



**SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401  
**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**February 9, 2021**  
**via Zoom virtual meeting**

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Absent: Seth Urbanowitz/Ex. Officio, Michelle Malish (Excused)

Others Present: Jamison Jewkes/NRCS DC, Mendy Stewart/SCD, Jerry Allen/SCD

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by President Ken Lipton. A quorum was present. Ken Lipton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made and there were none to add.

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

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

**NRCS Report**

Jamison Jewkes/DC for NRCS was present and gave the NRCS report to the board. Jamison stated that the EQIP & CSP batching date was in early January. For the Montrose NRCS office, they received 50 EQIP applications and 1 CSP application. The field office staff is working hard on getting all of the salinity applications ranked by March 5th and the EQIP general pool applications that need to be ranked by March 26th. He gave a staffing update on for the Montrose office also. He stated that interviews were done for a Conservation Engineering Technician position and a Soil Conservationist position. HR will be making job offers on these positions and will be looking at being filled in the Montrose office in the next few months. He said that there is one more position being advertised for a Resource Conservationist which they are also looking at getting that position filled by early summer. He stated that once the job openings are filled they should be fully staffed and be able to work through the NRCS applications on time. Jamison indicated that he will be in the office in May as long as he is allowed to travel based on travel conditions for USDA.

**IWM Update**

Jerry Allen was present to give the IWM update. See attached Exhibit "A".

## **New & District Business**

CSCB January Board Meeting Update: Ken stated that he was confirmed as vice-president on the Colorado State Conservation Board and looks forward to serving in the role and achieving some change. Commissioner, Kate Greenberg spoke at the meeting regarding soil health and of the work they are doing to promote markets for agriculture in Colorado. There was an Executive Session during the meeting regarding legal matters. There was an update on CSCB staffing, which CSCB will be filling the administrative assistant position this spring. Ken also stated that SCD will be hosting the next CSCB quarterly meeting June 16-18 if it will be an in person meeting. Ken will update the board later. There will also be a new Soil Health Tech support position with CSCB being filled and therefore, the Districts will have a soil health expert available to consult with. Cindy Lair/CDA spoke about the STAR Program and also announced CDA's effort in forming a new soil advisory committee to govern the new soil health initiative at the department. There will be a seat available for a CSCB board member for this new advisory committee. Noah McCord/ CSCB area field representative who is involved and working with the state Envirothon stated that it will be held this year virtually. Each field rep & board members gave a report on what their area and watersheds are doing. Ken reported on his associations involvements on the weed control project for his district & that the merger with San Miguel Conservation District is pending. Ken gave an update on the matching grant application. Clint Evans/NRCS gave an update on the existing employment positions and currently employees 235 federal position as well as 65 partner positions. He also stated that EQIP's water management entity sign-up closes March 6 and the program has been allocated \$1 million in funding. He indicated that on February 11th-12<sup>th</sup> the National Conservation Planning Partnership will be planning a state conservation plan. CACD also gave an update on legislative matters and conveyed that Camp Rocky will be held in person this summer.

STAR Program Update: Ken Lipton stated that the pilot program that SCD would be involved in is on hold at least until May. There will be a meeting to talk about the pre-pilot programs. Ken will keep the board posted.

Dallas Creek Project Update: SCD received a \$5,000.00 grant to conduct a study on sedimentation on Dallas Creek & Pleasant Valley Creek in 2019. The purpose was to find out where the sedimentation was coming from. This study was a preliminary study and the project has been reactivated with CDPHE who will fund another study that will include on the ground improvements. The committee has chosen two sites that are problematic due to excess erosion going into the creeks and fouling up the municipal water supply. One is in the upper reaches and one in the lower reaches of the creeks. Ken stated that he will be involved with contacting landowners and on the ground project will start mid-March or when the snow is gone.

Final Review of the 2020 Annual Report: Ken stated that the Annual Report was in the board packets and asked for comments. The board reviewed and had no comments. Penny will submit to DOLA as required.

2021 District Annual Meeting/Local Work Group Discussion: Board discussed the 2021 District's Annual Meeting and Ken asked for award nominations for the Farmer of the Year, Rancher of the Year & Educator of the Year. In-person and virtual meeting was also discussed. The board decided to try and hold an in-person meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> to be coordinated with the quarterly CSCB Board Meeting and the location to be determined. The date will be confirmed at the next regular board meeting after Ken speaks to CSCB. Nominees were given for Farmer of the Year which was Doug Flowers, Rancher of the Year was Darris Jutten and no nominations yet for Educator of the Year.

- ❖ Steve Hale made a nomination to accept Doug Flowers as Farmer of the Year and Darris Jutten as Rancher of the Year. All were in favor.

## 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 January were presented to and reviewed by the Board. Roxi Stewart-Secretary/Treasurer reviewed all financials and approved the Financials for January as submitted.

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

## Miscellaneous & Mail

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 7:42 pm

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm** with the location to be determined at a later date as to whether it can be held in person at 102 Par Place, Montrose CO or if it will be held again on a virtual meeting platform.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Ken Lipton, President

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Roxi Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer