

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Thursday, April 17, 2025

USDA Service Center, Pueblo, CO

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Other attendees included Lana Pearson, Resource Team Leader, and Rich Rhoades, Contract District Manager.

REVIEW AGENDA

TJ moved, and Mark seconded the approval of the agenda. Motion passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

TJ moved, and Mark seconded the approval of March. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of March 31, 2025, the reports totaled \$23,279.88 at Colorado Bank & Trust and \$0 at US Bank. Devin and Doug need to close the account. Devin will send a text to the bank requesting the account to be cancelled. Mark moved, and George seconded to cancel the account at US Bank; motion passed.

The CD balance is \$13,157.80. The CD was transferred to the CO Bank and Trust for a 7-month CD with an APR of 4.48. It will be renewed on 8/23/25.

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

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

BILLS TO BE PAID

There will be an additional charge for the publication “cancellation of election.” We have not received that bill. Rich will follow up.

CORRESPONDENCE

Colorado State Conservation Board Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Local Work Group was discussed. Kristi sent out several forms on her mailing list. One response was received. The board recommended keeping the 2024 recommendations. In addition, we will send up information on a Targeted proposal for the Master Irrigator Class and remind NRCS about the Salt Creek PFIR project.

Rich noted the Exemption from Audit was filed on 3/26/25.

No report on the Upper Arkansas Watershed meeting. Lana was not allowed to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Extension Report – Kristi was unable to attend but sent a brief report.

-At the end of this month, we will host a water round-table event, with speakers from the National Weather Service and the Bessemer and Oxford-Farmers Ditches. I have attached the flyer for more info.

-Beth will host a Chickens 101 class at the end of the month.

-CSU-Pueblo is hosting a showing of Mirasol and a post-discussion with Robert Sakata (the Ag water policy advisor to the Ag Commissioner).

-I will also be hosting another Worker Protection Standard Class at the end of the month

-We will participate in the Great American Clean Up with the Fountain Creek Watershed District.

NRCS REPORT

Lana reported that three employees who accepted the “deferred resignation/retirement” have retired or are moving to other jobs, which will affect the office’s ability to provide service. This affects both the Pueblo and Rocky Ford field offices.

Some conservation program applications were funded.

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.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next board meeting will be at the USDA Service Center in Pueblo, CO, on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Approved minutes: _____ Devin Cossel - Secretary/Treasurer