grow potatoes or other deer resistant crops outside the community garden fence. S. Greenhoe noted she omitted one item from her report – the Wyoming Hunger Initiative grant. S. Greenhoe stated the intent is to reapply for a grant with the Wyoming Hunger Initiative and that if a grant is received any grant money not used would have to be returned. With regard to the community garden water system S. Greenhoe stated she has a meeting scheduled with the TSVR water lead to discuss the project.

7. **War-on-Weeds Bounty Program and Nuisance Ordinance.** G. Greenhoe relayed that the Nuisance Ordinance was passed at the last Town Council meeting to include the weed portion of the ordinance. G. Greenhoe provided some background on how weed and pest districts are organized in Wyoming. He stated that every county in Wyoming has weed and pest districts that do essentially the same thing; they lead weed and pest programs on public and private lands as needed Lincoln county has one and each county has a citizen board, which G. Greenhoe is a member of. The Wyoming Weed & Pest Council coordinates all these individual county boards; led by the Department of Agriculture year-round in Wyoming. There is an annual conference; this year's conference occurs next week in Cheyenne and G. Greenhoe will attend. The conference has a variety of natural resource program information and is not limited to just weeds and pests. The Weed and Pest Council in Wyoming is divided into 6 areas each with 4 counties, except for one that only has 3 counties. Lincoln, Uinta, Teton and Sublette counties comprise Area 4 which G. Greenhoe leads. Discussion is ongoing about expanding the bounty programs. G. Greenhoe stated that we are only the second town with a weed/nuisance ordinance.
8. **Update on Winter Recreation Advisory Group.** G. Greenhoe relayed that the group's last meeting was held on September 23rd and a final plan was agreed to with a couple of minor changes by George Toolson. The plan was sent to the TSVR (the mayor and councilmembers) and the Star Valley Ranch Association (SVRA) (all board members). The SVRA Chair subsequently notified G. Greenhoe that they did not agree with the plan and that the SVRA voted not to adopt the plan. The TSVR, on the other hand, is pressing forward with items from the plan that they can implement – such as a short-term rental ordinance. In the interim the Winter Recreation Advisory Group has been dissolved. G. Greenhoe will follow-up with citizens who provided input and thank them for their time and effort and to explain what happened with SVRA.
9. **November Newsletter Articles.** G. Greenhoe relayed that the newsletter will be out by the end of the week. There will be stories on the Crop Circles Community Garden, Mountain View pickle ball group, and other topics. The Mountain View pickle ball group recently made a proposal to the TSVR on options for more pickle ball courts. Option 3 from their proposal was to build more pickle ball courts west of the Town Utility Building area which would actually be in part of the existing Fox Run Park Trail area. Fox Run Park (in the TSVR Master Plan) is supposed to remain a natural area. Any changes to Fox Run Park would require discussion with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The meeting members briefly discussed where additional pickle ball courts might go. Ultimately, the NRB members agreed that Fox Run Park is not a good location for pickle ball courts especially when considering that tournaments would require an area for at least 30 cars to park. G. Greenhoe noted that the Arbor Day recertification went in mail "today" and that Firewise recertification went in "yesterday". G. Greenhoe also stated that Tree City recertification should not be a problem.

10. **New Business – Bear Proof Containers.** G. Greenhoe stated that Ron Denney sent an article to him that indicated Teton County is considering requiring bear-proof containers. P. Bordwell discussed the potential for price increases due to having these types of bear-proof trash cans and relayed an example from his experience in Lake Tahoe. He noted that many waste companies use automatic trash trucks and that bear-proof cans mean that truck personnel have to get out and unlock and then relock cans. The associated cost increase with this additional labor would likely be passed on to consumers. G. Greenhoe said he has discussed the topic with the TSVR Special Municipal Officer (SMO). The SMO stated, to date, there have not been any issues with trash cans, but there have been issues with bears and animals getting into food being left out for dogs or getting into overflowing trash cans despite Town requirements not to put cans out until the morning of (or night before) pick-up. G. Greenhoe would like a member of the NRB to call local trash companies and ask: a) Do you have bear-proof containers? And, b) Have you seen any problems valley-wide with bears getting into trash cans? V. Padilla volunteered to make the calls and Greg plans to write an article for the newsletter.

The meeting members moved on from the bear-proof trash container topic and discussed another possible newsletter story on how to recycle/compost lawn clippings at the land fill. This subject could be utilized early next year along with another potential recycling article based on a previously written recycling and trash guide that G. Greenhoe mentioned; the guide was written after Lincoln county stopped offering recycling services. G. Greenhoe will try to find the guide and see if it is worth revisiting. He noted that IdaWy is now in charge of Trash service in Lincoln County. It is a cross-state, two-county district with a landfill in Soda Springs that services this part of Lincoln county as it is cheaper to go to Soda Springs rather than Kemmerer.

11. **Next Meeting.** The next NRB meeting is planned for Thursday, January 13, 2022, 2:00pm, at the TSVR Town Hall. P. Bordwell motioned for the meeting to adjourn with a second from V. Padilla. The NRB meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.

Trails Committee Report - October 25, 2021

Work Completed 21 September - 25 October, 2021:

Cedar Creek Trail/Trailhead:

- Completed Erosion Control / Boulder work @ Bridge **[photos 1]**
- Completed large tree removal to 4.7 miles (lake) **[photos 2]**
- Completed Trail Re-route @ stream crossing, ~ 3 miles in
- Completed Fence Re-build after vehicle damage **[photos 3]**
- Coordinated with TOSVR & LCSD on Cedar TH damage
 - submitted damage photos to LCSD
 - completed damage estimate and submitted to LCSD**[appendix I]**

Prater Mountain Trail:

- Installed Parking Sign @ TOSVR - National Forest boundary
- Tread work, brushing, erosion control from 2nd avalanche chute to the meadow turn off
- Re-built the tread from the Meadow Turn-off to the fir trees
- Installed one water bar above the 2nd avalanche chute
[photos 4]

Green Canyon Trailhead:

- Completed Buck & Pole Fence Repair / 1 Pole replaced

Fox Run Park - Arbor Day Service Project with Cub Scouts:

- 2 Volunteers completed Aspen grove transplant preparation in cooperation with Cub Scout Service project (Spring 22 transplant)
 - dug 11 holes, removed rocks, & sifted soil **[photos 5]**

Town Hall - Mail Room, Bookcase:

- Moved Garage Sale bookcase to Mail Center for *Book Share* project - 29 September 2021 **[photos 6]**

APPENDIX I (continued)

Projects to complete - Fall 2021:

- Install Winter Parking Sign - Green Canyon trailhead (1 hour)
- Install Red Golfer deconflict sign - Cedar Creek trailhead (1.5hours)
[sign damaged in vehicle damage incident]

Projects moved - Spring 2022:

- Date TBD, Cedar Creek trailhead, complete 8 sections of Buck and Pole fencing at the entrance (4 hours - supplies backordered)

Appendix I

16 October, 2021

Town of Star Valley Ranch
Cedar Creek Trailhead
Buck & Pole Fence and Sign Damage Estimate

Replacement Parts:

1 x Pole	\$10.00 + .50 tax	= \$ 10.50
1 x 8' Fence Post	\$58.95 + 2.95 tax	= \$ 61.90
1 x Anti-theft Bolt Kit	\$ 9.80 + .49 tax	= \$ 10.29
50Ct 10" Spikes	\$28.99 + 1.45 tax	= \$ 30.44
3 x 1/2" Re-Bar, 36"	\$ 8.64 + .43 tax	= \$ 9.07
1 x 60# Bag Sakrete	\$16.18 + .81 tax	= \$ 16.99

Labor:

10 Oct, 3 Hours Labor	= \$ 48.00
11 Oct, 12 Hours Labor	= \$192.00
Sign Re-Install, 4.5 Hours Labor	= \$ 72.00

Equipment:

11 Oct, Portable Generator, 2 Hours	= \$ 25.00
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Mileage:

35 Miles RT to Jenkins @ .56/Mile	= \$ 19.60
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<u>TOTAL</u>	= \$495.79
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APPENDIX I (continued)



Boulder Work - 21 September 2021



Cedar Bridge - Water Flow 23 October 2021



Cedar Bridge - Waterfall 23 October 2021



APPENDIX I (continued)



2

APPENDIX I (continued)



Cedar Trailhead - Fence Damage (Photo - 10 Oct 2021)



(Photo - 10 Oct 2021)



Cedar - Fence Re-construction - 11 Oct 2021

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Fence Work Complete - 11 Oct 2021

APPENDIX I (continued)



Prater Canyon - Parking Sign Re-installed



Prater Trail - trail work at Avalanche Chute



Prater Trail Improved Tread - Meadow



Prater Trail - New Water Bar



4

APPENDIX I (continued)



Aspen Grove Project - area at NW corner of Canine Commons



TOSVR Trails Crew & Cub Scouts Project (Photo - 2 Oct 2021)



11 Pre-Dug holes for Aspen transplants next spring (Photo - 23 Oct 2021)

5

APPENDIX I (continued)



TOSVR Mail Room - Donated Bookcase / *BOOK SHARE*

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Parks and Landscaping Oct. 25, 2021 Report

- This Saturday, October 30 will be the fall cleanup of the front entrance of the Town.
- Front entrance; plants cut down, weeds pulled, shrub trimmed.
- Flower pots at Town Hall dumped and stored for winter. Replace with small conifer at front door and mail center with lights for the winter season.
- The community garden, Crop Circles has had a very successful inaugural year. The gardeners all enjoyed the fruits of their labors and collectively we donated 37.6 lbs. of produce to the Community Food Bank in Thayne.
- As of now we have 10 of the original 15 gardeners requesting a garden tank for the 2022 season and 7 others who are requesting garden tanks for the first time.
- SeedMoney fund raiser on schedule for mid-November to mid-December.
- In order for the fundraiser to be a success we need all of you to share our SeedMoney page with all of your friends! I will be sharing it with you, make a donation and encourage your friends to do the same.
- With a successful fundraiser event we will order 9 more garden tanks for Crop Circles this winter.