



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda July 13th, 2022
5:30pm at the Road and Bridge Facility in Gypsum, CO

Meeting called to order at: 5:50 pm

Supervisors Present: Ken, Wendy, Scott S, Clayton, Shawn, Jay

Supervisors Absent: Scott J

Guests: Cliff Thompson, Kallie, Denyse

Approval of Minutes: motion to approve

Wendy adjust that she volunteered to do the art walk but minute don't reflect that
Ken move to approve with edit, Shawn second

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last
regular meeting held June 8th, 2022

<u>BOARD MEMBER</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>MILES</u>
Scott Jones		
Scott Schlosser	20	75
Wendy Sacks	11	20
Clayton Gerard	8	40
Shawn Bruckman	28	275
Jay Taylor		
Ken Marchetti	20	20

Treasurer's Report:

Alpine Checking Account balance: \$54,204.97

Money Market Account balance: \$30,659.26

5:40PM Drought & VENGE Funding Update:

- Vence: First payment of \$99,219.96 has been approved but payment is not coming through, SAM is rejecting it. Laura is working on trying to alleviate this, she will continue to work to get this corrected
- Drought: first funding has come through for \$45,663.20
 - Of that \$4,151 is for admin
 - Laura is sending invoices as they come in
 - 5 complete, 8 to go
 - Deadline to submit invoices sept 15 so Laura can get final report done by sept 30
 - Completed:
 - Casper Shumm
 - Chris Estes
 - Haymeadow
 - Martin Keisch
 - Dianne Haynes

Topics to Discuss:

6:05 Camp Rocky

- 1 week camp for kids to explore natural resources
- Looking for us to fund to sponsor (amount)
- We voted to email to approve this

6:10 PM: PR Updates:

- See update attachment from Cliff
 - Weed management & seeding
 - Water (seat open on the ERWSC board - Scott S will do this)
 - Soil health and conservation (land trust has open board seat)
 - Wildlife and humans (Laura is on wildlife round table)
 - Farm Ranch & local food markets
 - Information (coagmet network, drought & wildfire)
 - CoAgMet - meeting with Northern Water this week
 - Education
 - see douglas county CD website for examples
 - Diversify to include what we do for residential audience
 - Monthly newsletter or column in the daily
 - Outreach so far (See Cliffs update)
- Request for Education and Outreach Funding: Laura sent a request from Co River Dist for funding for seed program; asked for \$7,500.
- Board comments:
 - Water round table - we haven't received anything from them in a while - Laura will circle back with them to make sure we are on their list. The Whitney lake project is back on the table, we need to get ahead of it. Did James take Holly's place in the round table seat?

- Of the organizations that we are meeting with, how many are voter intensive and are they aware that we are going for a vote? Yes - always looking to expand the mailing list and relationships. \$15 per \$750,000 annually is not onerous so most feedback is positive. Only one negative from a member of the ranch community, perception from that individual is that any tax is bad, the money should be able to come from other places & we should have to tax the public to run our programs.
- Are we being aggressive enough to tackle all of this as a team - how can the board be more involved in speaking to the voters. Should we go hard at the Fair and Rodeo? Cliff says we should not bring up the mill levy but we should go hard on telling people what we are doing (Vence, seed sales, drought rebates, star, etc.) Cliff thinks we need to expand from our ranch focused audience. We decided that we want to start getting
 - Shawn expresses concern to make sure we dont forget ag community - laura concurs that is a number one concern
- Comments about our message:
 - Explain it as \$2 for every \$100,000 of your home
 - If you like what we are doing now from these grants then you need to make sure we have funding to continue this great work because grants don't last forever and you usually don't get the same ones every year
 - Expanding focus, opening the doors to bigger audience
 - We are engaged and give the ag community and the greater community a voice at the discussion for deep creek, whitney lake (homestake II) weeds
 - Outreach projects and education

6:50 CRD Grant Opportunity

- There's lots of money to give away and none has come to Eagle County yet
- Cost share seed program
- Test plot for successful grasses
- Open space, csu & eagle county & watershed council would be partners
- Long term goal in this partnership to promote more coagmet stations
 - CSU doesnt have capacity to manage more stations in our county but they have other options for smaller stations to add to our network if someone else can manage
 - Grant would help to fund a new position to have techs to control this

6:55 PM America the Beautiful Grant and Noxious Weeds Cost Share:

- ATBG grant
 - Larger version of the noxious weed grant
 - Several people in eagle county applied so they approached ECCD to make Nicki Luarks application more broad scale so we can offer the benefits to more land owners
 - Application requests funding for noxious weed management and revegetation

- What does it look like to expand our cost share program from \$5000 to \$200,000, do we have the capacity to provide support for this expansion.
- Of \$200,000 request \$40,000 for admin (to cover cost of part time person, I.e. Allegra)
- Shawn moves to approve that laura apply for the America the Beautiful grant, Clayton seconds, unanimous approval
- Noxious Weed Cost Share
 - Application says that there are july and november deadlines so Laura will circular applications that are submitted for the July 16 deadline and we will try to respond via email
 - We will revisit application deadlines for
 - Kallie does not have the capacity to do site visits and follow up for these cost share applications
 - Scott S suggest that we as board members help to do the follow up
 - Clayton suggests they send us a picture with a location for the follow up and do random site visits when we can
 - Wendy suggests that Kallie tell them they need to provide photos
 - Kallie will email list of current chemicals sold by the county out to everyone

7:30 PM Allegra Waterman-Snow Position:

- We are seeking funding to keep Allegra year rount
- Since we have her pay covers june- aug, we still need 9 mo of pay \$25/hour part time = \$20,000 needed
 - ATBG covers \$40,000 for the next 3 years but we won't know of that until next year
 - CRD grant for coagmet technician could help cover a portion as well but we can't submit that until fall
 - Eagle county - Laura has approached them to support this and they said she could apply but it didn't sound promising - Wendy will reach out to Kathy - they are doing budgeting
 - Laura will reach out to Todd at Vence to see if he has any remote work that Allegra could do over the winter
 - Think about big donors? Talked about approaching private donors & philanthropists

8:00 PM: Resilient Grass Seed Mixes Update:

- We have sold 3 x 5 lb bags of grass so far!!
- Clayton suggest that we let Christy know we are selling seed
- Also suggests reaching out to Town of Vail, Eagle Open Space,

8:20 PM: FAMLI & Insurance:

- FAMLI: Ken would like to defer the decision on this to next month. He is currently researching this further and wants to learn more before we decide
- Insurance: we would like to talk about this for our 2023 budget

- Wendy suggests we look into a supplemental policy through National Reserve Insurance / Kemper \$1000 deductible per policy

7 PM :Fair and Rodeo

- Sign up days
- Jr Livestock Auction
 - Wendy moves to donate \$500 to the jr livestock, Scott S seconds, all in favor
- Auction item - YES YETI COOLER! See if Scott Jones can get this
- Create Board with a synopsis of all the things we are doing! Pictures! Shawn will work with Laura to create this on Canva and send it to print for Rodeo. And a brochure to hand out with the same info. Do you know who we are & what we do? If you like what we are doing now from these grants then you need to make sure we have funding to continue this great work.
- Flyer: need something to hand out to ensure people leave knowing who we are and what we do

7:10 PM: STAR Equipment/Producer Match:

- We have some matches but open for more ideas

7:20 PM Upcoming Events:

1. 8/29- Soil Pit Demonstration 5-7pm
2. 9/14 - Middle Park Tour
3. 11/9 or 11/10- Annual Meeting; Brush Creek Pavilion

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

NRCS Report:

CSU Ext Update: Please share grazing school email that Denyse sent

Mail Review:

Next Meeting Date: August 10, 2022

Adjourn: Wendy moves to adjourn

Notes taken by: Shawn Bruckman (Secretary)