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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES March 5, 2024

Supervisors Present: Ron Richards, Sonya Shaw (telephone), Jeff Wingfield, and Chester Zwirn
Supervisors Absent: Margaret Lenz
Ex officio Members: none
Staff Present: Shirley Deason, Bob Rogers, and Tanya Fell

Vice President Richards declared a quorum present and convened the meeting of the Yuma County Conservation District at 12:47 p.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray.

Updates were made by each board member to the mileage calendar.

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Supervisor Shaw moved to approve the February 20, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

District Manager Fell presented the monthly financials. Supervisor Zwirn moved to accept the financial report and pay March bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously. The current bills paid:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| ○ Wray Print Shop | ○ Wish |
| ○ February payroll | ○ High Plains Beekeepers |
| ○ Premier Accounting | ○ John Hardwick – 50/50 Grant |
| ○ Basically Business | |

OLD BUSINESS:

District Manager Fell gave updates on the following grants:

- 50/50 Matching Grant 2024: to be used for pipeline, new tanks, storage tanks, livestock tank monitoring. Supervisors reviewed applications for the grant. A motion was made by Supervisor Zwirn to approve the following applications: Alan Wilson, Alyse Wenstrom, Alva Deterding, Leroy Deterding (pending state land lease is eligible), Jamie Deterding, Randall Boden, and the Marjorie Anderson Trust. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously. Applicants not deemed eligible to receive funding were Kaden Drager and Sisters 3 LLP.
- NFWF Grant: \$300,000 grant request for Rejuvra for all of Yuma County was submitted. A revision request has been submitted. They have requested a second revision to the grant request, which will be submitted by the end of the week.
- Rocky Mountain Mule Deer Grant: The district applied for a \$75,000 grant in February 2024.

- **Bonny Demonstration Grant:** District Manager Fell gave a presentation about the project at the conservation district annual meeting and will be giving a future presentation at the Republican River Watershed Association meeting to be held on March 20, 2024, at Akron, CO. District Manager Fell is working on extending the grant to obtain an additional \$10,000 in funding.

Office Assistant Deason informed the Supervisors that insurance coverage was bound with the Colorado Special Districts and Liability Pool in the amount of \$ 6,191.00. The conservation district opted out of coverage for the No-Fault Water Intrusion & Sewer Backup coverage and the Excess coverage. When tree inventory begins arriving in April, the conservation district will need to advise the Colorado Special Districts Liability Pool to add the inventory to the policy. Once the stock is depleted, the Colorado Special District and Liability Pool will be notified to remove coverage of the tree inventory. This allows the conservation district to cover the seasonal exposure without over-paying to cover the seasonal stock fluctuation.

The annual meeting of the conservation district was held February 26, 2024, at the Lions Hall in Kirk. Rod Lenz and Deb Daniel spoke on well retirements in Yuma County. Other presentations included the Bonny Reservoir Grazing Program, Camp Rocky Youth Camp and Conservation Poster Awards. Parties interested in vacancies on the board were encouraged to apply.

Living Snow Fences were discussed. District Conservation Technician Rogers and Supervisor Zwirn met with County Commissioners about the Living Snow Fence program. Supervisor Zwirn stated that County Commissioners were interested in the project, but funds were not available for the 2024 budget. County Commissioners may be interested in working with the conservation district on this project in the future if their budget allows. District Technician Rogers is working on setting up an April meeting with Vanessa Santistevan, Region 4 Environmental Manager, with the Colorado Department of Transportation to discuss the project.

Supervisors discussed possible candidates for the vacancy due to the resignation of Supervisor Jeff Wingfield. Dallas Welp has indicated an interest in serving but has not positively said he would take the position. District Manager Fell is to follow up with him. Darrell Smith is another individual that would possibly be interested in serving on the board.

The Pesticide Applicator Workshop is scheduled for March 13, 2024, at the Roundhouse in Wray. K & S will be catering for the event. Currently there are 16 attendees registered for the event.

District Manager Fell gave a report on the status of the annual Tree/Plant sale held in April. Nearly 11,000 trees have been pre-ordered.

The Colorado Soil Health Program (formerly known as STAR+) has six applications submitted as of this date. March 15th is the deadline for applications. We are still waiting on applications from Caleb Wingfield and the Bucks.

Highway signs "Entering YCCD" have been tabled for a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Farming Evolutions 2024 was discussed in the joint meeting held with the Haxtun Conservation District earlier in the day. Decisions about the future of Farming Evolutions 2025 were tabled until a later meeting.

District Manager Fell attended the CCDEA Leadership Program February 28-29, 2024, in Fort Collins, CO. This program provides tools to become a more effective leader.

The NRCS – Unfunded Cooperative Agreement was tabled so that Supervisors could review the agreement before signing.

Supervisor Zwirn suggested that online training would be beneficial for any new supervisors.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to enter Executive Session pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S, for discussion of personnel matters involving the District Technician, who was previously informed of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously with the executive session beginning at 1:53 p.m.

Executive session ended at 2:36 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at that time.

A motion was made by Supervisor Wingfield to approve the Performance Improvement Plan for District Technician Bob Rogers. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously. The written Performance Improvement Plan was given to District Technician Rogers for his review and signature.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to donate trees/plants (up to \$100 value) in memory of Supervisor Lenz's mother. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

Vice President Richards adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

The next YCCD meeting has been scheduled for April 09, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant



Jeff Wingfield, Secretary/Treasurer

4/9/24

Date