



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 360 Eagle, CO 81631 (970) 445-0307

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda July 12th, 2023
5:30pm at the Road and Bridge Facility in Gypsum, CO

Meeting called to order at: 5:45

Supervisors Present: Scott Schlosser, Clayton Gerard, Shawn Bruckman, Ken Marchetti, Wendy Sacks

Supervisors Absent:

Guests: Raymond Langstaff, Dustin Shiftlett, Stephen Jaoen, Steffen Mehnert, Cliff Thompson

Approval of Minutes: Shawn moves to approve, Ken seconds, all in favor, motion passes

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held June 14th, 2023

<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>MILES</u>
Scott Jones		
Scott Schlosser	15	30
Wendy Sacks	7	20
Clayton Gerard	4	4
Shawn Bruckman	15	12
Jay Taylor		
Ken Marchetti	20	18

Guests:

- Dustin Shiftlett- Western Regional Specialist, CSCB
- Raymond Langstaff- CSCB
 - Had the state quarterly meeting end of June
 - Updates on hiring, staffing updates, and more support for ag market
 - Updates on merging of two conservation districts, and the statutory requirements for non-compliant CDs
 - March - conservation district survey to address conservation district needs

- Updates on CACD meeting, Camp Rocky, Envirothon, employee association, field tour at Bonnie Reservoir (intensive grazing), field tour w/ Cheatgrass control - glyphosate based, now approved for rangeland use (just roadside previously)

Dry Up Program-

- State of the River meeting - state is forming a Colorado River Drought Task Force, discussion of dry-up payback a part of this. Not sure who is representing ag producers in this task force yet, and is a concern. Briefly discussed at CSCB, but they have no part in it. We need to tell CACD about our concerns, if we want them brought up. Write out our concern, a member of the watershed group presents at Water Resource Meeting, if they support, moves up in CACD, then moves up in legislature (re: ditch rights).
 - Position statement (resolution), run through political arm (Scott Jones likely knows), CSCB watershed meeting, then it runs up the chain to CACD resource committee.

Treasurer's Report:

[Master Financial Statement 2022/2023](#)

- No updates; Ken will speak with Laura & Wendy about some minor changes.

Topics to Discuss:

Draft Survey-

- Ken - we met with Magellan (company that does statistically valid voting) - had to define who our voters are (landowners, within boundaries of CD, who are registered in CO). ~35000. LLC, trusts, are not able to vote. Corporations can appoint an agent to vote, if land is owned by a corporation. Need legal advice to determine the exact specific. Worked with Reggie O'brien, to create voter list. Taking an abbreviated approach for the survey. Drafted a survey, distributed to everyone. General questions first (uninformed), then more in-depth (informed). They measure differences between the two sections, which outputs helpful data.
- Ken thinks we should go for as low of a number as we can get by with, to ensure we get it approved. 0.15-mill would raise about \$700,000 annually, which is what we currently have on the survey. We can build on that in the future, if passed.
- Wendy - looks good, but maybe start with turf, rather than vance, and also try and streamline and condense.
- Cliff - another meeting will happen, to condense and finalize
- Fair and Rodeo - survey there, to enter the Yeti contest? Wouldn't be statistically valid, but would give us an idea and also help inform about our projects.

- Clayton moves that we go forward with Magellan for survey, subject to revision of questions, and approval within a week from today before going out live. Wendy seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

Fair & Rodeo-

- Yeti - Clayton will secure (donation)
- "Vote for Levy"
- Laura will forward flyer to everyone, finalized in two weeks (standardized language with survey) - pictures, short
- Wendy will call to get us next to CSU Extension
- Ken makes motion to allow Laura to buy another banner, or tablecloth (\$100), Shawn seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
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William Day Noxious Weed Cost Share Application-

- He asked for \$600, to max we can give him is \$500
- He did a site visit with Kallie
- Original noxious weed cost share form - 30\$ of labor, 20 hours of labor for not big of a space? Laura will circle back with Kallie to see if 20 hours is reasonable. He also filled out form wrong and requested \$600 for total hours, when we only fund 50%, meaning we would only fund \$300.
- Shawn makes a motion to approve up to \$300, pending kallies verification of the hours.
 - Discussion - Scott S - seems objective, can Kallie make that decision? Board thinks that she can, based on acreage.
- Ken seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

One Canopy-

- Selling tree seedlings, worked with Middle Park CD, program is getting off the ground. Nothing in the form of a contract yet, but something we are exploring. Would be able to sell trees in fall if we would like to partner.
- Shawn had her business partner, an arborist look over, and says it looks good, but there are some things that wouldn't work well here.
 - But, we can tailor.
- Really only working with a few species right now, due to their stock.
 - Doug Fir, Ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, colorado spruce
- 30% markup
- Wendy moves that we should go ahead and move forward with One Canopy to create a list that is specific to our area, and with a 30% markup. Shawn seconds, all in favor, motion passes.

Program Updates:

1. America the Beautiful-
 - a. Likely won't get into contract until 2024 - need to wait for all partner's NEPA requirements to be secured before we can go under contract

- b. If we are approved to not need NEPA requirements (as we are not doing “ground disturbing practices”), we can ask for advance funding.
 - i. Stephen will look more into it for us.
- 2. VENCE-
 - a. Laura is going to play around with the budget, to try and fund Allegra for fall/winter/spring -collar budget is way under, and we have \$ there.
- 3. Beyond Lawn-
 - a. ERWSD wanted to dump the management of their rebates to us, but their board was not on board, and we are now just moving forward with just our program
 - b. Irrigation Analysis is going to train on landscape assessments in September, so we can start assessments in the fall.
 - i. Then rebates will be available Spring 2024
- 4. STAR-
 - a. Farm tour 2024
 - i. Need to secure three new producers, won't be a problem.
 - 1. September 15th deadline
 - ii. Since we were part of the first round, we need to have a field day in 2024.

Soil Pit Demonstration, Rainfall simulator and Jen Jones (?) -

- \$200-Rainfall Simulator, [Rainfall Simulator Demonstration for School Education](#)
 - Scott S. makes motion to approve, amends to \$300, Shawn seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- Date/Location
 - September - NRCS will get back to us on bringing down a soil speaker (name) from WY that services CO, could make it a STAR thing as well.
 - Get the date nailed down, so we can promote through CAC

Upcoming Events:

1. July 14/15- Gypsum Daze
2. July 22- Minturn Market
3. Eagle County Fair and Rodeo - July 24th - 29th

Broad discussion on other events that have happened in the past month- meetings, conferences, etc.

NRCS Report:

- Onboarded a natural resource specialist - Emma
- Brought in a detail engineer from Georgia - 120 days
- QAR going on right now
- Finished all obligations this year - 2 for eqip in eagle
 - Total of 16 contracts
- Hire decision on program support specialist

- Engineering certification - hopefully will get back soon.
- Several positions in the queue to be advertised, just for this office

CSU Ext Update:

- No updates
- Week of fair, office will be effectively closed

Mail Review:

- No mail

Next Meeting Date: August 9, 2023

Adjourn: Wendy makes motion, Clayton seconds, all approve, adjourned

Notes taken by: Allegra Waterman-Snow, District Technician

Action Items:

- Laura - Set up meeting with Scott Jones re: Watershed meeting, and bringing a resolution to the meeting.
- Scott S. - contact Brendan Lagenhousen, CRD
- Laura - buy another banner, or a tablecloth.