



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda August 10th, 2022
5:30pm at the Road and Bridge Facility in Gypsum, CO

Meeting called to order at: 5:46 pm

Supervisors Present: Wendy, Ken, Clayton, Shawn

Supervisors Absent: Scott S, Scott J, Jay

Guests: Stephen J, Denyse R

Approval of Minutes: motion to approve Ken moves to approve, Clayton seconds

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held July 13th, 2022

<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>MILES</u>
Scott Jones		
Scott Schlosser		
Wendy Sacks	10	30
Clayton Gerard	10	24
Shawn Bruckman	10	12
Jay Taylor		
Ken Marchetti	12	20

Treasurer's Report:

Alpine Checking Account balance: \$167,522.48

Money Market Account balance: \$30,659

Grazing School Reimbursement- \$40, confirming that this was approved by the board

Wendy & Laura continue to meet at the beginning of each month to reconcile

Budget: Ken has offered to work with Laura on 2023 budgets.

- We need to come up with a strategy on how we will be funding election.
- Ken would like to go back to the County again and feels we have a good case for asking them to pay for direct coordinated election costs. Regina estimates \$20k for this cost but Ken feels we should budget \$25k - just for the cost of getting on the coordinated ballot, printing, postage, legal advice, etc.
- Laura would like to clean up current budget & forecasting then work with Ken for next steps. Wendy will work with Ken & Laura to update 2022 budget vs actuals
- Eagle County \$50,000 funding - Laura will follow up with Maureen to verify that we are slated for this money again in 2023.

Topics to Discuss:

Allegra Waterman-Snow Position: (\$23/hr, 20hrs/week= \$1,840/month)

- CSU Ext- \$2,256
- Demonstration Project- \$4,200
- STAR- \$2,000
- CDA Drought- \$1,023
=\$9,479 = 5 months
- Wendy talked to Kathy Chandler Henry about our funding needs for Allegra and she feels confident we can get the extra funding to keep her on through the winter

Noxious Weed Applications:

- Updates for next year:
 - Note which weeds are being addressed
 - Ask for more contact info i.e. email addresses
 - Make sure there are reminders:
 - READ THE LABEL
 - Completely remove weeds from the property (perhaps list the tops ones to remove?)
 - Give priority to applicants who do revegetation
- Use NRCS Herbaceous weed management guide as template for us to update our application next year
- Shawn moves to approve all applications pending the final invoice from Bourke. Clayton seconds. Unanimous approval.

Fair and Rodeo-

- Yeti winner: Reannon, Director of Eagle County Animal Shelter, just finished her CSU master gardener certification.
- Survey results:
 - 68% own a turf
 - 79% of turf owners would be willing to convert to xeriscape
 - About 1/3 would be willing to pay up to 25%, 1/3 would be willing to pay up to 50% and 1/3 would be willing to pay over 50%

- 74% would be interested in local beef program
- Most would not be willing to buy more than ¼ share

Turf Replacement Rebate Program:

- State of Colorado- Turf Replacement Program
 - \$2M dedicated to turf replacement - money will other through CDs and other similar entities to distribute this funding
- CRD-
 - Laura has drafted an application and budget -
 - Request of \$150k would cover 10 participants at 5000 sq ft, for 3 consecutive year
 - \$2000 to establish study plots to determine other grass species to recommend (sheep fescue, hard fescue, buffalo grass, blue grama, wooly thyme, red thyme, common yarrow)
 - \$25,000 for xeriscape demonstration plots (example: roundabouts)
Potential demo areas: Avon, EagleVail, Minturn, CMC, Walking Mountains, Mountain Rec, etc.
 - Advertising, education outreach
 - Admin & mileage
 - Basic idea to extend ERWSD program to our constituents west of Edwards
 - Needs letters of support and matches
 - Should we make this incentive available to commercial properties - the board would like to mimic whatever ERWSD is doing
 - Metric for \$ saved on water bill - goal to use this program to collect more data on how much water and money can be saved through programs like these
- Partners:
 - CSU Ext
 - EC Veg Mgmt
 - ERWSD
 - Eagle River Water Plan
 - Town of Eagle
- Shawn makes a motion for Laura to finalize CRD application for up to \$250,000 and submit before deadline. Clayton seconds. All in favor

Local Beef Program:

- Partners
 - All the Good Stuff
 - Knapp Ranch
- Producers
 - Donovans (Squaw Creek)
 - Ellisons (Trough Road)
- Product
- Program + Timeline

Resilient Grass Seed Mixes Update:

- Shipping fee 3%
- Been selling a lot of small orders for drought tolerant lawn
- Got 2 large orders for the pasture mix and the the dry native mountain mix
- Need to sell 200lb more to get free shipping

STAR Update:

- 7th Producer: Chris Adams
- Equipment: (75/25 match)
 - We have \$25k to spend and then once that minimum is met we will be able to send more applications at an unlimited value until Oct 1
 - Landouer- spreader and trailer
 - ECCD No-Till- \$4,500
 - Krick- Collars
 - Gerard- no-til drill, rock picker and post pounder

Upcoming Events:

1. 8/11- Soil Health Workshop- Betty Ford Alpine Gardens
2. 8/29- Soil Pit Demonstration 5-7pm EC Open Space
3. **9/6- ECCD/CSU Ext. Grazing School 5-8pm**
 - a. **Food:**
4. 9/9- ArtWalk 5-8pm: Laura, Shawn, Ken (backup) Scott S?
5. 9/14 - Middle Park Tour (EQIP funding for several ranches in the kremling area, in collaboration with trout unlimited and windy by-pass project)
 - a. Colorado Watershed Association is also thinking about having a meeting this day as well - ask Scott J for update and next meeting info - reach out to peter dodd
6. 9/16- CRD Annual Water Seminar- \$25 virtual : shawn move to approve funding, ken second, motion passes
7. 9/23- ERWC Water Festival - Laura needs help, clayton and allegra would be good to help with this.
8. 11/9 Annual Meeting; Brush Creek Pavilion

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

NRCS Report:

Engineer, Rachel is leaving, due to the nature of lengthy hiring processes and budget & staff limits, it may take a while to get this position filled, if it gets filled at all. The process requires

approval from the State Conservationist to backfill the position before they can advertise it and rehire.

- ECCD would like to express our concern for this position not being filled. We can write a letter and send it to Stephen, his boss (Chad Checkron) or the state conservationist (Clint) and/or the CACD. (there are 5 CDs within the NRCS Glenwood office region)
- Scott J could also make a call to the state conservationist

Luark drought resiliency project is ready to go and they should be ordering materials soon. Stephen finished the engineering on that today on site.

- Laura has already submitted the invoices for all of these projects so they will be sending the money to us to hold on to and distribute as final proof of projects are complete

CSU Ext Update:

ECCD is sponsoring a Sept 6 grazing school session. Schedule is on event bright anyone is welcome to sign up and go to individual classes, they occur every tuesday night.

Mail Review: N/A

Next Meeting Date: September 12, 2022

Adjourn: 8:42 pm

Notes taken by: Shawn Bruckman (Secretary)