EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda December 8th, 2021

5:30pm at the Road and Bridge Facility.

**Meeting called to order at 5:32**

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

**Supervisors Absent:** Scott Jones

**Guests:** Stephen Jaouen, Denyse Schrenker, Dayton Knutson, Rachel Skyving

**Roll Call Reports:** Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held October 13th, 2021

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **BOARD MEMBER** | **HOURS** | **MILES** |
| Scott Jones |  |  |
| Scott Schlosser | 20 | 60 |
| Wendy Sacks | 6 | 40 |
| Clayton Gerard | 3 | 4 |
| Shawn Bruckman | 12 | 14 |
| Jay Taylor | 5 | 0 |
| Ken Marchetti | 16 | 0 |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Alpine Checking Account balance: $

Money Market Account balance: $

Stephen introduced two new NRCS employees: Dayton Knutson, the new Soil Conservationist and Rachel Skyving, the Civil/Agricultural Engineer. As well, Kirsten Pierson will be the new program support/contract specialist

**Topics to Discuss:**

2022 Budget-

Rebrand Approval- Laura asked to move forward with Kristen Le Design for her $1250 logo rebrand. She did all of Shawn’s campaign branding. Ken made a motion for Laura to begin working with Kristen as soon as possible so that the Conservation District can hopefully invoice it with Eagle County in 2021’s budget. Shawn second the notion and all favored. Laura will send the board logo ideas and concepts for each member to individually review before working with Kristen.

The board then reviewed the General Fund Budget. Ken included a 2023 forecast, so that the board can begin to visualize mill levy expenses including a PR consultant and a polling organization. As well, the board officially offered Laura a full-time position starting January, so we must also account for those expenses. Ken believes it will take two years to prepare ourselves for a Mill Levy and we must begin thinking of ways to produce revenue for 2023. He further proposes that we discuss PR consultants in January’s meeting to get things rolling. The board then went through each line and approved of next year’s budget. Wendy made a motion to approve, and Ken seconded.

In regards to statutory requirements, Laura will meet with Wendy before the New Year to transfer budget items and necessary filings so that she is set to take over. The board also approved to include expenses for our social media campaign at $350/month to improve our advertising. Shawn made the motion and Ken seconded. Shawn concluded that we need a professional to hand paid advertisements and our social media, with Laura available to provide the content.

STAR Next Steps and Participants- The board discussed the requirements to participate in the STAR Program. We went over what being “EQIP Eligible” meant and if there would be any matching consequences. The board then approved for Clayton Gerard, Mike Leaderhouse, Pat/Niki Luark and Kori Landouer as potential participants. Laura will also Reach out to Terry Porter and Kinsey Scott to potentially sign up. Lastly, Laura will send a press release to the Vail Daily with the STAR content and looking for producers to participate in order to make it a fair and equal opportunity to participate.

Agricultural Drought Resiliency Fund & Cost Share Agreement: The total amount for the CDA grant is $50,000. Laura stated Scott Jones’ preference to put the money towards headgates and flumes and send out advertising to Eagle County residents. Clayton said that flumes run from $8,000-$10,000. The board agreed to accept applications of up to $10,000 awards for headgates, flumes and/or pipe. It was then discussed how to select awarded participants and Stephen mentioned that we will have to defend our vote. Therefore, Stephen suggested building a Cost Share Application with criteria and guidelines. He then sent us a link to Bookcliff, South Side and Mount Sopris’ cost share website with examples to base off of. It will cover issues such as: delays in equipment, funding for design or contracting.

In the advertising we will state: Opportunity to improve agricultural irrigation infrastructure for headgates flumes and pipes. Details include: application deadline: March 1st; application approval: April 15th Shovel ready: August 26th; lastly, include an intention of how were spending $.

Advertisements- Laura has received approval from the board to budget $2,000 for advertising the drought grant to the Vail Daily, $2,000 to Ski County Radio and $2,400 to Kristen for logo rebrand and social media campaign. Shawn motions and Scott S seconds. Motion passes

Wertheim Update: Laura has acquired all the immediate details for the Wertheim land proposal and will reach out to Vanessa for a platform preference. She will then put everything together and get approval from the board before sending it to Vanessa.

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

**NRCS Report**: We are at 58% for the river basin. Stephen said that it is still early and can make it up. We need 115% above normal to reach average peak. The NRCS is looking for a new Civil Engineer, however, there are only 4 applicants, with 5 locations in need. They are interviewing Friday. The EQIP application deadline passed and they will be going over eligibility and evaluations next month.

**CSU Ext Update:** N/A

**Executive Session: Ken motions to give year end bonus for Laura $1250. Money would come from the COVID grant funding. Scott S seconds. Motion passes.**

**Mail Review: N/A**

**Next Meeting Date: January 12th, 2021**

**Adjourn: clayton; 7:39pm**

**Notes taken by: Laura Bohannon (District Manager)**