



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2021 1:00PM
Timberline Bank
1561 Oxbow Drive, Montrose & virtually via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Ken Lipton, Lanny Denham, Roxi Stewart, Jack Brungardt, Eddie Atencio, Carl McKinney, Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: Seth Urbanowitz/Ex. Officio, Steve Hale /Excused, Michelle Malish/Excused

Others Present: Mendy Stewart/SCD, Jerry Allen/SCD, Jamison Jewkes/NRCS RTL, Sara Myers/NRCS, Amanda James/NRCS, Marissa Marcus/NRCS, Bill Head/Retired NRCS, Linda Daniels/Producer

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by President Ken Lipton. A quorum was present. Ken Lipton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. No additions added.

The minutes from the July regular meeting was presented and reviewed by the Board.

- ❖ Eddie Atencio moved to accept the July regular meeting minutes as presented. Roxi Stewart seconded the motion and it was carried.

NRCS Report

Jamison Jewkes/RTL for NRCS was present virtually on Zoom and gave a verbal report. No written report was provided to the board. Jamison informed the board that the NRCS Conservation Incentive Contract (CIC) applications were being wrapped up. He also stated that the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts were getting wrapped up within the next few weeks. Staffing updates included a new engineer which started this week in the Montrose field office, the current Area Conservationist has taken another job and will be leaving her position 8/14/21 and no replacement has been received yet. The Conservation Engineering Technician will be leaving NRCS and took a position with Colorado State Conservation Board.

IWM Update

Jerry Allen was present to give the IWM update. See attached Exhibit "A". He also updated the Board on the District's Flood-Retention Dams and the maintenance that has been performed.

Guest: Linda Daniels & Bill Head Project Discussion. Bill Head reported that he has been trying to help Linda Daniels come up with a solution to get financial assistance through the NRCS EQIP Program for her irrigation systems. Linda is wanting to get the Cimarron drainage added to the Salinity area to allow her to compete for salinity funds through this program and would like the board support for help on getting this area added. The board asked if Bill knew whether or not that area's ditches had been mapped. Bill was unsure and the board directed Penny Bishop to follow up with Bureau of Recreation and get more information. At this time the board did not have enough information to provide a letter of support to them but the board will support them in trying to get her some assistance. The board will notify both Bill and Linda as soon as they have more information to pass on.

New & District Business

Change of Date for the September Board Meeting: Ken Lipton alerted the board of a scheduling conflict for the September board meeting with his schedule. The board agreed to move the date for this meeting to September 8 at 1:00pm to be held at the Timberline Bank located at 1561 Oxbow Drive, Montrose and also be made available virtually through Zoom. Penny will alert all board members that were not present at today's meeting of the update.

CDPHE Dallas Creek/Pleasant Valley Creek Project Update: Ken Lipton passed around photos of the work that was collected on the landowners' properties and stated that the field work on the landowner properties were completed on August 6. The next step will be completing the final report which will address the Best Management Practices involved to control the erosion on the properties and then SCD will need to find the funding to help the landowners to put the practices in place.

Carl McKinney-SMBCD Priorities: Carl McKinney, board member of SCD and president of the now consolidated SMBCD addressed the priorities of his merged district with the board. Carl stated that there was very little irrigation water this current growing season and the producers had little crop production to speak of and therefore the producers will have to make hard decisions on their livestock with no feed to speak of. In addition, the grasshopper infestations are an issue in this area and will have to have a plan to control them this next year or crop devastation will be bad. The board also agreed to hold a meeting in the west end of Montrose County to discuss this with the landowners there. Ken Lipton stated that he will be speaking to Hilary Cooper, San Miguel County Commissioner to try and get their support. Carl McKinney stated that outreach/education was a big priority in this area and the board asked Mendy Stewart/SCD Outreach-Education coordinator to include this area in her programs for the upcoming 2022FY. The board agreed to a meeting in the late fall to discuss issues with the producers in the newly added area.

Colorado Coalition for Healthy Soils Update: Ken Lipton stated that the organization has been dissolved and merged with Colorado Coalition to Enhance Working Lands (CO CEWL). Ken has signed up for a couple of committees in the newly formed coalition and will update board on which ones he will be appointed to. He also stated that the mission of the Colorado Coalition for Healthy Soils was successful as they were able to get the soil health bill passed (HB 21-1181).

CDA Drought Stimulus Bill Funding Discussion: Penny Bishop alerted the board that if the Drought Stimulus Bill Funding which SCD received in July is spent this year, then SCD will need to adopt a supplemental appropriation of the 2021 Budget. Currently the monies are being held in SCD's money market account.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to not spend the Stimulus Funding until 2022. Lanny Denham seconded the motion and it was carried.

NRCS Cost Share Increase Discussion: Lanny Denham reported that material pricing on irrigation pipe is still rising. Currently any NRCS contracts that have cost dockets for materials is behind in current pricing therefore a lot of these contracts won't get completed this year as the contract holder do not have the matching funds to complete these projects at the current pricing. He requested board involvement in writing a letter to NRCS to ask if there was anything that could be done. Ken stated that he would follow up with Clint Evans, State Conservationist. Ken will report back to the board at next board meeting.

CSCB Direct Assistance Payment: Penny Bishop stated to the board she received the Direct Assistance payment for both SCD & SMBCD and deposited the funds into the money market account.

Review/Approval of 2022 S.T.A.R. Program Grant Application: Penny Bishop and Jerry Allen reviewed the 2022 S.T.A.R. Program Grant application with the board. Jerry Allen stated that he has 5 producers that are interested in the program. He also stated that there will be about 200 acres which would be included in this program if funded.

- ❖ Lanny Denham moved to approve the 2022 S.T.A.R. Program Grant application. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried.

Penny Bishop will submit the application to CSCB for consideration.

Review/Approval of 2022 CSCB DCT Grant Application: The Board reviewed the 2022 CSCB DCT Grant Application and approved for submission to CSCB. Board also agreed to fund the matching grant funds in the amount of \$11,955 with the CDA Drought Stimulus Bill Funding if no other funding source can be secured by January 1, 2022.

- ❖ Lanny Denham moved to approve the 2022 CSCB DCT Grant Application and submit to CSCB and fund the matching grant amount for \$11,955 if no other funding source can be secured. Carl McKinney seconded the motion and it was carried.

CSCB Supervisor Training Module: Penny Bishop led the CSCB Supervisor training-module 3. The Board successfully passed the module test. The Board will complete module 4 at the next Board meeting in September.

Shavano Building and Equipment/Routing Report

Penny Bishop presented the Shavano Building report as prepared. See attached Exhibit "B".

Financials

The financial reports, accounts receivable, and accounts payable from July were presented to and reviewed by the Board. Roxi Stewart-Secretary/Treasurer reviewed all financials and approved the Financials for July as submitted.

- ❖ Lanny Denham moved to approve the July financials as presented. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried.

Miscellaneous & Mail

Penny Bishop updated the board on the new CSCB Regional Field Specialist, John Miller who will start on August 16.

Ken Lipton also asked for the board to discuss and update SCD Bylaws and Mission statement at the next board meeting.

Being no further matters to discuss,

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 8, 2021** at Timberline Bank board room, 1561 Oxbow Drive, Montrose, CO and will also be available virtually via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Lipton, President

Roxi Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer