

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Regular Meeting – Thursday, April 18, 2024
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 George Pigg, Doug Thacker, Mark Koch, and Devin Cossel.

Other attendees included Lana Pearson, Resource Team Leader, Rich Rhoades Contract District Manager, Kristi Bartolo, Ex-Officio member and TJ Knecht South Pueblo County cooperater.

REVIEW AGENDA

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mark moved, and George seconded to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Doug reported the bank statement dated March 31, 2024, was \$17,739.53 at US Bank plus \$9,894.01 at Colorado Bank and Trust.

The spreadsheet balance for Colorado Bank & Trust is \$7,394.01; this assumes all outstanding checks have been cashed.

The CD is at the Bank of the San Juans for four months at 4.91% interest.

The balance as of 12/15/23 is \$12,527.86. Interest on the statement in 2023 is \$205.93.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Ark Valley Watershed Forum – Mark’s registration. \$150, Devin moved, and Doug seconded to pay, motion passed. Check #1004

Rich will review the US Bank account to determine any outstanding checks in that account.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jenna Klam – thank you for the District’s sponsorship of the Building Farmers program.

NACD – dues

CSCB – District Operations training

Proposed zoning changes for rural and agricultural areas, Monday, April 22, Giadone Library – 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Water Round Table Discussion – Friday, April 26, 2024, Extension Office

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Banking update – Debit card distribution – Devin and Doug have debit cards for the Colorado Bank & Trust account.

Ark River Basin Water Forum report – Mark reported on the day he attended the Forum. Rich reported on the CSCB Coffee Hour presentation “Responding to Public Notices.”

NEW BUSINESS

Kristi – discussed:

- There is no update yet on the Master Irrigator program.
- Possible Drought/Crop meeting to combine with Local Work Group meeting. The board is willing to coordinate with Kristi. June is the timeframe.
- Farm to Power – regarding energy production on-farm

Lana reported on the Upper Ark Watershed Association meeting held earlier today. Katie Miller is the new president of the association.

Rich will contact the new Pueblo County noxious weed coordinators and ask if they would be available to attend a board meeting. The Weed staff is now under the County Park and Recreation Department.

NRCS REPORT -

Personnel – Wesley Castro, a new Resource Conservation Specialist, is on board.

EQIPs are being funded but at a low funding level. Very few irrigation requests have been funded.

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

The next board meeting will be Thursday, May 16, 2024, at the USDA Service Center in Pueblo.

Approved minutes:

Doug Thacker - Secretary/Treasurer