



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
April 12, 2022 7:00PM
virtually via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent: Michelle Malish (Excused)

Others Present: Mendy Stewart/SCD, Jamison Jewkes/NRCS RTL, Jerry Allen/SCD, Phil Brink/Colorado Cattleman's Coalition, David Varner/Colorado Land Trust

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Ken Lipton. A quorum was present. Ken Lipton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. Letter of support to CDA to expand STAR Plus Program, Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety Surety Release Request for H/S Properties

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

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to accept the March regular meeting minutes as presented. Steve Hale 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 wanted the board to consider hiring an engineering technician for the 2023 CSCB DCT position which SCD supports due to our current DCT retiring the end of December. The Board will discuss at next regular board meeting to determine the need from SCD. Jamison reviewed the Civil Rights Responsibilities Checklist with the Board and asked for them to sign and return back to him by June. He also discussed current EQIP figures with the Board.

IWM Update

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

Jerry updated the Board on the Shavano & Roatcap Dam maintenance. He stated that our Dam inspections with the Colorado Division of Dam Safety will be on May 23rd and also stated that the rodent control is being treated.

He gave a report on the current water supply storage in our Watershed. And also updated the Board on the S.T.A.R. Plus Program where he stated that he had all of the consultation forms for the participants finalized and submitted to CDA. He also stated that he and Penny Bishop attended the STAR training for soil sampling in G.J. The STAR Plus 25K Equipment grant was also discussed and Jerry asked for the Board to decide if the grant was going to be used for SCD and if not then he would like to see it divided among the current producers that are willing to buy equipment with the presumption that they can match the grant with 50% of their own funds. The Board stated that they will discuss this at the next regular Board meeting in June.

He reported to the Board that the Food and Farm Forum was wanting to discuss with the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference committee the possibility of potentially combining conferences. The meeting is scheduled for April 25 @ 2:00pm with the location to be determined. He will update the board on the location.

He also had recommendations for the Farmer and Rancher of the Year for SCD's Annual Banquet. Ken Lipton asked for that to wait until the new and district business to be discussed.

Education/Outreach Update

Mendy Stewart-Education/Outreach coordinator gave a report on her current education schedule. She stated that the Earth Day Coloring Contest was in progress. The spring newsletter won't be out until May. Stewardship Presentations started last week and she stated that she had 43 presentations to do. She also indicated that the Natural Resource Festival is in planning and expects 20 classes with 422 students to participate. She is working on the nomination for Teacher of the Year award for the Annual Meeting but does not have a nomination for that award as of yet. And the end of May she will be working with the Food and Farm Forum for presentations to their young farmers.

Guest Speaker: David Varner/Colorado West Land Trust

David Varner with Colorado Land Trust presented a power point on a new program-Restoration & Resiliency Program and would like to coordinate with our District on projects.

Guest Speaker: Phil Brink/Colorado Cattleman's Association Ag Water Network

Phil Brink presented a power point on the initiative the Colorado Cattleman's created to keep ag water with ag land. He presented some of the projects that they completed in helping with ag land as related to their ag water including some restoration projects they completed. He also stated that he would be available to discuss any projects that SCD is or will be working on.

New & District Business

Letter of Support from CDA for proposal to expand the STAR Plus Program. Penny Bishop discussed with the Board the letter she received from CDA asking for the Boards support. Board discussed the letter.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to support the proposal to expand the STAR Plus Program. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

The Board instructed Penny Bishop to prepare the letter and send to CDA in support of the STAR Plus Program.

Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety Surety Release Request from H/S Properties: Penny Bishop presented to the Board the letter received from the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety. Steve Hale asked for more criteria from them on this matter and to email the information to Steve. Because this matter has such a short time frame for the Board's response it was discussed to give Steve Hale, board supervisor the approval to make a decision for the Board to handle this matter if he deems SCD needs to respond.

- ❖ Jack Brungardt made a motion to approve Steve Hale to make a decision regarding this matter for the Board. Eddie Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Ken asked for Penny Bishop to check with CSCB regarding the State statutes or regulations regarding the input on subdivision and mining reclamations as SCD is not being included in the subdivision approval process any longer. Penny Bishop will update the board at the next meeting.

Colorado River District Meeting Report: Ken Lipton attended the Colorado River District meeting held in Ridgway which was attended by 70 producers and citizens. He informed the Board on Andy Mueller's presentation regarding the drought situation in Colorado and the issues being faced for the Colorado River.

Annual Meeting/Local Work Group Planning: Penny Bishop notified the Board of the different venue's SCD utilized in the past and that the Board needed to decide on a date and a venue for the meeting. Steve Hale stated that SCD should consider contacting the Ridgway Fairgrounds for a venue because of the District consolidation and to make it more centralized for the constituents in the west end.

- ❖ Steve Hale made a motion to approve holding the Annual meeting at the Ridgway Fairgrounds/Events Center if available. Roxi Stewart amended the motion to add the Ute Indian Museum if the Ridgway Fairgrounds/Events Center is not available to hold SCD's Annual Meeting. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

The date agreed on was Friday, May 20th or Saturday, May 21. Penny Bishop will contact the venue's and get a location reserved.

Suggestions for the Annual Meeting Farmer/Rancher/Educator of the Year Discussion: Carl McKinney suggested Mex and Sons for Rancher of the Year. They are located in Norwood and Carl explained that the San Miguel Basin Conservation District never gave out awards and since the consolidation of the two District's, he deemed they were deserving of an award. He explained their operation and all of the irrigation practices they accomplished throughout the years. Carl also suggested Weimer Ranches for Farmer of the Year and also explained their operation and all of the practices that they also accomplished throughout the years. There were no suggestions for either Farmer or Rancher of the Year in the Montrose area this year. Being no other nominations,

- ❖ Jack Brungardt made a motion to approve Mex and Sons for Rancher of the Year and Weimer Ranches for Farmer of the Year. Steve Hale seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

GD Watershed Annual Meeting Discussion: Penny Bishop alerted the Board that it is SCD's responsibility to hold the GD Watershed Annual meeting this year. The board will look at holding the meeting in August and venues will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Report on Shavano Building Conference Room & Internet Info: Penny Bishop stated to the Board that she located a used conference table & chairs in Craigslist for \$350.00 but that it was located in Durango. Roxi Stewart suggested that she had a table that she would donate if the board wanted it.

- ❖ Ed Atencio made a motion to approve purchasing the used conference table & chairs that were advertised on Craigslist. Steve Hale seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

It was agreed that Ken Lipton & Lanny Denham would pick up the table & chairs if Penny Bishop was successful in purchasing the items off of Craigslist. The board decided to table the discussion regarding internet availability at the Shavano Building or NRCS Building until the next regular board meeting scheduled in June.

2023 CSCB DCT Discussion with NRCS: Ken Lipton lead the discussion regarding the CSCB DCT 2023 position. He stated that due to the necessity of being able to allow for the necessary amount of time to discuss this in detail that this discussion be tabled until the next meeting. All supervisors agreed to table discussion until the next regular meeting in June.

CSCB Supervisor Training Module 9: Due to the length of the board meeting, it was agreed that the training module be postponed until the next regular meeting in June.

Employee Comp Time Report

Penny Bishop presented to the Board a summary of the compensation time used and accumulated by the SCD Employees in March.

Shavano Building Report

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

Penny Bishop also led a discussion on the rent increase for a tenant at the Shavano Building that was refusing to sign the new lease extension. She alerted the Board that the tenant had agreed to pay the rental increase but refused to sign the new lease extension. Steve Hale suggested that the Board give the tenant 30 days' notice to sign the lease extension and if the tenant did not agree to sign it then he would be evicted.

- ❖ Steve Hale made a motion to give the tenant the 30 days' notice to sign the lease extension and if the tenant does not agree to sign it then he would be evicted. Jack Brungardt seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Financials

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

- ❖ Carl McKinney made a motion to approve the March financials as presented. Steve Hale seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Miscellaneous & Mail

Ken Lipton wanted to thank Jack Brungardt being a board supervisor as he is vacating his position. This is Jack's last meeting as board supervisor.

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 10:34 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Lipton, President

Roxi Stewart, Treasurer