



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

July 11, 2023
6:00 PM
MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Jamison Jewkes/NRCS, Mona Nkoyoyo/DCT, Mendy Stewart/Education-Outreach Coordinator, Katie Alexander/CSU Extension Small Acreage Specialist, Sri Pinnamaneni, Ph.D./CSU Extension Research Scientist

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Steve Hale/President. A quorum was present. Steve Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call for Additions to the agenda was made. No additions added.

The minutes from the June 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes were presented and reviewed by the Board.

- ❖ Roxi Stewart made a motion to accept the June 13, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Zak Danielson seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

CSU Extension Update

Katie Alexander gave a verbal report to the board. She reported on the dates of the upcoming county fairs. She stated that CSU will be hiring a Food & Consumer Science position in the next few months. She alerted the board about insecticides not working on alfalfa plants and that CSU is working with Cropworx in Delta and that they have a new product to trial and will be looking for one more farmer to join the study. SRI Pinnamaneni reported on research he has been working on.

NRCS Report

Jamison Jewkes/RTL for NRCS gave a verbal report to the Board. He reported that NRCS is finished with contract obligations for this FY and 32 contracts for Montrose & the Gunnison office were obligated with \$2.3 million in contract funding. He also stated that NRCS is working on next year's applications. Jamison reported that NRCS will have a new engineer starting in July and a new Natural Resource Specialist starting end of August. Additional NRCS positions are open to fill also. Quality Assurance Reviews for NRCS are scheduled the week of July 25 and Jamison asked if there was someone from the board that the NRCS QAR team could interview. Roxi Stewart offered to attend for the board.

Engineer Technician Update

Ramona Nkoyoyo/SCD DCT provided a written Engineer Technician report. The board reviewed. She also stated that she passed her state Fundamentals of Engineering Exam and the board congratulated her.

Education/Outreach Update

Mendy Stewart/SCD Outreach & Education Coordinator provided a written Education report. The board reviewed and asked Mendy questions regarding the Cheat Grass workshop.

New & District Business

San Miguel CO Comprehensive Compost & Food Reduction Project Update: Penny Bishop provided a written report for this project. Board reviewed and made comment on speakers as well as logistics. Steve Hale asked all board members to participate if possible.

S.T.A.R. Plus Program Update: Penny Bishop provided a written report regarding Round 2 of the program. She attended a CDA webinar and reviewed the information with the board. Highlights were new application dates and deadlines. She also added that there is a lot of producer interest in Round 2. Penny will update board at next board meeting on next webinar information that she will be attending.

2024 CSCB Matching Grant Review and Approval. Board reviewed the 2024 Matching Grant application for submission to CSCB.

- ❖ Lanny Denham made a motion to accept the 2024 Matching Grant Application as written for \$24,290 and add in the verbiage in the budget narrative to explain the budget amount. Ed Atencio seconded the motion and it was carried. All in favor and no opposed.

Western Colorado Soil Health, Food & Farm Forum Update: Steve Hale gave an update for the WCSHC committee meeting held June 16 and also updated the board on VFP & WCSHFFF 2023 agreement which VFP has agreed to split the proceeds of the 2023 conference and give SCD WCSHC \$5864. The 2024 conference was discussed and the WCSHC committee will be discussing their role and how they will proceed this year. Steve will provide an update at the next board meeting in August.

San Miguel PES Update: Dave Dearstynne provided a written report to the board on July's progress for the San Miguel PES Program as SCD's technical service provider. He stated that he met with and assisted San Miguel's PES producers with soil testing, analysis and producer meetings.

Committee Reports

Land Use/Planning Committee Report: The board reviewed 9 new subdivision applications-5 of the deadlines were already past comment period and the remaining 4 were due for comment before the next board meeting. The board agreed to make no comment on the applications presented this month for comment. The Board asked Penny Bishop to contact Montrose County Land Use and ask what their schedule is to work around. The board will also discuss at next board meeting creating a template to comment on subdivision applications.

- Land Use/Planning Sub Committee Report: Carl McKinney stated that SCD will need to provide a letter of comment soon if SCD is in agreeance to do so regarding the proposed Solar Farm in Norwood. Questions relating to wildlife habitat and prime farmland were raised. Zak Danielson was tasked to follow up with the information regarding the proposed Solar Farm and to compile a letter of comment to be reviewed by the board at next meeting for submission to San Miguel County. Penny Bishop was asked to send all information on the Solar Farm to Zak for review.

Education Committee Report: Steve Hale stated that Mendy gave a written education report. No further information provided.

Dam Flood Control Committee Report: Roxi Stewart reported on the Shavano Dams and stated that there was a fire on the face of the south Shavano Dam which was started by the landowner which the dam is on. Roxi called the fire department and they put the fire out. Minimal brush damage was reported. The basin on the north dam was disked and the weeds were tilled in. Roxi did not contact weed manager and asked for Penny Bishop to follow up with the County weed manager for assistance. No report on the Roatcap Dams.

Shavano Building Committee Report: Lanny Denham reported on building issues which included weed maintenance and general exterior and interior maintenance issues that were reported to him by a tenant. Lanny gave Penny Bishop a contact for follow up. Penny Bishop reported to the board that she met with a person and that that person will take care of exterior ground maintenance on an as needed basis. Board asked Penny Bishop to follow up with them and have them start.

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 June.

Shavano Building Report

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

Financials

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

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

Miscellaneous & Mail

Zak Danielson asked if the board would review board packets prior to board meetings to expedite the review and approval of board items. The board agreed to start new process at August board meeting.

Being no further matters to discuss,

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Hale, President

Roxi Stewart, Treasurer