



August 28, 2023

To: Wyoming Association of Conservation District Area V Members and Partners

RE: 2023 Area V Meeting hosted by Teton Conservation District

Dear Area V Members and Partners,

Teton Conservation District will be hosting a two-part Area V Meeting this year, with September 25th being dedicated to the Department of Audit Board Training Certification and September 26th being the regular Area V Business Meeting. The training day will be at the Teton Conservation District office in Jackson, and the regular meeting will be held at the Teton Raptor Center in Wilson, WY. The Teton Raptor Center recently remodeled its facility to include a meeting room in Hardeman Barn, just east of Wilson and should be a nice venue for us to meet in. We will get to tour their facility and meet some birds.

If you need hotel accommodation while you are here, there should be good availability, given the time of year. But don't hesitate to reach out if you need help.

I also want to remind everyone to consider any new Resolutions to be brought before the Area V Meeting for future consideration. Any district proposing Resolutions needs to share them with Area V members two weeks before the meeting (Sept 12) and bring 50 hard copies to the meeting.

An RSVP by September 18th with the number of people and the days they are attending would be greatly appreciated. We plan to provide lunch for the Business Meeting.

On the following pages you will find an Agenda, Maps to the meeting facilities, and the minutes from the 2022 Area V meeting for your review and approval at the upcoming meeting.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlin Girard".

Carlin Girard
Executive Director

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420 W. Pearl Ave. 307/733-2110 P
P.O. Box 1070 307/733-8179 F
Jackson, Wyoming 83001 Carlin@tetonconservation.org



**Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD)
Area V Meeting - September 25, 26, 2023
Hosted by Teton Conservation District**

**Please RSVP by Sept 18th to Carlin Girard (carlin@tetonconservation.org)
No Registration Fee Required**

Day 1 – (Sept 25) Elected Official Audit Certification Training

Location: Teton Conservation District Office (420 West Pearl Avenue, Jackson WY, 83001)

9:00 am Employment Law (60 min)
10:00 am Break
10:10 am Records Archive Requirements (51 Min)
11:00 am Break
11:10 am Uniform Municipal Procedures Act (73 Min)
12:30 pm Lunch on your own
1:30 pm Elections/Special District Elections (29 min)
2:00 pm District Boundary Reporting (17 min)
2:30 pm Administrative Procedures Act (23 min)
3:00 pm Break
3:10 pm Open Meetings Act (54 min)
4:05 pm Public Officials Ethics Act (12 min)
4:20 pm Public Records Act (34 min)
4:50 pm Training Complete

Day 2 – (Sept 26) WACD Area V Annual Meeting

Location: **Teton Raptor Center (5450 Highway 22, Wilson WY 83014)**

9:00 a.m. **Call to Order Dave Adams, Area V Director**
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Welcome from Host District
 Introductions of attendees

9:15 a.m. **Host County Agenda**
 Bridger Teton National Forest, Forest Plan Revision (30 min)
 WY Game and Fish Dept., Elk Feedground Management Plan (30 min)
 Sublette CD, Tall Forb Ecological Site Description Update (30 min)

10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:55 a.m. **NRCS Update**

11:25 p.m. **WDA Update**

11:55 p.m. **Teton Raptor Center, Raptor Encounter**

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12:10 p.m. **Lunch – A free lunch will be provided**
Tours of the Raptor Rehabilitation Clinic will be taken during lunch in small groups

1:30 p.m. **Business Meeting – Coke Landers Chairperson, Area V Director**

- a. Roll Call of voting delegates
- b. Review and approval of 2022 Minutes
- c. President’s Report – Todd Heward
- d. Elections
 - i. Area V Director Position – currently Dave Adams
 - ii. Area V Alternate Position – currently Rollin Gardner
 - iii. Area V Councilman Position – currently David Pape
- e. WACD office update and introduction to WACD Executive Director, Holly Kennedy
- f. WACD Legislative Issues
- g. Resolutions (please bring 50 printed copies for the group)
- h. WACD Convention 2023 – November 15-17, 2023, National Museum of Military Vehicles Poolaw Building and Headwaters Arts and Conference Center, Dubois, Wyoming
- i. Area V Meeting 2024 will be hosted by Sweetwater County CD
- j. Any other business

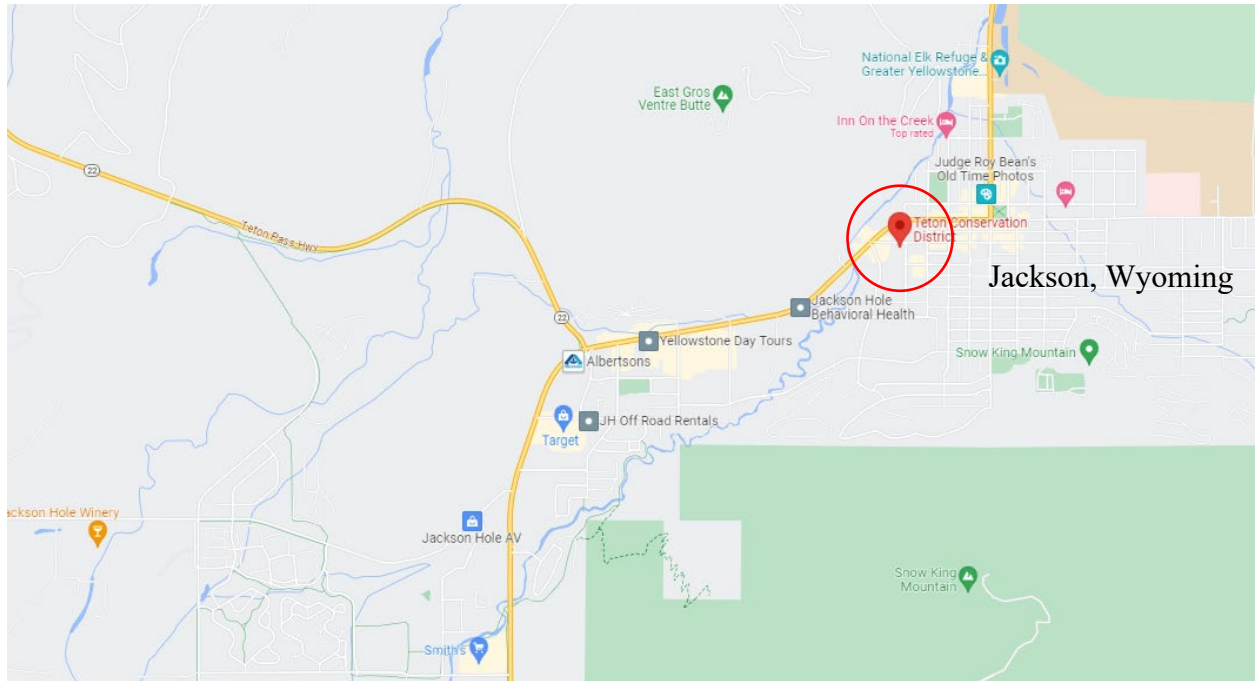
3:30 p.m. **Wyoming Conservation District Employee Association Area V Meeting**
Led by Area V Representatives Melanie Purcell and Kay Lynn Nield

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

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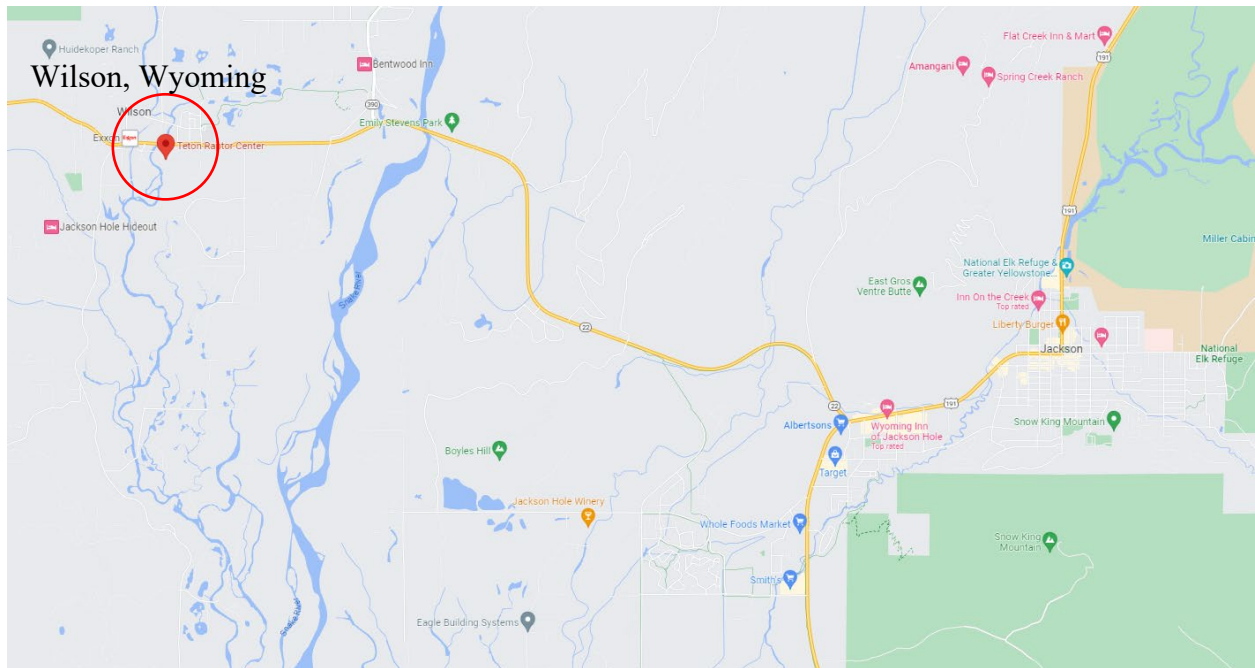
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Day 1 – September 25, Board Training at Teton Conservation District (420 W. Pearl Ave, Jackson)



Teton Conservation District is on the south side of West Pearl Ave, a few buildings east of the intersection with Broadway. It is a two-story gray building.

Day 2- September 26, Area V Meeting at Teton Raptor Center (5450 Hwy 22, Wilson, WY)



Teton Raptor Center is on the south side of Highway 22, just east of Wilson and Fish Creek.

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Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
Area V Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

Best Western Fossil Country Inn & Suites, Kemmerer, Wyoming

Attendees:

Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts: Kelli Little, Executive Director, Helen Silver, Wyoming Collaborative for Healthy Soil (Via Zoom.)

Lincoln Conservation CD: Paula Bowling, Paul Clark, DeMont Grandy, Brenda Lazcanotegui

Little Snake River CD: Trent Arnell, Dawn Arnell, Meghan Lally

Sublette County CD: Darrell Walker, Milford Lockwood, Coke Landers, Michael Henn, Traci Berg

Star Valley CD: Jeff Johnson, KayLynn Nield

Sweetwater County CD:

Teton CD: Dave Adams, Steve McDonald, Carlin Girard

Uinta County CD: Kerri Sabey

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Andi Neugebauer, Acting NRCS State Conservationist (Via Zoom)

Wyoming Department of Agriculture: Justin Caudill, Chris Wichmann

Special Guests: WY State Senator Dan Dockstader, WY State Representative Scott Heiner, Kent Connelly (Consultant, Coalition of Local Governments (CLG) & current candidate for Lincoln County Commissioner), Dave Kimble (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

The Area V meeting was called to order by Coke Landers, Area V Director, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in person in Kemmerer, Wyoming, and via Zoom.

Paul Clark, Lincoln Conservation District Board Members, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the WACD for the assistance they provide to the local conservation districts. Paul then called for an introduction of all attendees to the meeting.

Wyoming State Senator Dan Dockstader and Wyoming State Representative Scott Heiner addressed the state process for assessing and distributing property tax. Due to a substantial increase in property taxes, Senator Dockstader is currently working on several pieces of legislature to address property tax relief for increasing property taxes that will be introduced during state legislature this coming year. They also addressed coal power energy, the Exxon Gas Plant, carbon sequestration, and trying to find ways to protect Wyoming mineral rights. Dan is working closely with US Senator Cynthia Lummis and US Representative Candidate Hageman on the Colorado River Compact issues.

Kent Connelly gave an update on the proposed TerraPower Sodium advanced nuclear project South of the coal plant near Kemmerer, WY. TerraPower is a leading nuclear Innovation company that strives to improve the world through nuclear energy and science. He also addressed PacificCorp current services. Kent introduced Tri-site, a byproduct of coal, one product is Humate that has the ability to be used like a fertilizer, although not a fertilizer, by fluffing up soil, with no environmental impact and cuts fertilizer costs to zero. He also demonstrated how Tri-site is a

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carbon fiber product and can be used with gas and oil polymers to make clothing, cosmetics, and may be used as a medicinal treatment for arthritis etc.

Dave Kimble, US Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) Partners for Wildlife Coordinator gave a power point presentation on current Bear River Wetland Restoration Projects near Cokeville, Wyoming.

NRCS Update:

Astrid Martinez, current Wyoming NRCS State Conservationist, has accepted a new position in Washington, D. C. Andi Neugebauer, Acting WY State NRCS Conservationist, gave the NRCS report via Zoom to update current budget issues, state staffing, programs and activities that included five million dollars for Big Game Coordination; conservation planning strategy and certification; the Greater Sage-Grouse Initiative; and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

Wyoming Collaborative for Health Soil Introduction by Helen Silver. The program is sponsored by the University of Wyoming to conserve soil with five principles of implementation. Following a listening session, there was an opportunity to have audience participation through a telephone service where five questions were presented, and feedback provided by those participating via telephone. This same presentation will be provided to all area meetings attendees so that the answers can be combined and documented as needed to address soil health concerns throughout the state.

Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA):

Chris Wichmann, Manager, Natural Resources and Policy, gave the WDA update noting current projects such as the Good Neighbor Authority with Forest Service; the Bighorn sheep introduction onto the Sweetwater Rocks area in Lander; Sage Grouse Amendments; continuing to find ways to reopen/use vacant allotments across the Bridger-Teton National Forest; and the Thunder Basin National Grasslands/Prairie Dog Implementation Amendment.

Chris also covered current WDA Mediation Programs and services provided by Lucy Pauley, Mediation Program Coordinator, noting free financial counseling for ag producers dealing with estate planning and management transition. The AgriStress Helpline is also available to help Wyoming producers, and anyone involved in agriculture seeking assistance for a variety of issues. Call or text 833-897-2474.

Justin Williams, Senior Policy Analyst, presented current projects for Resource Management Plans and Land Use Plans; Environmental Impact Statements/Environmental Assessments for ongoing projects; Bighorn Sheep and other livestock issues; and intra-agencies handbooks for grazing regulations and US Forest Service Handbook updates etc. Justin also provided information as Ag Program Coordinator on current Wy Landscape Conservation Initiative issues as well as information from Michelle MacDonald, Office Support Specialist, on district requirements for Base Funding, Lab Funds, and the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Dave Adams, Area V Director, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call of voting delegates:

Lincoln Conservation District: Paul Clark

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Little Snake River Conservation District: Megan Lally
Sublette County Conservation District: Darrell Walker
Star Valley Conservation District: Jeff Johnson
Sweetwater County Conservation District: None
Teton Conservation District: Dave Adams
Uinta County Conservation District: None

Minutes:

Review and approval of the 2021 WACD Area V Meeting hosted by the Star Valley Conservation District on September 2, 2021. Coke Landers made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Paul Clark. Motion carried.

WACD President's Report:

Coke Landers, and gave the WACD President's report noting that WACD President Todd Heward was unable to attend due to having Covid-19.

Election: The Area V Director Position – Meghan Lally nominated Coke Landers; motion was seconded. Having no further nominations, Landers was voted in as Area V Director.

WACD Office Update:

Kelli Little, WACD Executive Director, gave the annual WACD report via zoom. Kelli addressed upcoming legislative issues and policy advocacy; projects and implementation; education and outreach programs; and provided guidelines and support for mill levy proposition, and regulations on public funds.

Resolutions:

One resolution was presented by the Teton Conservation District to address “Control of Landscaping Ponds”. After discussion, Coke Landers made a motion to table the resolutions until it could be rewritten to avoid misinterpretation until state convention. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Convention:

Will be held in Casper, Wyoming, at the Ramkota Inn, December 5th – 8th, 2023, and will be held in conjunction with the Stockgrowers and Woolgrowers Convention.

The 2023 WACD Area V Meeting:

To be hosted by the Teton Conservation District in Jackson, WY.

Other Business:

Reminder: Employees Awards are due by October 1st.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Brenda Lazcanotegui, Lincoln Conservation District

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