EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 360 Eagle, CO 81631 ~ 970.343.0333

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes November 13, 2019

5:00 pm, 3289 Cooley Mesa Road, CO 81637

**Meeting called to order at 5:07pm by Scott J**

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

**Supervisors Absent: N/A**

**Guests: Stephen J (NRCS), Denyse S (CSU ext) James D (ERWC), Fay H (AR)**

**Approval of Minutes** Wendy made the motion to approve the minutes Shawn seconded, all present board members approved

**Roll Call Reports:** Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held October 9, 2019

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **BOARD MEMBER** | **HOURS** | **MILES** |
| Scott Jones | 40 | 500 |
| Scott Schlosser | 16 | 120 |
| Wendy Sacks | 4 | 20 |
| Clayton Gerard | - | - |
| Shawn Bruckman | 18 | 388 |
| Jay Taylor | - | - |
| Ken Marchetti | 11 | 230 |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Alpine Checking Account balance: $ 16,550.55

Money Market Account balance: $ 30,646.45

**Topics to Discuss:**

Scott S mentioned the Colorado Headwaters working on preventing a new dam going in at the Homestake Reservoir. An organization that Fay and James didn’t know too much about, Scott mentioned it because it relates to the ERWMP, an organization that we now know exists and to keep an eye out for.

Brief presentation from Fay and James about Deep Creek Updates- The July Stakeholders meeting instream flow committee- talked about the Bright Water Flows update. Bright Waters was able to get a lot of good data from this past year since the river flow was much higher than the previous year. Colorado National Heritage Program and Bright Waters data will be used to create the plan. September meeting- a new boundary map was created after they received input, and they sought the Board Members input on the new boundaries and other aspects of the plan. Things in review- water right applications, livestock raising is a big topic- have been working closely with both the Royal Elk and Deep Creek Ranches. The DD Ditch is no longer within the boundaries since it was a GPS accident from the BLM and should have never been included. Segment 2B boundary was too big since it was close to the Royal Elk and Deep Creek Ranches, the new boundary has been greatly reduced in size on the new proposed map. Segment 3 is the recreational section within the designation, because there is already human activity there like camping, fishing, etc. the only thing not allowed in the recreational area are dams. Grazing is permitted in all segments regardless of designation, i.e. Wild, Scenic and Recreational, those designations were created by the BLM and Forest Service. This brought up the topic of stock ponds, would the development of new ponds be allowed in all areas even within the corridor? The short answer is yes, stock pond development would be allowed since it doesn’t have an impact on senior water rights. After a long discussion it was decided to make sure that there is verbiage in the plan that makes it easier for pond development to occur so there are fewer hoops to go through in the future for the folks that graze on the land. The Wild classification withdraws any future mineral claims from happening in the area. There will be another stakeholder meeting likely in January, Fay will send out a doodle poll to make sure the meeting gets scheduled so the most people can attend. American Rivers and ERWC will compile some draft verbiage and new maps from now until the next meeting and will send that information beforehand so folks can review everything prior to the meeting.

Finish the 2020 Long Range Plan- The Board Members and DM finished the LRP and the final rough draft will be completed soon and sent to Alyssa from CSCB for approval before it is submitted.

CO Watershed Meeting- Mancos District gave a presentation on how to obtain a Mill Levy- Shawn and Ken took a bunch of notes to help our District get our own Levy. They also recommended hiring a good lawyer. We would want to get some entity to provide assistance with collecting ballots. Mancos spent around $10,000-$15,000 on their elections.

**NRCS Report:** Colorado Rural Water Association (CRWA) is putting together a source water protection plan for the Town of Eagle, the town is putting in a new intake station near the confluence of Brush Creek and the Eagle River. The CRWA wants input from the District on how best to engage with the people that have small ag operations near the creek, on best management practices so they don’t pollute the creek.

 A brief explanation of the proposed changes to the State’s Division of Water Resources interpretation of Instream Flow water rights was discussed.

We’re in a D-0/D-1 drought

**CSU Ext Update:** Agricultural Financial Management Strategies Workshop on December 12th from 10-4:30pm in Glenwood Springs.

**Mail Review: Butler Ohio Conservation Newsletter**

**Next Meeting Date: 12/11/19**

**Adjourn: 7:50pm by Clayton**

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