

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Thursday, June 19, 2025

USDA Service Center, Pueblo, CO

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Ryan Froman called the meeting to order at 6:35 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. Kristi Bartolo, Ex-Officio member, was in attendance.

REVIEW AGENDA

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

TJ moved, and Devin seconded the approval of the May minutes. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of May 30, 2025, the report totaled \$23,253.05 at Colorado Bank & Trust and \$0 at US Bank. The CD balance is \$13,157.80 as of April 23, 2025. 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. Devin coordinated with US Bank; the account is officially closed.

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

BILLS TO BE PAID

We received the charge for the publication “cancellation of election.” The cost is \$26.83. Rich paid by phone with the district credit card.

Rhoades - \$500 for the second quarter and \$200 for the Local Work Group. TJ moved, and Mark seconded the motion to approve; the motion passed. Check # 1026.

CORRESPONDENCE

Information about Camp Rocky.

Emails that Rich will forward:

1. The CACD annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the NACD annual meeting in Golden, CO, on September 7-9. Other aspects of the CACD meeting will be via Zoom in November.
2. Email from Rich Duesterhaus regarding a questionnaire about NRCS staffing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rich sent the Local Work Group reports on May 24, 2025.

Rich sent Oaths of Office to the Pueblo County Clerk's office. Rich noted that the Oaths do not need to be sent to DOLA.

SAM (System for Award Management) was completed on June 6, 2025.

The draft matching grant was reviewed and discussed. Kristi, TJ and Rich worked on the draft application.

NEW BUSINESS

Extension Report – Kristi is working at the CSU Experiment Station in Rocky Ford. Her new email is Kristi.Bartolo@colostate.edu. She will continue to assist the board with the Master Irrigator Workshop.

The board election was held. George moved, and TJ seconded to retain the officers in their current positions; the motion passed.

Rich reported on his efforts to obtain costs for general liability as a requirement for the matching grant application. Rich will contact Garth regarding the timeframe for obtaining the insurance. The first step would be to join the Colorado Special District Association. The cost is \$300 per calendar year. We would receive a 50% discount for the first year. The district would then apply to the Colorado Special District Property and Liability Pool. The estimated cost for general liability is \$500.

Rich presented the mileage report for the last half of 2024 and the first half of 2025. Devin and Mark seconded the motion to approve, and the motion passed. See the attached spreadsheet.

NRCS REPORT

Lana reported that in addition to Pueblo and Rocky Ford, she is assisting the Las Animas field office. Lana reports on attendance for office occupancy. A new reporting system is now in place. 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 7:15 p.m.

The next board meeting will be at the USDA Service Center in Pueblo, CO, on Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Approved minutes: _____ **Devin Cossel - Secretary/Treasurer**