



Crook County Natural Resource District (CCNRD)
June 9th, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
12:00 pm Sundance USDA Service Center

Attendance: CCNRD Board of Supervisors: Wayne Garman, Lily Altaffer, Casey Devish.
CCNRD Employees: Sarah Anderson, Justice Miller, Quintin Peterson. CCNRD Guest: Bailey Middleton, Keela Deaton

The June 9th, 2026 Board meeting was called to order by Wayne Garman at 12:20 pm.

Guest Updates: FSA County Executive Director Bailey Middleton provided an update on the D3 drought situation, as well as current programs being offered to the County. She stated that base allocations will be changing for eligible commodities. She distributed fact sheets, as well as a CoC nomination form. There is only one FSA loss adjuster for the whole state of Wyoming and it is important that producers contact FSA as soon as possible to ensure eligibility. Spring acreage reports are required by July 15th. She strongly encourages producers to make appointments before coming into the office.

NRCS District Conservationist Keela Deaton presented ten Conservation Plans for the Board to review. **Lily Altaffer made a motion to approve the Conservation Plans as presented; Casey Devish seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.** Keela Deaton is the only NRCS employee in the office and she is balancing field season and office time; she encourages landowners to make appointments.

Staff Updates:

Forest Health & Hazardous Fuels Reductions

Sarah Anderson updated the Board on hazardous fuels reduction projects; one project was inspected last week and will have a final inspection at the end of June; one project will be inspected next week. The CCNRD forest health improvement proposal award determination will be made by June 19th. North Sand Project designs have commenced.

Water Quality Improvement

Justice Miller stated he and Quintin Peterson deployed one levellogger and one barologger. The rest will be deployed soon. Justice and Quintin Peterson have been participating in the water quality module self-paced trainings and will meet with the WACD Watershed Coordinator over the next two days to conduct preliminary water quality samplings to prepare for their certifications. Justice provided water quality information and outreach to the Hulett summer school students.

Rangeland Health Improvement

Justice updated the Board on the NRCS Cooperative Collaborative grant. He and Quintin conducted production clippings, but vegetative growth in northern Crook County is juvenile and weeks behind on growth. Justice visited with a few other producers and will go out again within the month. He will provide an update of the Rangeland Health Improvement Program for the FSA newsletter. Virtual fence interest in Crook County is increasing and the CCNRD is receiving phone calls and walk-in traffic. Staff are looking into grant funding to assist. Two



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applications have been received thus far for the OWITS range projects and Justice will conduct field visits next week.

Soil Health Improvement

The Board discussed helping NRCS conduct soil samples with the RPP. Justice Miller had a booth at the Hulett Youth Field Day and communicated about the various ecosystems in Crook County, as well as foraging and toxic plants located throughout in northeastern Wyoming.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

Sarah stated that Weston County and Crook County received grant funding from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission for forestry-wildlife habitat improvement projects. Quintin stated he has been researching various grant opportunities and will be attending the Funding Summit in Gillette with Sarah and Justice on June 22-25.

Local Issues

Staff provided updates related to the Crook County Commissioner's meeting; the BHNH Forest Plan Revision cooperating agency meetings; rare earth mining information; and the Bridger Pipeline expansion project.

Financials: The Board reviewed financial documents for May. **Lily Altaffer made a motion to pay the bills; seconded by Casey Devish. No discussion. Motion carried. Casey Devish made a motion to approve a Sundance State Bank credit card for Quintin Peterson with a credit limit of \$2,000.00; Lily Altaffer seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.**

Minutes: The Board reviewed Minutes from the May meeting. **Lily Altaffer made a motion to approve the May 2026 Minutes; seconded by Casey Devish seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.**

New Business: The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed Kreuter Subdivision. **Lily Altaffer made a motion to approve the Kreuter Subdivision review as presented, seconded by Casey Devish. No discussion. Motion carried.**

The Board discussed Board Member terms and the upcoming election; one rural position may be available.

Old Business: The Board discussed separating laptops and software from the federal network. **Lily Altaffer made a motion to purchase Starlink internet equipment and services, seconded by Casey Devish. No discussion. Motion carried.**

CCNRD staff posted the Chevy Tahoe and Ford Explorer on the WY Public Purchase site, as well as the request to purchase a truck and trailer. Postings were placed for a minimum of ten days.

The next Board meeting and budget hearing is scheduled for July 14th.

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Adjournment: Casey Devish made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 2:45 pm; seconded by Lily Altaffer; seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by Sarah Anderson (Signature):

Sarah D Anderson

Date: 07/14/2026

Chairman Signature:

Wayne L. Brown

Date: 7/14/2026