

SOUTH PUEBLO COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Regular Meeting – Thursday, August 15, 2024
USDA Service Center, Pueblo, Colorado

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Other attendees included Randa York, Conservationist; Rich Rhoades, Contract District Manager; Kristi Bartolo, ex-officio member, CSU Extension; and Daniel Morse, Fremont Conservation District Manager.

REVIEW AGENDA

George moved, and Devin seconded to approve the agenda with additions. Motion passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Devin moved, and George seconded the approval of the July meeting minutes. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of July 31, 2024, the reports were \$26,398.14 at US Bank, which includes most current electronic deposits from the State of Colorado. There is \$5,788.76 at Colorado Bank and Trust. The CD at the Bank of the San Juans was recently renewed for four months. The interest rate is yet to be determined.

The CD balance as of 12/15/23 is \$12,527.86. Interest on the statement in 2023 is \$205.93. TJ moved, and George seconded the approval of the report. Ryan and Devin will finish updating the forms needed at all banks.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mileage for the last half of 2023 and the first half of 2024 were calculated and presented. Devin moved, and TJ seconded to approve the following mileage reimbursements, motion passed:

| Check # | Board Member | |
|---------|--------------|----------|
| 1008 | Cossel | \$329 |
| 1009 | Froman | \$363.50 |
| 1010 | Thacker | \$290 |
| 1011 | Pigg | \$217.50 |
| 1012 | Koch | \$217.50 |
| 1012 | Knecht | \$40.20 |

Reimbursement was based on IRS mileage rates for the appropriate year, round-trip distance, and the number of meetings attended.

CORRESPONDENCE

CSCB—Direct assistance of \$6,688.61 plus an additional \$2,000 was directly deposited in the US Bank account on August 16, 2024.

The Upper Ark Watershed Association meeting is at the Pueblo West Library on Thursday, September 19th, 2024, from 10:30 am – 2:30 pm.

CACD – Camp Rocky – Axel Enochson sent a thank-you letter for sponsoring his attendance, and Noah McCord, Camp Rocky Director, sent a letter thanking the board for their support.

Women in Ag sent a sponsorship request. This will be moved to New Business.

Maggie Hannah requested district information for the September Colorado State Conservation Board meeting, which will be held in this watershed. Rich will provide the information.

The Meet the Candidates meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at Milberger Farms at 5:30 p.m. Ag groups will be asked to make presentations. RSVP at 719-583-8180.

The Arkansas River Basin Water Forum will be held on March 5-6, 2025, at the Pueblo Convention Center. Volunteers are being sought to serve on the planning committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ryan and Devin will complete the banking signature cards and other account information changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Daniel Morse, District Manager from Fremont CD, exchanged information with the board. We appreciate his attendance.

The board must designate a new Vice President since Devin moved to Secretary-Treasurer.

Devin moved, and George seconded, to appoint Mark Koch; the motion passed.

The Supervisor List is due September 30. The board reviewed the draft list.

The draft budget should be presented to the board by October 15. The October meeting will be after that date. Rich will prepare a draft budget for the September meeting.

The Women in Ag conference sponsorship was discussed. It will be held October 18-19 at Pueblo Community College. George moved, and TJ seconded, to participate at the \$500 level and provide another \$500 to offset registration costs for Pueblo County registrants. The motion passed.

Kristi discussed the Meet the Candidate meeting, Women in Ag, and the upcoming Master Irrigator training. She will be looking for speakers and sponsors for the irrigator program.

NRCS REPORT

Randa discussed programs. Five EQIPs were funded for \$128,000.

Ryan reported the Bessemer is still moving along slowly. Rich will include the Bessemer Ditch information in the report for Maggie Hannah.

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

The next board meeting will be Thursday, September 19, 2024, at the USDA Service Center in Pueblo, CO.

Approved minutes: _____ Devin Cossel - Secretary/Treasurer