

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Thursday, February 20, 2025

Twenty One Steak, Pueblo, Colorado

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Ryan Froman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. TJ Knecht, Mark Koch, and George Pigg were board members in attendance.

Other attendees included Lana Pearson, Resource Team Leader, and Rich Rhoades, contract district manager. Guests included Brian Crites, McCall Knecht, Carl and Terri Beeman, Brenda Koch, and Doug Thacker.

REVIEW AGENDA

George moved, and TJ seconded the approval of the agenda.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

TJ moved, and George seconded the approval of the January meeting minutes. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of January 31, 2025, the reports were \$27,651.44 at the Colorado Bank & Trust and \$0 at the US Bank. Devin and Doug need to close the account.

The CD at the Bank of the San Juans expired on 12/17/24 at 4.5% interest; it was closed on 12/27/24. At closing, the balance was \$13,157.80. The CD was transferred to the CO Bank and Trust.

Interest earned on the CD in 2024 is \$629.94.

Mark moved, and TJ seconded to approve the report; the motion passed.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Twenty One Steak - \$ 1,505.68 check #1023

Mark moved, and George seconded to approve, so the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from School District 70 thanking the district for the Envirothon support.

Invitation to attend the Turkey Creek CD annual meeting on February 27.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Master Irrigator Class was discussed. It was suggested that we send thank you's to sponsors. Rich will check with Kristi.

The budget was sent to the State Auditor on December 5, 2024. Rich determined that the spreadsheet had an error, and the interest for 2023 was omitted. Rich resent the budget to DOLA on 2/12/25. The actual budget numbers did not change.

Rich published the Call for Nominations in the Pueblo Chieftain on 2/7/25 and the district website.

The election can be canceled on March 4 if there are the same number of candidates as positions to be filled. If it is canceled, Rich will publish a notice in the Chieftain and on the website.

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NEW BUSINESS

Extension Report – none

The Exemption from Audit report is due March 31, 2025. We will review it at our March meeting.

The Annual Report was sent to DOLA on 1/30/25. It was due on 2/15/25. The district will receive an additional \$750 for completing the report.

Rich worked with the State of CO website contractor to correct accessibility issues. Rich corrected all he could, but the platform is inflexible, and a complete revision is not possible.

TJ moved, and George seconded to pay registration for any board member wanting to attend the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum. Mark indicated he would like to attend. The motion passes.

NRCS REPORT

Lana reported there were no dollars for irrigation projects this year. NRCS is working under a continuing resolution.

NRCS is waiting to see which employees took the “deferred resignation/retirement” offer. There may be changes in personnel.

Nothing is new on the Salt Creek PFIR (Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report). The PFIR is part of the PL-566 Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations funding. Lana will ask for an update.

Ryan mentioned the Bessemer Ditch is negotiating with the City of Pueblo regarding flooding concerns on the City Park Golf course short nine.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next board meeting will be at the USDA Service Center in Pueblo CO on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Approved minutes: Mark Koch for Devin Cossel - Secretary/Treasurer