



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes May 14, 2025

5:30pm Road and Bridge, Gypsum

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tmt-ihpy-xid>

Or dial: (US) +1 402-628-0151 PIN: 705 102 112#

Meeting called to order at: 5:35pm

Supervisors Present: Scott Jones, Wendy Sacks, Clayton Gerard, Shawn Bruckman, Niki Luark, Linn Brooks, Ken Marchetti

Supervisors Absent: Scott Schlosser, Jay Taylor

Guests Present:

Approval of Minutes: Scott makes motion to approve, Linn seconds, approved

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held March 12, 2025.

BOARD MEMBER	HOURS	MILES
Scott Jones	6	40
Scott Schlosser	10	30
Wendy Sacks	4	0
Clayton Gerard	8	36
Shawn Bruckman	20	80
Jay Taylor		
Ken Marchetti	3	43

Guests:

N/A

NRCS Report:

- Personnel - hiring freeze
 - Stephen covering 5 CD's
 - Staff decreasing from 240 to 150 by 6/1
- 2025 funding: \$3.5 Mil in total requests
 - \$1.5 million in request in Eagle County
- Resource Team (RT3) practice requests:
 - Grazing, infrastructure, high mountain flood, sprinkler
- RCPP
 - Pre-approved in Eagle
 - >\$600k in wolf mitigation funds
 - Out of \$2.5, RT3 received a total \$1.1 million for RCPP projects
 - >\$5 million in demand in GWS Resource Team
 - New funding pool through EQIP-Act Now
 - Preapproval letters in May with contracts in June
- Practices and payments made across Resource Team
 - TA
 - Engineering

CSU Ext Update:

- Personnel:
 - Hiring Freeze for Denyse's position
 - Office manager position is currently open (part-time/full benefits)

Topics to Discuss:

Program & Staff Updates:

- Nox Weed Cost Share:
 - Private Applicator Licensing
 - Application fee: \$75
 - Testing fee: \$41.50
 - Qualified Supervisor/Certified Operator
 - Application fee: \$100
 - Testing fee: \$41.50 for General Exam + \$41.50 for all categories
 - Board does not feel getting an applicator license is necessary for staff
 - Staff to submit new online application to board
- Wolf Grant Update:
 - [Aaron Schlegel](#)
 - **Shawn moved to approve Aaron Schlegel's application for \$1001, Scott seconded**
 - **Board unanimously approved**
 - Funding expires next month: currently have around \$33,800
 - Clayton asked if funding can be used to purchase wolf conflict mitigation supplies if there is funding that needs to be spent before expiration date
 - Board will buy these supplies if funding is not used prior to expiration date
 - Board members are reminding people to apply for the funding

- Funding is first come, first serve - Greg said you can submit several applications
- Forestry Program:
 - N/A
- Colorado Soil Health program
 - Terminated
 - Niki asked if soil samples request for this year would be accepted
 - Greg: yes, we can come out and take a sample before the end date of the program
 - Advancing Markets for Producers - grant CDA is applying for to restart a soil health program
 - Greg: looked into potentially applying for this grant as a conservation district
- Seed Sales:
 - Seed Donations
 - x% of our sales/profits
 - For example: 2024: 12K sales would = 1,200 in seed donations
 - Shawn: we should do a percentage of profit not total sales
 - Wendy: do a smaller percentage of total sales (1-2%)
 - **Shawn motions to donate 2% of total seed sales, Scott S seconds, unanimous approval by board**
- Beyond Lawn:
 - CWCB Water Plan Grant
 - \$37 million in total funds from grant
 - Laura/Allegra applying for grant; due 7/1
 - If ECCD receives funding, Beyond Lawn will be able to continue their efforts after current funding ends
 - Colorado Basin Roundtable meeting is Monday from noon to 4pm
 - Linn Brooks volunteered to attend the meeting
 - ECCD not represented
 - Scott Jones interested to represent ag
 - Agriculture At-Large Member - Vacant
 - Eagle County Representative
 - Marcia Gilles (Eagle County Open Space Director)
 - Eagle Municipal Representative
 - Vicki Flynn (Eagle River Coalition Executive Director)
- CIG: Virtual Fencing:
 - Vehicle Kit - under \$600
 - Clayton will help choose what to buy and what brands
 - Board supports putting together a vehicle kit
- FAPL: Virtual Fencing:
 - After pause, grant is now reinstated
 - Getting contracts going with virtual fencing company (Halter)
 - Main goals to restore Bocco Mountain allotment in Wolcott
 - Funds will help to implement fence removal, wet meadow restoration, mastication, water saver construction, vegetation management, and grazing (w/ virtual fencing) practices.
 - Looking to reallocate or expand grant to fund more collars within Eagle County (using Halter technology)

General ECCD Updates:

- Board Election
 - Swear in Linn Brooks & Niki Luark
 - President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary
 - President nominations
 - Clayton Gerard nominates Shawn Bruckman for President
 - Shawn appointed as President
 - Vice President
 - Scott S. nominates Scott J. for Vice President
 - Scott J appointed as Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Wendy re-appointed as treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Wendy nominates Niki Luark
 - Niki appointed as Secretary
- 3-yr Strategic Planning next steps:
 - [Emergenetics](#)
 - Form for board and staff to complete
 - Deadline 5/21
 - First strategic planning meeting 6/13
- Eagle County Land Use Regulation Rewrite update:
 - <https://online.encodeplus.com/regs/eaglecounty-co-lur/doc-viewer.aspx#secid-49>
 - Invite Colton Berk and Marcia to a board meeting to explain process for submitting comments
 - Chapter 2:
 - Comments will wait until next meeting
 - 2.1.6: needs to be amended
 - 2.1.5.7: Motor homes/RVs can only be parked on private land for 5 days at a time???
 - Chapter 4:
 - N/A - information unavailable
 - No current timeline for information access
- CDA- Solar (Best Practices)
 - No updates about position statement about solar
 - 6/9 meeting
 - Agrivoltaics workshop
 - Grand Junction has solar array combined with ag
 - Solar to be installed in Eagle through Holy Cross
 - ECCD interested in Eagle solar project to implement agriculture for new solar
- Future Services:
 - On-site visits
 - Fee
 - Charge by time? (Example: \$75/hr)
 - To be determined during strategic planning meeting
 - Nitrate testing (+soil sampling)
 - Fee (Example: \$15/sample)
 - Testing supply cost (Denyse will look into)
 - Conversation to be continued next board meeting
 - ECCD to purchase hay probe(s)
- Ag Day:
 - Idea introduced during LWG
 - Shawn in support of Ag Day hosted through ECCD

- Partner with local producers and organizations to educate public
- Stephen: heard at local work group meeting connect with the community at large but also educate public about agriculture
 - Used to be an Ag Expo in Garfield County
- Clayton: Garfield County Ag Day targets the ag producers
 - Need something to bring in the ag community (e.g. speakers)
 - landowner/producer workshops
 - Wolf educational opportunities
- Best time-frame: late Jan to early Feb (for producer participation)
- More to be discussed during strategic planning meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Master Financial Statement 2024/2025

- Back to 1st Forecast Column:
 - Funds back in from Bocco Mountain Project
 - Conversations to pay truck off with these funds
 - \$50k set aside for conservation projects
 - ECCD to explore project opportunities
 - Ideas
 - Drought resiliency program
 - Wetland restoration
 - Soil health program
 - Ditch improvements

Upcoming Events:

- June 10- Eagle County: Demonstration Garden Groundbreaking
 - Denyse and Ryan assisting with management
- June 11- ACE Water Conference
- June 13 - Strategic Operating Plan

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

Mail Review: N/A

Next Meeting Date: June 11, 2025

Adjourn: 8:36

Minutes taken by: Allegra Waterman-Snow, Program Manager

Action Items:

Allegra

- Reach out to county to request someone attend our next board meeting

- send out emergentics dates and invitations
- review bylaws to determine if president can vote - common practice or bylaw?
- is water trailer available for fair and rodeo