EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 360 Eagle, CO 81631 ~ 970.343.0333

Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 14, 2019

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

**Meeting called to order by Scott J @ 5:27pm**

**Supervisors Present:** Scott J., Ken, Wendy, Scott S., & Clayton

**Supervisors Absent:** Shawn & Jay

**Guests:** Denyse S.

**Approval of Minutes** Motioned by Ken, seconded by Scott S.

**Roll Call Reports:** Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held February 13, 2019

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **BOARD MEMBER** | **HOURS** | **MILES** |
| Scott Jones | 35 | 50 |
| Scott Schlosser | 20 | 60 |
| Wendy Sacks | 15 | 50 |
| Clayton Gerard |  |  |
| Shawn Bruckman |  |  |
| Jay Taylor |  |  |
| Ken Marchetti |  |  |

**Treasurer’s Report: 2/28/19**

Alpine Checking Account balance: $ 15,807.48

Money Market Account balance: $ 30,626.52

**Topics to Discuss:**

Walking Mountains Scholarship- There was a discussion over the amount of money that the District agreed to donate since $2,500 is a lot and the District doesn’t have much money coming in. So when folks apply for the grant with WMSC if they have an Eagle or west address in Eagle County they will qualify with the approval from the Board Members. Denyse suggested that we advertise with the 4H Club and see if those kids want to come. Ken pulled up the District’s budget and the Board only budgeted $1,500 so the Board decided to only donate $1,500 instead of $2,500, Ken made the motion with the caveat that if they have a lot of down valley kids apply that the Board will decide to donate more, Clayton seconded the motion and all present Board Members voted in favor. The final decision is the Board will let WMSC accept the applications and notify us when they get an application with a down valley address and the Board will decide to approve their application or not, one class from each age group is what the Board agreed on.

*Deep Creek update*-Multiple Board Members and constituents were at the last meeting. The Forest Service and BLM tried to set minds at ease saying the designation will project Deep Creek and limit the amount of people that can visit. Both authorities have been treating Deep Creek as Wild and Scenic for years so they’re saying not too much will change, which brings up the question of why make the designation if things have been working without a designation for years? They might do Wild on the Creek and Scenic on the nearby areas. Instream flow was a huge concern and priority, Scott J mentioned that the Conservation District should apply for the water rights since that is a concern of the FS and BLM as far as who owns the water and will protect it. This designation will protect Deep Creek from mining or oil production. Kirsten Learner is going to file a lawsuit, but the Board thinks this project is too far down the pipeline for that to make a difference. The FS wants to write into this plan that grazing must occur in Deep Creek, the exact verbiage needs to be decided throughout the process to protect grazing permit holders. Basically this designation sounds like it’s going to happen so the Board just needs to make sure our concerns are written into the legislation and management plan. Overall it seems that negotiating is going well since the map was updated, so the Board decided to keep doing what we’ve been doing, showing up to the meetings and making sure the agricultural community’s concerns are met and addressed and look into what it would take for the District to become the water right holder on the instream to Deep Creek.

Eagle River Community Water Plan- both Scott’s and Ken attended the last meeting, questions were asked and everyone answered through their cell phone or other device and the results were shared in real time. Still getting stakeholder input and the plan is still in its infancy. March 22 is the next meeting located at Edwards, 9-12pm. Scott J will be there and maybe Ken and Scott S. Action item is to continue to participate in meetings and have Phil with CCA give a presentation at our May monthly meeting to our constituents, we’ll go over the details of the May meeting during our April meeting. DM will send the survey to the District’s email contact list again.

CoAgMet Station 2 update- The DM talked to Diane with Eagle County last week, the County is still in the process of creating an agreement that should be ready in a couple of weeks. The Board will go over the agreement during April’s meeting and decide what to do next.

The board discussed that we should ask for annual funding from Eagle County next year before they figure out the budget for 2020.

TCP Grant- DM will look over the Bookcliffe, Mount Sopris and Southside CD’s did last year since they were awarded a grant. DM will adjust our application from last year and forward the TCP grant rough draft with the other CD’s application for input before the grant is submitted to NRCS.

Annual Meeting review- Everyone thought the meeting went well this year, Scott S suggested that we start gathering silent auction items long in advance of the annual meeting so we’re not scrambling at the last minute. No other suggestions to make the event better.

The Board discussed the “Powering Up Your Watershed” training in Glenwood Springs on April 2-3 the fee is $100 per person, the Board will pay for one Board Member to attend, actual Board Member TBD. The Board will also pay Scott J. $50 that CACD won’t pay, Wendy made the motion to send one board member and Scott J, seconded by Ken so the Board will pay a total of $150. All Members voted in favor.

Denyse wants to do an irrigation workshop and field day, she talked to the irrigation specialist at CSU and he’d be happy to come out to properly teach people how to use the CoAgMet station info and how to take that data and use it on their property and collect their own data. Denyse is going to do a workshop for homeowners but she wants a separate training for small acre hay producers. The date and location of the training to be determined.

Scott J mentioned when we should have a Monthly meeting in Burns at the Church instead of the County building in Gypsum, the Board decided to have the June monthly meeting there.

**NRCS Report:** N/A, Stephen was not present

**Mail Review:** Colorado Outdoors Magazine

**Next Meeting Date: 4/10/19 Wendy and Scott S will not be able to attend.**

**Adjourn:** Motioned by Wendy at 7:27pm

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