



**CITY OF LARAMIE**

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**AGENDA**  
**Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee**  
**August 1, 2013, 1:00 PM**  
**405 Grand Ave., Laramie, WY**  
**Annex Conference Room**

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**The regular meeting of the Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee will meet at the Historic Carnegie Building, 405 Grand Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room.**

**I. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Cal Van Zee, Paul Rechar, David Evertson, Joe Lord, and Jason Sherwood  
Members Absent: Vicki Henry and Earl Smith  
Staff Present: Darren Parkin and Sherryl Schilling  
Guests: Dave Clark, Stanley Baer, and Bob Corliss

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION BY LORD**, seconded by Evertson, to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 2, 2013**

**MOTION BY RECHARD**, seconded by Lord, to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2013 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Standing Report from Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee**  
Lord reported that the committee has become inactive. The report is being written by the City Planners. They will revisit recreational activities at the ranch once the water rights have been transferred.

**B. Quarterly Report from Water Resource Specialist**

Flood irrigation continued for the entire month of July. The seasonal irrigator, Phillip Davidson, did an admirable job spreading the water around evenly and efficiently. This year's grass hay crop is the best that the ranch lessee has seen in his 8+ years on the ranch.

First cutting of the alfalfa was completed on July 11. This field is irrigated by the center pivot. Due to the late start in irrigating this crop due to issues with the new center pivot not being installed on time, the yield was down significantly from what was anticipated. Continuous application of heavy irrigation water since the completion of the first cutting has the alfalfa re-growth looking better than expected. Barring unforeseen difficulties, the second cutting should be a very good crop.

Most of the data loggers have been downloaded and shut down for the season. Two remain operational to monitor water going to the center pivot. The data set that has been compiled so far looks complete, and will be an asset to our consumptive use plan. A Flotracker meter has been obtained and it will be a great addition to the consumptive use plan as we use it to measure ditch/river flows and to calibrate the data loggers.

Straightline Fencing of Carpenter, WY replaced 2.2 miles of deficient perimeter fence. Various UW students/professors and USFWS/G&F personnel continue to utilize the ranch for various meteorological and wildlife habitat studies.

**C. Pivot Update**

The center pivot continues to be mostly operational. P Diamond Irrigation seems to be unable to live up to the terms of their contract with the City, dialog continues with them. There have been several water lines breaks due to power outages at the ranch. The pump shuts off when the power goes out and the water begins to drain out of the supply line. When the electricity returns and the pump comes back on, the force of shoving the water back up the supply line blows off the air vents on the water line risers to which they are seeking a remedy. However, the new center pivot is extremely effective in applying water to the alfalfa crop, and its water distribution is far superior to the center pivot that it replaced.

**D. Ranch Report – Stanley Baer**

Baer provided summaries of the 2011-12 and 2012-13 contract years. They have been cleaning irrigation ditches. They feed most of their hay and a great deal of it is high in sulfur so they have to blend it to feed it to cattle. He explained their fencing plan to get the best use out of the pastures.

**E. Simpson Springs House**

Discussion ensued regarding the Simpson Springs House. Van Zee stated that most likely the house will be removed from the ranch lease prior to renewal. The City Manager’s office will be making that decision, not the Ranch Advisory Committee. He was advised to speak to the CMO’s office regarding future lease negotiation points.

**VI. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was set for November 14, 2013, at 1:00 pm.

**VII. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

- A. Standing Report from Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee
- B. Quarterly Report from Water Resource Specialist
- C. Pivot Update from Water Resource Specialist
- D. Ranch Tour Follow-up: Parkin was assigned to schedule ranch tours for the following groups:  
City Council, Recreation Committee, Ranch Advisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY LORD**, seconded by Rechar, to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** The meeting adjourned at 2:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

s/ Sherryl Schilling  
Acting Secretary to the Ranch Advisory Committee

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Date