EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 360 Eagle, CO 81631 ~ 970.343.0333

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes November 11, 2020

5:00pm Online Zoom Meeting

**Meeting called to order at 5:02pm**

**Supervisors Present: Wendy, Clayton, Shawn, Scott S, Scott J, Jay**

**Supervisors Absent: Ken,**

**Guests: Stephen J, Denyse S, Doug R**

**Approval of Minutes : motion made by Clayton seconded by Shawn approved by all present board members**

**Roll Call Reports:** Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held October 14, 2020

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **BOARD MEMBER** | **HOURS** | **MILES** |
| Scott Jones | 80 | 0 |
| Scott Schlosser | 10 | 25 |
| Wendy Sacks | 3 | 0 |
| Clayton Gerard | 3 | 0 |
| Shawn Bruckman | 7 | 0 |
| Jay Taylor | 4 | 0 |
| Ken Marchetti | - | - |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Alpine Checking Account balance: $22,725.64

Money Market Account balance: $30,654.17

**Topics to Discuss:**

*Discuss and vote on the applications we received for the weed-cost share program.* Chuck Restivo and Ginger Janssen were applications that were already submitted and Doug Riggins mentioned that he received 6 more applications on Friday and he needs go through as there missing some components. So there were 8 applications total. Chuck still needs his property mapped, Doug will reach out to Chuck to do a site visit then after that’s complete to vote on approval. Ginger’s application is complete and the board is going to approve applications on a first come first serve basis, Scott S, Shawn, Jay and Clayton approved all other members approved Ginger’s application but do want. CSCB just released the 2021 cost-share grant and the board made a motion to approve going in

*CACD Annual Event- Discuss the water session from Tuesday.* There was a brief discussion of Tuesday night’s session on Water.Shawn is going to be on the Soil and Energy resource committee on tomorrow night’s session on Soil and Energy. Thursday November 19th is the session where voting happens, Scott J mentioned he usually votes on behalf of ECCD but if another board member wants to vote then let him know and he’ll gladly let them vote on behalf of ECCD.Next Tuesday is the session on Education where there are 5 different sessions.

*Budget request from the County*- Courtney sent the request on October 26th and was told she would get an answer by today but hasn’t so Shawn will reach out to Kathy Chandler Henry and Scott S with reach out to Kathy Scherr for an update on the budget request and a possible meeting.

*Tree sales-* Two sales this year so far, inventory is low and already getting picked over as both orders weren’t able to get their full order. Courtney will do another Facebook and email blast to get more orders before inventory is depleted.

*Collaboration for Healthy Soils-* Science and practice subcommittee which Shawn is on, they meet biweekly. Gene Kelly from CSU, he’s the lead Soil Health Scientist soil and he gave a presentation on forested areas and on how fires are having an effect, soil and water health are interrelated. He also went over the soil zones, 80-90% biomass below ground than above ground which sequester more carbon than forests. Fires have a huge impact on erosion. Plowing too deep mixes A horizon and B horizon soil levels which can cause you to lose 30-50% of water holding capacity. Soils hold as much water as the rivers and streams in Colorado.

Scott J had to do a Webinar talking about our ditch inventory the District did a few years ago. Angie Fowler from SGM reached out to him about this and Scott wants her to attend our monthly meetings from time to time to discuss the Colorado River Roundtable meetings and maybe do another asset inventory project in the future.

Les Owens brought up that CDA will likely have the task of reimbursing livestock producers for loss from wolves since Prop 115? passed. Clayton expressed concerns of how producers are supposed to track livestock losses when they graze on thousands of acres? Scott J mentioned that they’re still working on the details but the reintroduction of grey wolves isn’t going to happen until the end of 2023. There was a mention of voting to repeal the proposition. Scott J said he thinks those talks are already in the works and will send more information as he gets it.

Shawn mentioned the email from Jessica Foulis from the Eagle Valley Land Trust wanting participation on their strategic planning process and that we should attend those work sessions Shawn and Scott S plan on attending.

Shawn also brought up Kerry Donovan’s new bill and maybe inviting her to one of our board meetings to discuss the bill. Scott J mentioned that we should wait a bit until the bill gets a little further along in the process since it’s bound to change before the ECCD supports the bill.

NACD membership was brought up again since there are different levels. Since funding is limited the board decided to send them $100, motion was made by Clayton, seconded by Shawn all present members approved.

Wendy is going to finalize the budget then Courtney will send the sheet through DocuSign to all board members to sign and submit to DOLA.

**NRCS Report:** Still working on Pine Gulch, Garfield County is working on Grizzly Creek as NRCS is done for now. Looking into opening up EQIP for fire impacts, seeing, fencing, water facility replacements, etc. Troublesome and Cameron Peak Fire are big focus areas for NRCS since so many folks depend on that water. Still in a severe drought and have a long ways to go to get out of it. Even if we have a normal winter spring and summer will already be affected.

**CSU Ext Update:** Denyse has seen an uptick in small acreage owners with questions on pasture management, since a lot of folks are fleeing the cities and are first time property owners looking to have livestock. She wants to do a grazing school targeted at new landowners that need help and would love to partner with ECCD on that. Stephen mentioned that Stephanie is the NRCS’s new range specialist and he will get her to help out too. Denyse has seen a lot weed problems on her recent site visits and mentioned to the landowners our weed-cost share program. There’s a lot of wait and see for programing to see what in-person programs they’ll be able to do because of COVID.

**Mail Review:** Colorado Outdoors Magazine

**Next Meeting Date: 12/9/20**

**Adjourn:** 6:40pm

**Notes taken by: Courtney Grant (District Manager)**