



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
January 14, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Ken Lipton, Bert Earle (Via Telephone), Jack Brungardt, Eddie Atencio, Roxi Stewart Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: Lanny Denham (Exc.), Ron Germann (Exc.) Seth Urbanowitz/Ex. Officio (Exc)

Others Present: Jerry Allen/SCD, Jackie Kragel/NRCS, David Olivero/SCD, Nick Foster/SCD

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President/Ken Lipton. A quorum was present. Ken Lipton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no additions to the Agenda.

The minutes from the December Regular meeting and the December Special meeting was presented and reviewed by the Board.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to accept the December meeting minutes as presented. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried.
- ❖ Roxie Stewart moved to accept the December Special meeting minutes as presented. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried.

NRCS Report

Jackie Kragel was present and gave the NRCS Report. She stated that NRCS does not have their program deadline dates released yet for EQIP. The closing of the open period for farm bill will be closed shortly and they will know more. She stated that there will be a lot of updates coming on the new farm bill. Field visits, preliminary visits and site visits are being completed. Montrose field office will be given \$2.2 million for salinity but she still doesn't have numbers for the normal EQIP \$ yet. Staffing updated: NRCS hired soil con tech position in Gunnison field office but will be used in the Montrose field office as well, and start date is still in negotiation. She also stated that NRCS has extended an offer for a Range Management Specialist which the offer has been accepted and the start date has not been confirmed yet.

IWM Update

Jerry Allen presented the IWM Update as prepared. See attached Exhibit "A". He also updated the board on the Food and Farm Forum which will be held on January 24 & 25 at the Montrose Pavilion. Jerry will be a moderator during this event. He will also be doing an interactive hands-on display on soils and irrigation. Also updated the Board on the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference that will be held on February 20 & 21st at the Delta Center for Performing Arts @822 Grand in Delta. He stated that the speakers are confirmed, and conference agenda is being fine-tuned. Kris Nichols and the Parker's will be key-note speakers.

Engineer Tech Update

David Olivero presented the Engineer Tech update as prepared. See attached Exhibit "B".

Engineer Tech Update

Nick Foster presented the Engineer Tech update as prepared. See attached Exhibit "C".

New & District Business

CACD Annual Meeting Update: Ken gave update on the Annual Meeting that was held in November. There were multiple resolutions that were passed. He stated that there was an Amendment to Bi-laws for a name change that changed The Colorado Association of Conservation Districts name to Colorado Association of Conservation Districts. Effective January 1, 2020 District dues will be assessed at \$1,200.00 per conservation district. The Board also approved that CACD shall petition Division of Water Resources to require the permit holders to install, maintain and monitor totalizing flow meters on well use to enforce terms and conditions of well permits. Ken stated that the meeting was not well attended compared to previous years.

CSCB November Meeting Update: Ken stated that all board members were present. Clint Evans, the State Conservationist was also present, and he reported that the federal budget hearing was scheduled for November 21. He reported that the NRCS is not fully funded yet this year for 2020. Staffing updates were that 53 positions advertised, which they hired 20 internal and 16 new hires. 32 positions have been prioritized to be advertised and are scheduled to lose 8 employees between October 2019 and January 2020 which is state wide figures. He also stated that rural positions are hard areas to recruit for. DCT funding has been prioritized and discussion of increasing NRCS's contribution to 50-75% funding was discussed. This would leave 25% to be split between CSCB and the District. Upcoming webinars on discussions of new farm bill. CSCB working on strategic plan to try to rehire new admin assistant. Once board has agreed on strategic plan it will help on lobbying for involvement and new initiative with the Colorado Dept of Ag. Rachel Theiler/Area Conservationist is working on a hand out for soil health program and CSCB will be applying for grants from non-point source and state water board funding for the program. Legislation bill passed requiring all elective boards in the state to undergo training annually, which applies to the CSCB board and not the District board.

2020 Resolution to Appoint DEO for Signatures:

- ❖ Bert Earle moved to appoint Penny Bishop as the Designated Election Official (DEO) for the 2020 regular special district election scheduled for the 5th day of May, 2020. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried.

2020 Election Resolution for Signatures.

- ❖ Eddie Atencio moved to accept Election Resolution for 2020 Regular District Election with Shavano Conservation District, appointing Penny Bishop as the Designated Election Official (DEO) whereas the Election must be conducted to elect 4 Directors to serve for a term of 3 years. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried.

2020 District Annual Meeting/Local Work Group Discussion: Penny Bishop stated that the event will be held March 14, 2020, and the Ute Indian Museum/venue has been reserved, the Board agreed on entertainment to consist of music provided via canned music. Jerry will follow up with Eric Coon as guest speaker on Demand Water Management topic. Jackie/NRCS & staff will give recommendations on potential Award recipients for conservation producer/rancher of the year at next board meeting. Camp Rocky recipient for 2019-Josephine Eccher will be asked to attend annual banquet and report on the camp she attended. Penny to contact caterers to get price on meals. Jackie/NRCS has agreed to give presentation during the meeting on the Local Work Group requirements.

Review Draft of Annual Report: The first draft of the 2019 Annual Report was presented and reviewed by the Board. Suggestions were made to add the Basin States Program to the report. The Final Report will be presented for review at next board meeting in February.

Potential Grant Writer Opportunity: As Lanny Denham was not present for board meeting, discussion of potential grant writer opportunity will be tabled until next board meeting in February.

Shavano Building and Equipment/Routing Report

Penny Bishop presented the Shavano Building & Equipment report as prepared. See attached Exhibit "D".

Financials

The financial reports, accounts receivable, and accounts payable from December were presented to and reviewed by the Board. Bert Earle, Secretary/Treasurer, was not in attendance therefore, motion to approve and accept December financials will be deferred until February board meeting.

Miscellaneous & Mail

No mail or miscellaneous matters to discuss at this meeting.

Executive Session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(3)(b)(1) regarding personnel matters.

Executive session was cancelled.

Being no further matters to discuss,

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.** at the USDA Office in Montrose.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Lipton, President

Bert Earle, Secretary/Treasurer