EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 360 Eagle, CO 81631 ~ 970.343.0333

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes August 14, 2019

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

**Meeting called to order at 5:15pm by Scott J**

**Supervisors Present: Scott J, Shawn, Wendy, Jay & Ken**

**Supervisors Absent: Clayton & Scott S**

**Guests: Stephen J and Denyse S**

**Approval of Minutes: motion made by Ken seconded by Wendy all present members approved**

**Roll Call Reports:** Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held July 10, 2019

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **BOARD MEMBER** | **HOURS** | **MILES** |
| Scott Jones | 60 | 100 |
| Scott Schlosser | - | - |
| Wendy Sacks | 10 | 30 |
| Clayton Gerard | - | - |
| Shawn Bruckman | 11 | 30 |
| Jay Taylor | 4 | 7 |
| Ken Marchetti | 4 | 40 |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Alpine Checking Account balance: $17,502.41

Money Market Account balance: $30,639.36

**Topics to Discuss:**

Workers Comp Exemption- a brief description of what the exemption is Wendy made a motion to approve Shawn seconded it, Scott J asked if we should table it until next month the Board agreed we should just approve tonight because we’re already late in filing, Board Members approved.

Mill Levy- Courtney invited Alyssa with CSCB to this meeting but she was unable to attend so she forwarded an email with great info that the Board discussed during the meeting. Ken mentioned we could form a committee separate from the District so we avoid any conflicts of interest. There’s a lot of homework we need to do first but after the Board has decided if we’re serious about moving forward we can contact Gretchen Rank from the Mancos Conservation District to pick her brain since her District was recently successful in getting a Mill Levy passed. The next step is to create a preliminary budget so we have a better idea of why we need a Levy and what it’ll take (scholarships, education, weed cost share, Upper Colorado Water Plan, administrative costs, forestry, equipment), we can ask other district’s for a copy of their budget to get a better idea. The Board did some math and figured out if we went for a 1/10 of a Mill Levy we could raise $325,000 annually, the Board is going to look at other budgets from District’s with Mill Levy’s to see what they’re spending their money on. We will create a budget to go over the next meeting. Do we want to do a County or District vote? Need to look into the pros and cons of doing either over the other. Do we want to do a November or May vote? We need to talk to the County assessor too. Courtney will do some more basic research to bring to next month’s meeting.

Deep Creek- No one attended the July 31st meeting

ERWMP- The stakeholders of the ERWMP have expressed interest in learning how ag uses water. There was a discussion of where to hold the meeting and when. The Board decided based on practices and location that Wendy’s property would make the most sense. October 7th is the tentative date from 1-3pm, Courtney needs to confirm with Sam from ERWC and Scott S to make sure that date, time and location are good. Scott J and Stephen J

Brief updates: Rodeo- the riparian trailer was a hit, we should definitely do it again next year. We didn’t give away all the CoCoRahs rain gauges, just 2 since we didn’t have enough folks seem interested in using the rain gauge information along with CoAgMet information. Having the storage at the ticket booth was very helpful. Next year we should have the booth in the expo hall Thur-Sat and see if we can have the same location for the riparian trailer next year.

CoAgMet Station- agreement has been signed, location has been figured out, invoice has been paid to CSU, the District’s been paid from CSCB, we’re just waiting for CSU to give us the ok to install the station.

Shawn is going to the soil meeting on Friday 8/16/19 and asked if anyone else was going, no one else is. She will update the Board during our next meeting.

Conservation Stewardship Program through NRCS provides funds to be a steward, since Shawn was asking how we could incentivize folks to have better soil health.

**NRCS Report:** Basalt had a flood on August 4th which has kept Stephen busy, 2 projects in Eagle County received EQIP funding. He went over a “Drought contingency planning and demand management presentation”.

**CSU Ext Update:** Master Gardener training starts from Jan 17th through March 27th 2020, more information is on their link on the County website.

**Mail Review:** Colorado Outdoors Magazine

**Next Meeting Date: 9/11/19**

**Adjourn: motion made by Wendy at 7:33pm**

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