



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT
102 Par Place, Suite 4, Montrose, CO 81401
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

October 10, 2023
6:30 PM
MEETING MINUTES

Present: Steve Hale, Roxi Stewart, Zak Danielson, Ed Atencio, Clifford Chiles, Carl McKinney, Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: Lanny Denham (excused)

Others Present: Jamison Jewkes/NRCS, Mendy Stewart/Education-Outreach Coordinator, Mona Nkoyoyo/DCT Tech, Todd Ballard/CSU Extension, Dave Dearstyne/Soil Scientist, Lauren Czaplicki/Fungal Solutions

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Steve Hale/President. A quorum was present. Steve Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. Additions made to the agenda were:

- Remove Guest Speaker-Lauren Miller & Kendal Seivertsen from this board meeting. They will move to the December meeting.
- Todd Ballard/CSU Tri-River Area Agronomist Specialist-Discuss WSARE Grant Proposal for Letter of Support.
- Lauren Czaplicki/Fungal Solutions-CIG Grant Application Discussion
- Dave Dearstyne/Soil Scientist/PES TSP-Update board on PES Program and give insight on CIG Grant Application Discussion.

The minutes from the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes were presented and reviewed by the Board.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to accept the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Ed Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

NRCS Report

Jamison Jewkes/RTL for NRCS presented his written report to the board. Jameson reported to the board the staffing update and FY2024 Programs.

Guest Speaker

Lauren Czaplicki with Fungal Solutions was asked to speak to the board on a Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) funded through USDA that San Miguel County is wanting to apply for and partner with SCD. She gave a background on her involvement and interest in the CIG Grant and also discussed with the board the possibility of partnering on this grant with San Miguel County to offer a soil health program on the ground farm trials for composting applications. Dave Dearstyne was also asked to speak on the composting/soil health activities of this potential grant. Dave was in favor of continuing with the application and also offered to be involved with providing scientific input on the grant application. Steve Hale also offered information on this proposed grant suggesting that this revenue would give incentive programs/income to producers in our district.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to move forward to help sponsor the grant application with the priority of writing into the grant the capability of having administrative and management funds for SCD. Zak Danielson seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Guest Speaker

Todd Ballard/CSU Extension presented to the board his project narrative on the CSU Western SARE Research to Grassroots (WSARE) grant Proposal. Todd is requesting a member of the SCD Board to support and provide a Letter of Support for his research project to study a crop rotation of wheat and winter peas. Clifford Chiles said he would support the project and sign the letter.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to have Clifford Chiles support the project and sign the Letter of Support which Todd Ballard will provide. Zak Danielson seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

DCT Engineer Technician Update

Ramona Nkoyoyo/SCD DCT presented a written Engineer Technician report to the board for review. She also alerted the board that she applied for an Engineering position within NRCS but has not heard if she was the successful applicant.

New & District Business

San Miguel PES Update: Penny Bishop provided the board with the written reports provided by Dave Dearstyne, TSP for SCD for September. Dave was present to review the written report with the board. Dave stated that he has one day left to offer to San Miguel County for TSP services and will be finished with the agreed commitment this month.

S.T.A.R. Plus Program Update: Penny Bishop provided a written report regarding Round 1 & 2 of the program to the Board. She also updated the board on the STAR+ Round 2 application process and webinars she attended for training for Round 2.

Western Colorado Soil Health, Food & Farm Forum Update: Steve Hale gave an update for the WCSHC committee & the WCSHFFF meetings which were held in September. He stated that the MOU between VFP & WCSHC was approved by the WCSHC and he will be signing it for the committee. Once signed, he will send a copy to the board and committee.

2024 CSCB DCT Grant Update: Penny Bishop updated the board that the 2024 DCT Grant application was approved and SCD can move forward on hiring a new DCT with the job criteria to be irrigation water management once the district has been alerted that the current DCT has secured the position with NRCS. Penny was directed to create a job description and have it ready for discussion at the November board meeting with the new job description.

- ❖ Zak Danielson made a motion to table the discussion of the release date of the current employee until the November board meeting. Carl McKinney seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

2024 CSCB Matching Grant Update: Penny Bishop updated the board that the 2024 Matching Grant application was approved and SCD will be receiving \$24,290 for 2024 to go towards drought resiliency and conservation education programs.

2024 Annual Plan of Work-1st Draft Review: Penny Bishop presented to the board the 1st draft of the 2024 Annual Plan of Work. Board reviewed and commented on changes to be made. Penny Bishop will update the APW draft for presentation at the next board meeting in November.

2024 Budget-1st Draft Review: Roxi Stewart presented to the board the 1st draft of the 2024 Budget. Board discussed and made changes to revenue and expense line items. Penny Bishop will update and the Board will review the 2nd draft budget next month.

Shavano Building Storage Room Discussion: Roxi Stewart led the discussion to utilize SCD's storage area for SCD use again. Currently the storage area has been rented but the board agreed to offer a vacated unit to the storage area tenant at her current rental rate for one year as an incentive to move.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to offer a vacated unit at the Shavano Building to the storage area tenant at her current rental rate for one year as an incentive to move. Zak Danielson seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Committee Reports

Land Use/Planning Committee Report: Zak Danielson reviewed the general verbiage he submitted in the proposed Norwood Solar Farm project letter with the board. Carl also reviewed the Colorado Parks and Wildlife information which would be pertinent to this property as well as Farmers Water Development information he received. The board discussed the letter and additional information, and made changes to the letter to offer assistance to work with the development team if the project were approved to help mitigate issues as they arise. Penny will submit the approved letter to San Miguel County and Town of Norwood on 10/11/23.

Education Committee Report: Steve Hale updated the board that he was interviewed by KVNF on the projects that Shavano CD is working on.

Dam Flood Control Committee Report: Roxi Stewart stated that there are no issues to report on the Shavano or Roatcap Dams this month.

Shavano Building Committee Report: No Shavano Building issues to report.

Ad Hoc Committee Report: No Ad Hoc issues to report.

Employee Comp Time Report

Penny Bishop presented to the Board a written summary of the compensation time used and accumulated by the SCD employees in September.

Shavano Building Report

Penny Bishop presented the Shavano Building report as prepared in a written report for September.

Financials

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

- ❖ Ed Atencio made a motion to approve the September financials as presented. Zak Danielson seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Miscellaneous & Mail

No miscellaneous or mail was presented this month.

Being no further matters to discuss,

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hale, President

Roxi Stewart, Treasurer