



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2022 6:30PM
virtually via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Ken Lipton, Roxi Stewart, Eddie Atencio, Lanny Denham, Carl McKinney, Michelle Malish, Steve Hale, Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: Jack Brungardt/excused

Others Present: Mendy Stewart/SCD, Jamison Jewkes/NRCS RTL, Jerry Allen/SCD, John Miller/CSCB Regional Representative, Mike McGarry/General Public

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by President Ken Lipton. A quorum was present. Lanny Denham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. Rental Rates Discussion at the Shavano Building.

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

- ❖ Shelly Malish moved to accept the January regular meeting minutes as presented. Carl McKinney seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

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 gave a staffing update and relayed that the NRCS local office filled the Soil Conservationist position and the new hire will start May 23. He also updated the board on the new acting Area Conservationist, Ron Riggerbach which started in January and will be acting until a permanent person is located. Jamison also reported that Clint Evans, NRCS State Conservationist has taken a temporary duty in Washington, D.C. and Bronson Smart/NRCS will fill in for a 120-day duty. Due to high Covid numbers in the Montrose area, staffing has been limited to 25% in the office and telework is being utilized again.

IWM Update

Jerry Allen was present to give the IWM update. See attached Exhibit "A". Jerry gave an update on the Proximity Malt Barley Growers meeting which SCD co-hosted with UVWUA. He stated that the growers meeting was held on January 26th and Ken introduced Zack Gaines with Proximity Malt. Zack Gaines and his company were looking to find barley growers in the Montrose and surrounding valley to produce 800-1000 acres of barley for their company. He gave a presentation on what Proximity Malt was looking for and asked the attendees to consider growing barley for his company. Jerry will update the board on any new updates in future.

Jerry updated the board on the S.T.A.R. training which was held virtually in January that SCD IWM and DM attended.

Jerry stated to the board that the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference is on track, the speakers are scheduled, and the committee is working out the technical aspects of the meeting. Based on the website hits, he expects the conference will have a good turnout.

Outreach/Education Update

Mendy Stewart was present to give the Outreach/Education update. She stated that she was asked to attend the Land & Water Committee Meeting and address the committee on the Shavano Conservation District and about who we are and what our District does. She also informed them what our interest are in water and land relating to conservation districts. She stated that this committee is an informal committee and that its purpose is to put together information that can be given to people that are new to our area or policy makers within the Uncompahgre Valley regarding water primarily but also land. This committee helps the new people that come to our area understand the importance of the Gunnison Tunnel and wouldn't otherwise have water in our valley. They also help people understand ditch rights in our area.

New & District Business

Pleasant Valley Creek-Dallas Creek Update: Ken updated the board on the CDPHE meeting he was present for regarding the Dallas Creek/Pleasant Valley Creek project. He stated that CDPHE would like to know if the landowners in this project were interested in remediation efforts. Ken was unable to give CDPHE a definitive answer-Ken will have to get more information. CDPHE stated that they would like to see the project move forward but they do not have funding at this time for this project. He did discuss funding sources regarding sedimentation remediation with CDPHE and will attend another meeting late February or early March on future funding updates.

Meeting with San Miguel Board of County Commissioners: Ken stated that he met with San Miguel County Commissioners via zoom the first week of February. Colorado Ag Water Association was present and stated that they received funding to help repair Gurley Reservoir. He updated the board on the PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) program that San Miguel County Commissioners are heading. This program reimburses landowners for doing environmental services like carbon sequestration. He stated that they are interested for SCD to participate in this program. He said the SMBOCC will be giving a presentation on this program at our next board meeting and will explain how it works and how it may fit in with SCD. He did say that San Miguel County stipulates that the funding would have to be spent in San Miguel County so any constituents that lie outside of San Miguel County the funding could not be used.

GD Watershed Joint Weed Management Project Update: Ken reported that the GD Watershed committee met with the Palisade Insectary on January 13 via Zoom and discussed biological weed control for Russian Knapweed and Canadian Thistle. The Insectary agreed to put together protocols for the project and will submit them to the Watershed for review. He will update the board at next board meeting.

2021 Annual Report Final Review: The final submission of the 2021 Annual Report was reviewed by the board of supervisors and final changes were made. Once approved and changes made, Penny will submit to Department of Local Affairs.

- ❖ Shelly Malish moved to approve the 2021 Annual Report as written with final changes. Ed Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

2022 SCD Board of Directors Election Update: Penny Bishop reminded the board that the deadline to submit the Self Nomination and Acceptance forms by any of the expiring board members is February 25, 2022. She stated that only one board member at this time has agreed to run for election of the expiring board seats. One will not re-run and one is undecided at the moment. Call for nominations went out to all counties the end of January and the first week of February. No interest as of yet. Penny will update board at next meeting.

Review Employee Policy Manual: Penny Bishop led the discussion and review of the SCD Employee Policy Manual. The board reviewed the current policy's and made changes to the manual.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to approve the SCD Employee Policy as amended and corrected. Shelly Malish seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

CSCB Supervisor Training Module: Penny Bishop led the CSCB Supervisor Training-Module 7. The Board successfully passed the module test. The Board will complete Module 8 at the next Board meeting in March.

Shavano Building and Equipment/Routing Report

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

Rental Rates Discussion at the Shavano Building: Penny Bishop led the discussion regarding rental rates for the Shavano Building tenants wherein their lease expired January 31, 2022. Penny Bishop stated that new leases need to be prepared. She stated that the current commercial market rates are \$1.05-\$1.18/sf. She asked the board to consider increasing the current tenant rental rates. Board stated that due to the increasing maintenance costs at the building, they would like to increase rental rates to \$.05/sf for non-profits and \$.10/sf for all other tenants.

- ❖ Shelly Malish moved to approve the rate increase for the Shavano Building for \$.10/sf for the commercial business tenants and .05/sf for the non-profit tenant. Roxi Stewart seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Financials

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

- ❖ Carl McKinney moved to approve the January financials as presented. Shelly Malish seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Miscellaneous & Mail

No Miscellaneous & Mail was presented at this meeting.

Being no further matters to discuss,

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

The next meeting will be in March 8, 2022 at 6:30pm with the location to be determined closer to the meeting time as the NRCS building still will not allow for meetings due to Covid.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Lipton, President

Roxi Stewart, Treasurer