

247 N CLAY STREET
WRAY, CO 80758
970-332-3107 EXT. 9002
www.yccconservation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2024

Supervisors Present: Margaret Lenz, Ron Richards, Sonya Shaw, Darrell Smith, and Chester Zwirn
Supervisors Absent: none
Ex officio Members: Dollie Gonzales (NRCS)
Guests Present: Bailey Rapp (NRCS), and Curt Fix
Staff Present: Tanya Fell, Shirley Deason, and Rafael Trejo

President Lenz declared a quorum present and convened the meeting of the Yuma County Conservation District at 6:00 p.m. at the Wray NRCS Conference.

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

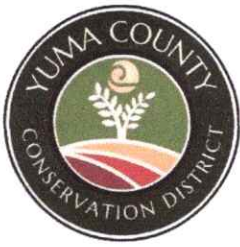
There were no additions or corrections to the agenda. Approval of the agenda was made on a motion by Supervisor Richards. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

Curt Fix spoke to the board about the water shortage in the area south of Vernon. Mr. Fix brought state water maps and ownership maps for that area to show to the board. Mr. Fix stated that he had drilled two test wells, with no success in finding water. At present, Mr. Fix is hauling water every other day to his cattle. Mr. Fix also stated that several other producers in the area were having issues with water availability. Mr. Fix asked the board about the possibility of a cost-sharing project in drilling a well that would support several local producers. Bailey Rapp with NRCS and Dollie Gonzales with NRCS suggested the state NRCS geologist be consulted about the probability of success with drilling a well in the area. They also requested a list of producers that would benefit from the project. NRCS will further investigate if their agency has any programs that might be utilized. The Yuma County Conservation District will research for funding opportunities that might assist with the cost of the project, once budgets are determined.

Supervisor Richards moved to approve the July 9, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smith and carried unanimously.

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

- July payroll
- Tanya Fell – reimbursement
- Wray Gazette
- CACD
- Jamie Deterding
- Chase Buoy
- Jaden Dodsworth
- Caden Bauer
- Macy Richards
- Bradie Midcap



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The current bills paid from the grant fund are:

- Envu
- Transfer to general fund

Certificate of Deposit #8485 held at Wray State Bank is maturing on September 1, 2024. Renewal rates for the C.D. were not available at the time of the meeting. A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to let the certificate of deposit be automatically renewed. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smith and carried unanimously.

Signature cards for the First Pioneer National Bank-Grant account were signed by supervisors.

At 6:50 p.m., the meeting was recessed for the Supplemental Budget Hearing. At 7:00 p.m., the recess ended, and the meeting was called back to order by President Lenz.

Bailey Rapp with NRCS discussed the Quality Assurance Review with the following discussed:

- Are the local conservation districts able to identify their key customers and partners, and are they engaged in outreach to these groups?
- Are conservation board members and staff aware that they and Farm Bill participants must adhere to the USDA Civil Rights and EEO Compliance policies? Are they utilizing USDA NRCS Nondiscrimination Statements in all of their publications?
- Has the conservation district signed the MOU and Contribution agreements?
- Does the conservation district have concerns?

Discussion was held with Bailey Rapp and Dollie Gonzalez of NRCS for clarification in splitting the district technician's time between the conservation district and NRCS when the task performed benefited both parties. It was clarified by NRCS that if the work was something that would be performed by NRCS, then that time should be counted as NRCS time for the DCT Activity Tracking report.

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. Applicants are Alva Deterding, Jamie Deterding, Randall Boden, and the Marjorie Anderson Trust. Leroy Deterding and Alyse Wenstrom have decided not to participate. The Randall Boden and Jamie Deterding projects have been completed. The Marjorie Anderson Trust is awaiting electrical completion.
- 50/50 Matching Grant 2025: District Manager Fell informed the board that the Yuma Conservation District signed the Memorandum of Agreement stating they did not intend to apply for the 2025 CSCB matching grant. District Manager Fell applied for a matching grant in the amount of \$50,000 for the benefit of both districts, with the YCCD to administer any grant funding received.

- **Bonny Demonstration Grant:** Currently grazing approximately 50 Cows, 20 Calves and 3 Bulls. The conservation district is looking into virtual fencing, which would require 2 towers at a cost of \$10,000 each without installation or a cost of \$12,500 each with installation, along with 100 collars and 200 batteries. The YCCD is researching possible funding avenues.
- **NFWF Grant:** \$320,000 grant request for Rejuvra for all of Yuma County is approved. Funding in the amount of \$12,314.00 has been submitted and approved. The SAFE program additional incentive was included in the grant funding. A draft copy of the Cost Share Landowner Agreement was provided to the board for review.
- **Rocky Mountain Mule Deer Grant:** The district applied for a \$75,000 grant in February 2024. The conservation district has been informed that a grant of \$20,000 has been approved.
- **RCPP – Rejuvra:** \$ 2,500,000 Grant application was submitted on by July 2nd. The focus of the grant has been changed to carbon sequestration. No additional information is available at this time.
- **Colorado Soil Health Program –** Seven moisture sensors have been installed. However, two are not currently working. Dustin Wise has submitted invoices for payment.

Office Assistant Deason informed the board that YCCD has sent a second request to the Washington County Conservation District requesting payment for the advance payment for their cell phone service.

NEW BUSINESS:

Name badges were given to supervisors and staff.

District Manager Fell advised the board that James Depue, Wray City Manager, has been contacted about the upcoming dam inspections. The NRCS engineers will be in Wray this week and will conduct an inspection of the dams.

The Republican River Watershed Association fall meeting is scheduled for August 28th. The Yuma County Conservation District is the host for the meeting. All Supervisors are encouraged to attend.

The board discussed whether there were any recommendations for the CACD Award nominations. District Manager Fell is to send out the CACD award nomination form to supervisors.

There were no CACD Resolutions the board wanted to present at the Republican River Watershed Association meeting.

The Yuma County Fair 2025 Camp Rocky scholarship winner was Alex Bailey.

Plains Communication Services had a special on internet services providing for free installation and 3 free months of 100/50 Mbps service. A motion was made by Supervisor Shaw to purchase an internet plan from Plains Communication Services. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zwirn and carried unanimously.

The website accessibility has been tabled for a future meeting.

The Yuma County Conservation District has signed a letter of support for the City of Wray Tree Revitalization project to include community education and outreach.

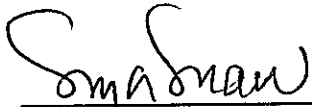
Information about the Southwest Regional Meeting in Alaska was presented to the board. It was decided that District Manager Fell would not attend.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to dispense with the executive session. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

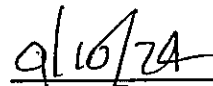
A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Smith and carried unanimously, with President Lenz adjourning the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

The next regular YCCD meeting has been scheduled for September 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the NRCS conference room in Wray.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant



Sonya Shaw, Secretary/Treasurer



Date



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2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING MINUTES August 13, 2024

Supervisors Present: Margaret Lenz, Ron Richards, Sonya Shaw, Darrell Smith, and Chester Zwirn
Supervisors Absent: none
Ex officio Members: none
Staff Present: Tanya Fell, Shirley Deason, and Rafael Trejo
Guests Present: Bailey Rapp (NRCS) and Dollie Gonzalez (NRCS)

President Lenz declared a quorum present and convened the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Office Assistant Deason gave an overview of the proposed 2024 supplemental budget due to receiving unanticipated grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for \$320,000, producer cost share of the NFWF grant for \$43,320, grant from the Mule Deer Foundation for \$20,000, and producer cost share of the Mule Deer Foundation grant for \$ 6,675. Supervisor Zwirn moved to approve the 2024 Supplemental Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Supervisor Richards to approve the Resolution/Ordinance for Supplemental Budget and Appropriation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shaw and carried unanimously.

President Lenz adjourned the hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Deason, Office Assistant

Meeting Minutes approved

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sonya Shaw".

Sonya Shaw, Secretary/Treasurer

A handwritten date "9/10/24" written in cursive script.

Date