Holy Cross Cattlemen

Annual Meeting

January 18, 2020

Rifle Library

Meeting started at 12:55pm by President Brackett Pollard.

Scott Tipton gave a district update regarding protecting water rights, migrant worker bills, passing of trade agreements with China which included a beef sale agreement. Tipton stated he was paying attention to all ag issues and tourism and favors US energy extraction. 400 jobs were lost in Moffatt County due to Tri-State closing. If comparing to per capita, that would equal 98,000 jobs in Denver. He tipped his hat to the CCA for keeping a close eye on legislature. He is against wolf reintroduction, feeling it will be detrimental for livestock owners.

Beef Premium Awards given to Megan Nieslanik and Scarlett Carney. They received $450 each.

Scholarship Awards given to Megan Nieslanik and Brent Metzler. They each received $1,500 for the year.

Brackett acknowledged representatives from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, Colorado Beef Council, Senators Cory Gardner and Michael Bennett’s offices.

2019 Annual Meeting Minutes read by Marcey Hodshire, motion made by Dick Morgan to accept, seconded by TJ Dice. Motion passed.

2019 Treasurer’s Report read by Marcey. Motion to accept made by Tom VonDette, seconded by TJ. Motion passed.

The Election Committee met at the end of 2019 with the following up for renewals: Chance Jenkins, Frank Daley, and Tom Harrington. They also suggested to have Brackett and Nick Krick serve in present roles another year. Motion made to accept nominations by Dick, seconded by Tom VonDette. Motion passed.

Ag Expo at the Garfield County Fairgrounds will be February 1. The HCCA booth is co-sponsored by Holy Cross Cattlewomen. If interested in volunteering, please call Ginny.

HCCA, HCCW, and CCA dues are up for renewal.

Motion made by Wayne Pollard, seconded by Frank Daley to donate to the following organizations:

$3,000 to CCA for the Building Fund, $10,000 to CCA for Education, and $1,000 to Colorado Cattlemen’s Agriculture Land Trust. 23 in favor, 3 opposed. Motion passed.

Terry Fankhauser spoke about the wolf reintroduction. Wolves are to be released on designated lands and are protected under State and Federal levels. He feels if the ballot measure is passed, it could be messy for everyone involved. There is a group of like-minded organizations (Energy, Immigration, Woolgrowers, Cattlemen) working on educating Front Range voters on burdens of wolf reintroduction, there isn’t enough time to hit all of Colorado. One way to hit home with city people is to inform dangers of wolves to the pet, moose, elk populations, speaking about cattle doesn’t resonate. Let people know wolves are already in Colorado. It may take $5-$6MM to advertise anti-wolf reintroduction. CCA has already spent $250,000.

Terry also spoke about changing the Colorado Constitution to keep Colorado money in Colorado, no more outside money from groups changing laws in Colorado. Wolf reintroduction and some “environmental” organizations are based outside of Colorado.

District 57 Representative Perry Will said rural legislators are against wolf reintroduction. He feels that reintroducing wolves is the worst thing we can do to Colorado, that ship sailed five million people ago. Colorado is too populated to have more wolves, if people love wolves, don’t bring more in, that is hard on the species.

Hogan Peterson from Senator Gardner’s office spoke about BLM office moving to Grand Junction. Sen. Gardner is working on Natural Resources Management Act, wants to change the Equal Access Act to the Justice Act, where agencies must disclose what is being spent.

Alyssa Logan with Senator Bennett’s office spoke about Bennett’s projects, including the Farm Bill.

Carla Farrand with CSU Extension office gave updates including GarCO Board of Commissioners bought Napa in Rifle building for CSU Extension.

HCCA has a March KMTS radio spot, which Ginny will speak about issues including wolf reintroduction. Ginny also has new signs, “Garfield County is Better with Beef” available for purchase and auction at banquet.

CPW update given by John Groves. Lots of bears around, over 100 in one unit. Wildlife management plan includes re-doing mandatory Chronic Waste Disease testing.

Steve Wooten, incoming CCA president, spoke about Better with Beed campaign and CCA is tracking 29 bills in legislation. CCA’s current building is too small for operations, CCA would like to purchase Livestock Exchange Building.

Guest speaker Rachel Gabel from The Fence Post, spoke about her background, issues she’s come across when writing about different issues. She works to stay in the middle of issues, not favor one way or the other.

Dan McCarty with NCBA updates on BLM grazing regulations, rollback of Range Reform 94, National Environmental Protection Act, and trades with Japan.

A moment was observed to recognize those who have passed since our last meeting.

Appreciation given to GarCo Fair Royalty and Holy Cross Cattlemen Women for assistance with meeting and banquet.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dick, seconded by Tom VonDette. Meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted by,

Marcey Hodshire