



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
September 8, 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, Steve Hale, Carl McKinney, Michelle Malish, Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: Seth Urbanowitz/Ex. Officio

Others Present: Mendy Stewart/SCD, Jerry Allen/SCD, Jamison Jewkes/NRCS RTL, Paul Kehmeier/CDA, John Miller/CSCB Regional Field Specialist

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 August regular meeting was presented and reviewed by the Board.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to accept the August regular meeting minutes as presented. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried.

Introduction of John Miller/New CSCB Regional Field Specialist for the Western Slope.

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 updated the board on the options for one of our constituents that asked for assistance with an NRCS funding program. He also informed the board of a new Salinity funding pool outside of the salinity area that would be a potential funding source for producers wanting to apply for funding that does not fall within the EQIP Salinity area. Update on guidance from national headquarters for EQIP contract practices that involved material cost increases which is called the Covid Agricultural Relief Payments (CARP), there are 7 practices they accessed and determined a large increase in material cost for EQIP contracts and if there have been any producers that have installed these practices from Jan 1 to December 31, 2021 then they may be eligible for one of these CARP payments. NRCS is reaching out to any of these producers that were affected and will see if they will be wanting additional payments. He stated that the practices affected in our area will include irrigation pipeline, gated pipe, livestock pipeline. He also stated that NRCS EQIP Conservation Incentive Contracts (CIC's) that they are working on obligating will be wrapped up by end of week. After that they will be done obligating contracts for this fiscal year. They are preparing for next year's contracts.

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 and will be performed.

Guest: Paul Kehmeier/Colorado Department of Agriculture. Paul stated that he followed up with the constituent that was wanting more information regarding Salinity programs and available funding for a project they were wanting to get on the ground in the Cimarron area that was outside of the BOR & NRCS Salinity

area. Paul gave the producer options and stated that the producer will be applying for funding through the CDA Drought Resiliency Grant.

New & District Business

San Miguel County Commissioner Discussion Update: Ken Lipton updated the board on discussion he had with Hillary Cooper/San Miguel County Commissioner. He stated that he went over SCD's Education/Outreach Programs and will be implementing these in the coming year. He also stated that Hillary will arrange for Ken Lipton and Carl McKinney to attend the next board meeting and address the San Miguel Board on SCD's programs and update the board on the merger.

Gunnison-Dolores Watershed Meeting Discussion Update: Carl McKinney, GD Watershed president updated SCD on the next Watershed meeting. He stated that Gunnison CD was getting the meeting set up and would alert the board on any updates as they come in. Expect the meeting to take place sometime in October.

Gunnison-Dolores Watershed Resolution Discussion: Ken Lipton lead the discussion on submitting a resolution to the Gunnison-Dolores Watershed meeting. The board members decided that they would not be submitting a resolution this year.

Review SCD Bylaws & Mission Statement: Ken Lipton stated that SCD's Mission Statement needed updated and passed out a draft Mission Statement (see attached "B") for discussion and approval by the board. The board reviewed the mission statement and agreed to approve the mission statement as written. The Bylaws were also reviewed and changes to Section 2-Board of Supervisors and Section 5-Meeting of the Board were made. Penny Bishop will make changes and post notices in the newspapers in each county for notification. A Resolution to Amend the Bylaws will be made at next board meeting.

- ❖ Steve Hale made a motion to approve the changes made to the SCD Bylaws and Mission Statement and to move forward with passing the Resolution at the next board meeting. Lanny Denham seconded the motion and it was carried.

Employee Expenses Related to Covid Telework Mandate Discussion: Penny Bishop lead the discussion of the employee expense that the employees of SCD were having to incur due to the telework mandate implemented in March of 2020. Due to the added expenses of internet and electricity, the employees would like the board to consider a stipend to cover these expenses until they could return to work in the NRCS building. The board stated that they would make a decision on the amount at next board meeting once actual numbers were provided.

- ❖ Jack Brungardt made a motion to approve a stipend with the amount to be approved at the next board meeting for the employees' expenses being incurred due to Covid restrictions. Lanny Denham seconded the motion and it was carried.

2022 Draft Budget Review: Roxi Steward and Penny Bishop lead the discussion regarding the 2022 draft Budget review. All figures were reviewed and will be updated monthly until a final Budget will be approved.

SCD Board Meeting Room Discussion: Ken Lipton lead discussion regarding utilizing the Shavano Building meeting room due to the fact that they cannot utilize the NRCS board meeting room due to Covid restrictions. The board decided at this time to not upgrade the utilities or the furniture to be able to hold the board meetings there at this time. They will continue to utilize Zoom and Timberline Bank if possible.

CSCB Supervisor Training Module: Penny Bishop led the CSCB Supervisor training-module 4. The Board successfully passed the module test. The Board will complete module 5 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 "C".

Financials

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

- ❖ Lanny Denham moved to approve the August financials as presented. Steve Hale seconded the motion and it was carried.

Miscellaneous & Mail

No Miscellaneous & Mail was presented at this meeting.

Being no further matters to discuss,

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 12, 2021** with time and place to be agreed upon at a later date.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Lipton, President

Roxi Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer