



EAGLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes February 12, 2025
5:30pm Road and Bridge, Gypsum

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/tmt-ihpy-xid>

Or dial: (US) +1 402-628-0151 PIN: 705 102 112#

Meeting called to order at: 5:30pm

Supervisors Present: Scott Jones, Scott Schlosser, Wendy Sacks, Ken Marchetti, Shawn Bruckman

Supervisors Absent: Jay Taylor

Guests Present: Brook Fitzsimmons

Approval of Minutes: Shawn moves to approve. Ken seconds. All in favor.

Roll Call Reports: Board member miles & hours spent on conservation starting with the last regular meeting held January 8, 2025.

BOARD MEMBER	HOURS	MILES
Scott Jones	40	500
Scott Schlosser	8	30
Wendy Sacks	8	30
Clayton Gerard	14	320
Shawn Bruckman	40	400
Jay Taylor		
Ken Marchetti	4	4

Treasurer's Report:

[Master Financial Statement 2024/2025](#)

- 2 Forecast Columns: 2nd one shows the FAPL and DCT grant removed. Both are funded by the Inflation Reduction Act and are currently on pause, or could be revoked.
- Forecast 1 (Normal):
 - Part-time (1 year) Beyond Lawn Program Developer: Laura would like to apply for the CSCB Matching Grants to secure up to \$35,000 to contract a part-time

(50%) Program Developer for 1 year. Laura has spoken with ERC who may match \$5,000 and is talking to Colorado River District on Friday to re-allocate some of our existing grant funds towards this cause. If ECCD secures \$35,000 total and matches \$10,000 we can contract someone to write grants, build partnerships, and seek sustainable funding for Beyond Lawn's future. Toe \$10,000 was pulled from contingency.

- Edits were made to CIG Virtual Fencing Grant showing all remaining expenditures left in the grant. ECCD will now utilize all grant funds to contract CSU Extension for data analysis.
- \$30,000 is currently allocated for auto expenses. Clayton would like to not lease his vehicle again this year.
- Health insurance increased to include Allegra, who now needs coverage.
- \$15,000 is allocated to rent space. ECCD has the opportunity to invest in a 35 acre land with Water Rights and Ag status, on the Eagle River in Eagle. ECCD will reserve these funds until further looking into purchasing property
- VENCE expenditures went up, along with the revenue. The current expenditures go to CSU Extension for data analysis
- Forecast 2 (-Grants)
 - DCT- For now it remains the same, at some point we could lose this grant at any moment. We are reimbursing for Greg's time monthly at 80%. The board would like to assure Greg's position with ECCD should ECCD lose this grant.
 - FAPL- This grant is currently frozen. FAPL Project Manager is hopeful it will start again. The cells currently show YTD revenue/expenditures.
 - The loss of FAPL drastically changes annual net to -\$64,390. Laura suggests that funds must be reallocated from contingency to cover this cost.
 - Laura is also exploring re-designating personnel costs from FAPL back into CIG, which could help with loss of revenue.
- Mill Levies to date:
 - Eagle County: \$46,402.03
 - Grand County: \$2.56
 - Garfield County \$62.03

Topics to Discuss:

Bylaws Review & Board Election Update:

- Bylaws: Leaving as is for now.
- Election:
 - Designation of Representation
 - Scott J, Shawn, Ken and Jay are up for re-election.
 - Ken is authorized.
 - ECCD has Designation of Representative forms for Shawn.
 - Jay and Scott J will fill out their forms and return them to Laura.
 - Self Nomination Form
 - ECCD has Scott J and Shawn's forms on file.
 - Jay and Ken will have theirs by the end of the month.
 - Scott J and Jay must file their forms by the 20th, then Laura will pursue other

candidates- Linn Brooks and Nikki Luark are interested in joining the board.

- Legislation: ECCD's suggested legislation change regarding board member eligibility. These changes are in the policy book, but not in statute. This year might be hard with the existing State budget to open statute.
 - Scott J will set up a meeting with Nikki Brinson, Abbey, the CACD's lobbyist and state attorney to give board clarification on policy change.

3YR Strategic Planning Board Retreat

- Moderator:
 - Dallas Everhart: Director for city of aspen (10 years); City manager silverthorne (5-6 years); CSU Edu/outreach & finance (5-6 years); PHD & Career on Communication Skills: Develop Strategic Operating Plan:
 - Strategic Operating Plan: Helps identify where we are now, trajectory, where we want to go in the future, how to be successful with ROI while being consistent/true to our process.
 - 2-3 days (broken down to half days):
 - Board: Mission/vision/values/policies
 - Staff: Action initiative/priorities
 - GPS: Goals, Project, Strategy
- Additional agenda items:
 - Sustainable financial growth:
 - Starting a Foundation: Laura and Cliff would put together a framework for starting a foundation that would strategically cater to ECCD projects. ECCD would then put together a new board to develop the foundation. This is an alternative solution for funding outside of federal/state grants.
 - Land:
 - Seagos Property: Jessica Foulis spoke with the Seagos about selling their 35 acre property to ECCD. They are very interested and would like to connect with us this spring when they come back to Eagle County.
 - Jessica mentioned CPW and other organizations may be interested in investing/partnering.
- Budget:
 - Emergenetics- \$1,400 (\$199-each)
 - an innovative assessment tool that provides a colorful, in-depth analysis of your thinking and behavioral preferences
 - \$15,000 TOTAL
- Date/Time:
 - June 6- Orientation; 9am - lunch;
 - July (10thish)
- Ken makes a motion to move forward with contracting Dallas to conduct a Strategic Operating Plan. Scott would like to see Dallas' work and what other quotes are there for this type of work. Before contracting his services, the board would like a scope of work and more details.
 - How does he bill?
 - Can board members attend virtually?

Employment: ECCD continues to collect resumes for the positions listed below. Laura and Allegra will begin to set up interviews.

- Natural Resources & Horticulture Specialist
- 2 VF Seasonal Technicians

- 1 BL Seasonal Technicians
- * BL Program Developer* Clayton makes a motion for Laura to apply for the CSCB Supplemental Grant, with ECCD committing up to \$10,000. Shawn seconds. All in favor.

Wolf Conflict:

- ECCD is officially under contract for the Wolf Conflict Mitigation Grant award of \$35,000. Laura sent out the scope of work.
- In the Producer Application:
 - Make sure that the application states that the money is limited and reimbursements will be awarded based on available funds.
 - Add description to explain that the funding is for preemptive/preventative work
 - Add disclaimer verbiage at end of application to say that we reserve the right to deny applications
 - Software: Include EID tag, wand reader (\$250-400),
 - Scales (don't add to the application - we will use discretion at the end if there's money left over)
 - Increase Software award amount up to \$350

Forestry Program: Lake Creek Drainage

- Laura and Greg spoke with the County, Stephen at the NRCS, and have been working on building a needs assessment for forestry work on private lands.
- They also spoke with Hugh Fairfield Smith with Eagle River Fire Protection District & Eagle Valley Wildland who connected Greg with maps and potential projects with SOW's for forestry work on private lands.
- Lake Creek Drainage has some shovel-ready projects, with support from private landowners and matching dollars from the ERFDP. If funds are secured for private landowners, ERFDP would oversee the project and work.
- Laura will attend the Lake Creek Fire Mitigation Task Force discussion with landowners and partners to learn more. ECCD's role would be to help landowners apply for EQIP and other funds.

DCT Update:

- Nox Weed Working Group Update: The working group has updated the cost share application and is waiting on a few more details from Greg when he returns from vacation. After finalizing those details, Laura will email the board highlighting all of the updates.
 - ECCD submitted a reimbursement request through the County back in November and is still waiting for the funds to go through.

Other Program Updates

- Beyond Lawn
 - QWEL Training: Irrigation Analysis has asked if ECCD would be interested in conducting a Qualified Water Efficient Lascaper workshop.
 - It will cost \$7,890 to contract Irrigation Analysis to do the 3-4 day training.
 - Laura requested a budget proposal from Waternow alliance to administer the training for the first year, as ECCD doesn't have the capacity to do it yet. This will cost \$12,550 and includes IA's fees.
 - The board wishes to know the level of interest before committing to these funds.

ECCD will work on a survey to determine how many local landscapers would sign up. ECCD will consider hosting a QWEL potentially this fall or next year if there is interest.

- Virtual Fencing
 - ECCD finally received \$113,000 from last November's reimbursement request. Wendy needs to backdate the funds as a receivable for 2024. Ken will join next
 - Laura submitted a new reimbursement request that includes CSU Extension-Data Collection for \$15,000.
- FAPL
 - Pause on funding- Laura is working with Kristy to see if CIG can cover collars & technician time to continue the project in the interim with the hope that this grant will be reinstated in the near future.
- Eagle County Land Use Regulation Rewrite update
 - Eagle county is rewriting their land use regulations. This year they intend to complete the work. Shawn would like for ECCD to be a representative for landowners and land managers within the district. Recommended edits are coming out as modules per month. Their next meetings are: Feb 18 (Eagle County?) /19/20. March 18/19/20, April 15/16/17. May 15/20/21. Call Marcia for clarification on date/time.
 - Laura will include modules in future board packets for board members to make edits and return to County as a collective board.
- Seed sales subcommittee
 - ERWC and TOE Open Space project need seed in year two. They want ECCD to develop a native seed mix that mimics their existing native species.

New Logos: Shawn moves to approve a \$100 tip, Wendy seconds. Clayton sustains. Motion passes.

Upcoming Events:

- 4/19: ECCD Farm Tour- 10-2pm. Meet at Wiggle worm. Clayton will send waivers for participants.
- 2/21: CDA Ag tax Credit Webinar
- 3/12: livestock webinar

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

NRCS Report:

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CSU Ext Update:

- March 12-Livestock and forage grower webinar-
- March 11- Annual pesticide applicator workshop
- April 22nd- Estate Planning Workshop- at EVLT 4-8pm
- April 26th- 10am-3pm Forestry

Mail Review: N/A

Next Meeting Date: March 12, 2025

Adjourn: 8:32pm

Minutes taken by: Laura Bohannon, Executive Director

Action Items: