

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Regular Meeting – Thursday, December 21, 2023
USDA Service Center - Pueblo, Colorado

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Ryan Froman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members in attendance were Devin Cossel, Georg Pigg, Doug Thacker, and Mark Koch.

Other attendees included Lana Pearson, Resource Team Leader, Kristi Bartolo, Ex-Officio member from CSU Extension; and Rich Rhoades, contract District Manager.

REVIEW AGENDA

George moved, and Mark seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the October meeting were clarified and approved. The board approved the minutes of November 2023. George moved Mark seconded to approve both October and November minutes, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Doug reported the checking account balance on 11/30/2023 was \$ 31,469.43. The checking account balance on the spreadsheet is \$31,119.43. The difference is \$350 of checks not yet cashed.

CD rates have increased significantly. The CD reached its maturity on 2/7/23; Devin did check into better rates. The CD is at the Bank of the San Juans, and interest earned in 2022 is \$6 for six months. The balance before expiration was \$12,315.59. The current CD is for four months at 5% interest. Deven discuss several CD options. Devin moved, and George seconded to renew for three months at 5% interest; the motion passed.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Rhoades - \$500 for 4th Quarter and \$200 for the Budget preparation. Devin moved, and Mark seconded to approve. The motion was carried. Check # 2129

Upper Arkansas Association dues for 2023 of \$10. Mark moved, and George seconded to pay, motion passed. Check # 2130.

CORRESPONDENCE

CACD – the board received a thank you note from Axel Enochson for the board’s sponsorship of Camp Rocky.

Edmunson clay mine expansion. Rich noted the CSCB Coffee Hour program will address the district’s role in these requests on January XX. The program is recorded for later listening.

Pueblo County Assessor – tax value of the district.

Ag in the Classroom – added to agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Banking update – Devin said the bank transfer is almost complete.

Budget – see new business.

Kristi reported on various events.

NEW BUSINESS

January meeting – this will be a dinner meeting at Twenty One Steak. Rich will make reservations. The tentative date for the meeting is January 10, with an alternative date of January 11.

Kristi reported that the Master Irrigator class is to be held next year. Kristi discussed a recent Technology class and information on soil fungus inoculant.

Budget – Devin moved, and Mark seconded to approve the following:

- Letter of Budget Transmittal,
- Budget Message,
- Resolution to Adopt Budget,
- Resolution to Appropriate Sums of Money,
- Resolution to set Mill levies.

Motion passed. Ryan and Doug signed the appropriate documents. Rich will transmit documents to DOLA (Dept of Local Affairs) via the Special District web portal.

Building Farmers scholarship – one applicant so far. The participants will pay the entire registration themselves and then be reimbursed a minimum of \$200. If the set-aside funds are not used up, the reimbursement will be \$225. The set-aside funds total \$1,000. George moved, and Doug seconded to approve this policy, and the motion passed.

Ag in the Classroom was discussed. Doug moved, and George seconded to sponsor three classrooms at \$60 and three Colorado Literacy Projects at \$15 for \$225. The motion passed. Check # 2131.

NRCS REPORT -

No updated news from last month's report

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at a location to be determined.

Approved minutes:

Doug Thacker - Secretary/Treasurer