



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2023
5:30pm at the Road and Bridge Facility in Gypsum, CO

Meeting called to order at: 5:43pm

Supervisors Present: Scott Jones, Wendy Sacks, Ken Marchetti, Shawn Bruckman, Clayton Gerard, Jay Taylor

Supervisors Absent: Scott Schlosser

Guests: Retta Bruegger, Kristy Wallner, Kallie Rand

Approval of Minutes: Shawn moved to approve, Wendy seconded. Motion passes

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held December 14, 2022

<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>MILES</u>
Scott Jones		
Scott Schlosser		
Wendy Sacks	6	20
Clayton Gerard	4	7
Shawn Bruckman	5	0
Jay Taylor	5	0
Ken Marchetti	4	4

Treasurer's Report:

[Master Budget 2022/2023](#)

-Ken wishes to be more specific in the budget by differentiating 2022 taxes + salary. Specifications are highlighted on the budget; Laura will work with Wendy to address the necessary changes.

Topics to Discuss:

VENCE Updates:

1. Research- Role- Oversee and conduct research- in progress: first successful field season, grateful to have allegra- sampled 49 plots, taking a big chunk of time- now part of our agreement and obtaining feedback with our producers. There is a privacy agreement which information will be aggregated when shared. : Retta CSU
 - a. Csu contributes time as cost match for CIG grant. Research informs management
 - b. Would like to send allegra to SRM (Society for Range Management) annual conference in Boise, ID, it will be covered by VENCE funding
 - c. Technicians have been essential in gathering field data over summer, allegra has also been helping to analyze data this fall, next step retta & allegra will create research summaries
 - d. Data is protected so landowners will not be identified connected to data unless written permission is given from the land owner.
 - e. Ove main goal to figure out if VENCE technology works as it is intended. Feedback from participants is aggregated & assessed to determine this but it is a more complicated task and will require more help. This conference Allegra will attend should help with this. Need more researchers to help with data processing but data is still protected
 - f. Also determining how the VENCE technology is working for ranchers in real life. Retta working on getting approval for how to do this moving forward
 - g. In process of hiring next year's technicians: 2 CSU interns and 1 ECCD technician. Will continue to work on geospatial data
 - h. Input from board: data will be subjective since many ranchers had issues with the technology and were not able to get some of the collars and towers working for much of the summer.
 - i. Q: Will soil sample data be protected too? A: Yes, csu is not allowed to give out data to 3rd party without permission of the landowner, however the data is shared with the landowner and they are able to release data to whoever they would like. Retta would prefer the rancher contact her directly to let her know if they want their data shared with a 3rd party (rather than the 3rd party contacting her and her having to seek out landowner for further verification)
2. Base stations: Christy BLM
 - a. See accompanying Map
 - b. Roaring Fork has approached BLM about virtual fencing. There are a few very talented operators (Ian and Brad) in the eagle/pitkin area that are on board
 - c. Suggestion for a location on Basalt mountain above lake christine. Potential to
 - d. The Ask: Would ECCD like to partner with Roaring Fork to extend tower coverage?
 - e. We have 4 towers built and ready to go but sites are not yet selected. Sweet Water was an area that we were looking at but only 2 of 5 producers are

committed to participating. Whereas the Roaring Fork producers are fully committed and will invest in the collars to match.

- f. PR benefits of teaming with RFV would be great and we really need to use the rest of the collars that are allotted to us because we need the data.
- g. Q: Do interns & technicians have capacity? A: As long as we are strategic, yes. Also christy has an intern that could help if he is trained with our interns too.

Noxious Weed Application Working Group & America the Beautiful:

- We received the grant! (need to cut 20% of proposed budget) total awarded \$160,000, 20-30k for capacity/ admin
- Existing noxious weed app needs to be updated, we should look at how we can incorporate this into our efforts with the ATB grant
- Laura would like to create working group to tackle this
- ATB grant is for 3 years, Kallie wants to ensure ECCD & EC are working together efficiently
- Advertising: EC does 2 ads per year, ECCD promotes through social media & edu booths at events
- Ken reminds us that the budget 2023 forecast will need to be updated
- Working group: Kallie, Clayton, Wendy, Shawn & Allegra-

EC Contract:

- Ken motion to approve, Wendy seconded, unanimous approval.

Elections:

1. Resolution - Ken moves to approve resolutions 4,5, & 6, Wendy seconds, unanimous approval. These are to reelect Clayton, Wendy & Scott S and to reinstate Laura as DEO.

SM Campaign/Avid Design- Laura proposes that we end our contract with this company. They were a big help in setting up our mailchimp and social media but no longer feel that we need their services. Cliff & Laura recommend that we have Allegra do it in house from now on. Additional reasoning is because Laura was making most content and having to be present for access codes but Allegra has inside knowledge so she can take this off Laura's plate and take ownership of this.

- Suggestions to use money saved to make signs to post on private land (i.e. vence participants, weed cost share recipients, etc) and Put up signs on all of our borders saying "entering ECCD" and Invest in more paid advertising on social media
- Discussion of paying allegra full time for 5 months until her Vence full time funding comes through. That would require an additional \$11,000 in our budget. With the ATB grant we have the capacity to do that and still leave \$5000 in our advertising budget for paid ads, sponsorships and yard signs.
- Wendy moves that we hire Allegra full time until May 31 with intention of figuring out how to figure out how to get her full time after the Vence funding is over as well. Ken seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Seed Sales - Laura would like to upgrade the seed sale process. Current process is time consuming CSCB coffee hour recommends using SIPA (for special district)

- \$40 per year gets website & secure payment processing
- Wendy move to authorize Laura to move forward with looking into it and go ahead if she thinks it looks like a good idea

No-Till Drill- The no-till drill is broken and needs to be maintained. It is unclear when/where the damage occurred. Moving forward, a deposit and pre and post inspection will be required so that this will not happen again. This conversation will continue into February's meeting.

Events:

1. Western slope Soil Health Conference- January 28/29, Cattle, herd management, \$200 for Laura and Allegra to attend. Wendy moves to approve, Ken seconded. Motion passes.

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

NRCS Report: N/A

CSU Ext Update: N/A

Mail Review:

Next Meeting Date: February 8, 2023

Adjourn: Motioned by Wendy, Seconded by Ken.

Notes taken by: Laura Bohannon, District Manager