



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

February 15, 2023
6:30PM

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Steve Hale, Lanny Denham, Roxi Stewart, Shelly Malish, Carl McKinney, Ed Atencio, Penny Bishop/DM

Absent: None

Others Present: Jamison Jewkes/NRCS, Mendy Stewart/SCD, Mona Nkoyoyo/SCD, Clifford Chiles/Board Elect, Katie Alexander/CSU Extension

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Steve Hale/President via Zoom as the weather conditions made travel difficult and board decided to hold the meeting virtually. A quorum was present. Steve Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. Gunnison Basin Roundtable Water Education Grant discussion was added.

The minutes from the January regular & January special meeting minutes were presented and reviewed by the Board.

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

Guest Speaker

Katie Alexander/CSU Extension updated the board on the local employees for the CSU Extension office and available classes and opportunities offered through CSU Extension.

NRCS Report

Jamison Jewkes, RTL for NRCS updated the board on staffing position available in Montrose, he updated the board on the eligibility and ranking deadlines for applications as well as funding deadlines. Jamison also updated the Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners checklist with the SCD board. Jamison also reviewed with the board the Local Work Group power point which he will go over at the SCD Annual Meeting.

Engineer Technician Update

Ramona Nkoyoyo/SCD DCT the Engineer Technician report as prepared. The board reviewed and had no comment.

Education/Outreach Update

Mendy updated the board on Stewardship Presentations at local schools, a watershed activity presentation at the Montrose library in which she partnered with the Land & Water Committee for an exhibit called “We Are Water”. She reported that they had good participation. The Land & Water Education sub-committee is planning on presenting the same watershed activity at the Natural Resource Festival, Ridgway Riverfest and the Delta County Fair. She also updated the board on the Land & Water Committee meeting which she attended. She stated that there was an HOA seminar with around 200 participants in attendance and it included information on irrigation water related to an HOA. Mendy reported to the board the nominees for Educator of the Year for the Annual Meeting which the board reviewed.

- ❖ Shelly Malish moved to nominate Barbara Head as Educator of the Year. Roxi Stewart seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

New & District Business

Gunnison Basin Roundtable Water Education Grant Discussion: Mendy Stewart alerted the board of an education grant which SCD could apply for and receive \$1500.00 to be used for education purposes. She suggested utilizing this grant to purchase another enviro-scape model. Penny Bishop asked for board permission to submit a grant request for this Water Education Grant.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to allow SCD to submit a grant to the Gunnison Basin Roundtable for the Water Education Grant. Shelly Malish seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

2022 Final Review of Annual Report: Penny Bishop reviewed the final draft of the 2022 Annual Report with the board and asked for board approval for submission to DOLA.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart moved to approve the Annual Report as presented. Shelly Malish seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Montrose County Work Session Discussion: Steve Hale updated the board on the work session which will be held on Monday, February 27th at 9:30. Steve, Ed & Penny will attend. Steve will give a presentation to Montrose BOCC to update them on SCD business.

Western Colorado Soil Health, Food & Farm Forum Update: Steve Hale updated the board on the WCSHFFF conference that was held on January 27-28th. He stated that the committee meeting was positive and will have final numbers back for the next regular board meeting. He stated that the numbers were above what was originally estimated.

San Miguel County PES Program Update: Steve Hale stated that the San Miguel County BOCC will be holding their board meeting on February 22 and SCD will need to discuss how SCD will best support the PES Program. Penny Bishop gave background in the program and wanted board opinion on whether they wanted to continue discussion on involvement of this program. Boards consensus was to proceed but not to commit until SCD gets new numbers after February’s San Miguel BOCC meeting.

2023 S.T.A.R. Plus Program Update: The board was alerted that CDA sent out a letter stating that the 2nd year producer payments for this program were going to be reduced due to budgetary issues and the on-going capacity support was also being reduced. Steve Hale stated that he talked to CDA and was told that they were trying to come up with more funds to make up the shortfall and would hopefully know by early February. She also updated the board on the 2nd round of the STAR Plus Program. Penny will be attending mandatory STAR Plus Grant Guideline Zoom Meeting on February 21, 2023 and will update board on more info at next board meeting. The board agreed to table the discussion until next board meeting.

Application for Exemption from Audit-Board Signatures: The Board reviewed the Application for Exemption from Audit for 2022 as prepared by Donald R. Moreland, the District's accountant. The exemption documents were reviewed and signed by the Board.

Resolution for Exemption from Audit: The Board reviewed the Resolution for Exemption from Audit. By this resolution, the board hereby approves an Exemption from Audit for Year 2022 for the Shavano Conservation District. The resolution documents were signed by the Board.

- ❖ Shelly Malish made a motion to approve the 2022 Exemption from Audit as written. Ed Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

SCD Board of Directors Expiring Seats & Election Update: Steve Hale spoke on the board of director expiring seats. He introduced board of director self-nominee, Clifford Chiles. He told the board a little about his operation and why he wanted to be a board supervisor. Steve also updated the board on another potential board supervisor who might be interested. Penny Bishop will keep the board updated on any self-nominee applications that she receives.

Montrose County Gravel Pit Application Update: Steve Hale spoke on the gravel pit application that Montrose County has received regarding the Proposed Farm Road Source Pit. He stated that there was a lot public comment at the planning commission meeting and that the planning commission voted to deny the pit and the planning commission will make that recommendation to the county commissioners. The BOCC meeting will be held on February 22 to discuss this application.

Annual Meeting/LWG Meeting Update: The Annual meeting was already discussed in Mendy Stewart's report. LWG meeting was also discussed in Jamison Jewkes' report and Penny Bishop stated that she will work with Jamison and get the LWG power point finished to be presented at the annual meeting.

Review By-laws: Steve Hale led the discussion and asked to table the discussion due to time constraints. The board decided to proceed. Roxi Stewart asked to review the by-laws because there are no rules for committees in our by-laws. She stated that the board decisions should not be given to the committees. She asked for a policy to be created to form the committees for information purposes only. The board discussed this and all agreed to have committees to gather information only and report back for the board to make decisions. Lanny Denham stated that there should be a leader in each committee Steve Hale suggested we have a direction and keep sharing the load and utilize our areas of expertise. Steve Hale asked if there were any other issues of the by-laws that needed to be made. The board reviewed the by-laws and determined that they were sufficient at this time.

Shavano Building Lease Expirations and Discussion on Rental Rates: Penny Bishop led the discussion on the Shavano Building's tenant rates and leases that are expiring, she stated that the leases will be expiring the end of February and a decision needs to be made on whether to increase rents. The board discussed the tenants current rent rates, comparable rental rates for Montrose commercial units, and determined that the rents should be increased.

- ❖ Carl McKinney made a motion to increase tenant rental rates by 10% across the board for all expiring rental leases. Shelly Malish seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

The board instructed Penny Bishop to prepare new lease agreements and increase the building rents by 10% to all tenants which their leases are expiring and will be effective April 1, 2023.

CSCB Supervisor Training Module: Penny Bishop led the CSCB Supervisor Training-Module 14. The Board successfully passed the module test. The Board will complete Module 15 at the next Board meeting in April.

Shavano Building and Equipment/Routing Report

Penny Bishop presented the Shavano Building report as prepared.

Employee Comp Time Report

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

Financials

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

- ❖ Ed Atencio made a motion 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,

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hale, President

Roxi Stewart, Treasurer