



CITY OF LARAMIE
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MONOLITH RANCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

August 16, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee will meet at the Historic Carnegie Building (405 Grand Avenue), 1st Floor Conference Room.

I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Rich Elliott, Dave Paulekas; Joe Lord, Paul Rechar, Dave Evertson

Members Absent: Cal Van Zee

Staff Present: Paul Beckett, Steve Davidson, Dave Derragon

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 24, 2012

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Joe Lord, to approve the minutes from June 24, 3012.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. NEW BUSINESS

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: Procedural information regarding filling of vacancies – City procedure was explained by Dee Moody, along with a written policy. Dave Derragon and Dee Moody will work on updating resolution for purpose of committee and qualifications for committee membership.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Standing Report from Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

- Presentation of the committee's progress report was presented to Council on 7/24/12 and was met with favorable response.
- "No Trespassing" signs are only posted around the Biosolids Deposit area. There are road closure signs for the hunter management areas that indicate where vehicles are to be parked and the individual will walk to their location.
- The committee is well aware of the ranch property existence, but the committee also acknowledges that there will not be any recreational development until the ranch operation ceases. The City of Laramie Utility Division purchased the ranch property many years ago for the water rights; the ranch is now leased for cattle operation and this commitment may exist for the next 10-15 years.
- There is more focus on the existing recreational areas that are already listed within the City limits.
- The draft Master Plan may be presented to City Council by December, 2012.

Monthly Report from Water Resources Specialist

- Hay Totals -- Tons per harvested acre are calculated once a year and may be above the local average. There has been one cut to date; however a second cutting is being done today, for a total of 234 acres under the pivot. Could the pricing come in under budget, material, installation, above ground piping, out of water rights budget.
- Center Pivot – RFP is developed, researching more information for designers and contractors, to include larger diameter pipe, better sprinkler package, wider tires, "Improving Our Quality of Life"

with new pump and a clear well, and to include materials, installation and controlled, programmable technology. Final internal review is underway and the RFP should be released within the next week. It is possible that the pricing of the new pivot could come in under budget. The budget is under the Water Rights.

- Simpson Springs House – Structural Integrity – supposed to be inspected today, but has been postponed until next week. House is occupied at this time. Jeff Meacham will do the inspection hopefully on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 8:00am looking for health and safety issues.
- Simpson Springs Wells—Weston Engineering (Ben Jordon is the geologist) indicates that the driller is completing a job in South Dakota; should be able to get a notice to proceed within the next week. Water Systems Drilling Inc., of Gillette were awarded the contract of \$297,000.00 on June 19, 2012. Rich offered a copy of the bid to committee members for review of the work to be done.
- Water Rights Transfer Reports—Steve has been irrigating the pastures all summer. Steve indicated that someone has filed for abandonment on Simpson Springs. Do any committee members know of this item? Steve will be checking on this statement.

Potential Modifications to the Purpose of the Ranch Advisory Committee

The current purpose of the Ranch Advisory Committee needs to be addressed and modified, if necessary. Council has proposed four specific charges for the committee to address and the committee agrees that the following charges have been accomplished.

- ✓ Identify and preserve the water rights for municipal operations
- ✓ Recommend cost-effective actions to manage the ranch
- ✓ Gather information and data from advocacy groups and public relating to grazing operations
- ✓ Evaluate current range and habitat conditions and suggest viable alternatives for better holistic operations
- ✓ Review potential recreation activities
- ✓ Overall grazing and operation of the ranch is under control.

MOTION BY PAULEKAS, seconded by Lord, to begin holding RAC meetings on a quarterly basis for review of water use, recordation of same, and grazing operation.
MOTION CARRIES.

METEOROLOGICAL TOWER – Jon Naughton – no new information

V. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: November 8, 2012, 1:30 pm,

VI. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

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| Reconsider resolutions for committee | Simpson Springs House Inspection |
| Simpson Springs Well Drilling | Meteorological Tower |
| Harvest Yield | Pivot Update |
| Water Use | |

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY RECHARD, seconded by Evertson to adjourn the meeting 3:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Approved by City Council

Dee Moody, Secretary to RAC

Date