

**Routt County Conservation District**  
**Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes**  
**June 21, 2022 8 am**

**Attending:**

Board Members:

Lyn Halliday  
Kent Sandstedt  
Stephen Evans  
Jeremy Kline

Contractor

Kristen Rockford

Partners and Public:

Clinton Whitten, NRCS  
Todd Hagenbuch, CSU

**I. Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 8:10 am by Lyn and a quorum established.
- The meeting was noticed as required by the Sunshine Law on RCCD's website
- Lyn welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining.

Swearing in of new Board member: Stephan took the Oath of Office for his appointed seat on the Board.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The May 17, 2022 RCCD Board Meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Kent and second by Stephen.

**III. Board Member Reports and Updates**

President

-Lyn updated the Board as follows:

- Lyn sent the RCCD 2021 Annual Report she prepared for the Landowners meeting to CSCB and DOLA. It was accepted and we will therefore receive \$500.
- CSCB and STAR funds forthcoming.
- The RCCD article submitted to the Steamboat Today newspaper was published last week.
- Thanked Board members for bios, they will be used for grants and put on the website.

Financial

-Cam had provided Lyn with this month's updates:

- He reached out to the State Risk Pool for an annual insurance premium for D&O. They will not have an answer until July. On a motion by Kent and second by Stephen the Board authorized Lyn and Cam to switch policies if the premium will result in a lower cost.
- No major revenue or expenses this month.

Kent

- Kent reported extensively on the virtual fencing event he attended in Eagle County last week. There were 70 attendees. Vence was the fencing company. Kent explained the tower and the

collars as well as costs and requirements. There was discussion on progress made with one of our STAR participants to host a v-fence project. Kristen to set up a meeting.

-Both Lyn and Kent attended separate County Weed Days which were well attended. Jeremy and Tyler showcased the weed sprayer.

#### IV. Business

##### 1. Weed Sprayer Rental

Jeremy reported on the first weed sprayer rental which went to a South Routt rancher. The renter told Jeremy that the sprayer worked great for the 3 days he had it. Cleaning took longer than anticipated. The calendar was a little confusing but the rental agreement and payment all went smoothly.

It was felt that we should begin to get the word out, and specifically develop a brochure.

Jeremy proposed taking the sprayer to the Hayden Farmers Market, which is on Thursday evenings. The Board approved it. He will also check into the County Fair. A way to secure the machine was discussed. Todd suggested the information should include details on the hitch and what is needed to pull it.

##### 2. Press Release Draft

Lyn prepared and presented a draft press release from the District Board relative to Visitor Etiquette. It is an open request partially sparked by issues from visitation during COVID years as well as the upcoming Rainbow event that could bring 10,000 – 20,000 folks to the area. Key concerns include impact to our constituents, i.e. private landowners, especially wildland fire and property damage. Lyn was contacted by Colorado First CD who prepared a similar release for Moffat County. The Board supported the release unanimously and suggested it be sent to the Steamboat Today, Steamboat Radio, and Facebook.

#### V. Projects, Events, Grants – Updates

##### 1. STAR Plus and Soil Health Initiative

Lyn updated the group on STAR and our soil sampling initiative which is in its third year. Soil sample results from all five STAR participants have been received. A team meeting was held (Clinton, Lyn, Kaitlyn and Kristen) to discuss the results and begin to formulate prescriptions. Lyn turned in all five consultation forms to CDA which is required to receive the grant funds.

Additionally, results from the RCCD soil program (4 ranchers) were received and reviewed.

**Totals thus far are: 21 samples this year, approx. 10 samples in each of 2021 and 2020, so about 41 total comprehensive soil samples so far. Nine different ranches this year. Estimated number of ranch properties that we have worked with to date = 25 ranches total for 3 years.**

Three different labs have been used and it was felt by NRCS that Ward is the best so far. This data will be great for establishing baseline information from which to compare progress after installing management practices.

Lyn reported that the \$20,000 equipment funds as part of STAR must be utilized by October 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. Current considerations are virtual fencing and a no-till drill.

##### 2. Grant update: Building RCCD Capacity with the goal of sustaining full time employees

Kristen presented a summary of the grants she has submitted and has been exploring.

There was also a discussion on further exploration of a mill levy.

Reaching out to the County Commissioners was also a topic of discussion. It was suggested that short and long range plan be developed to present to them, including what makes RCCD unique, i.e. technical assistance for conservation work and education. Kristen will look at other Counties to see what level of funding they provide to their CD's.

### 3. Summer Event Opportunities

A Field Day for this summer was revisited. Cover crop demonstration might be a good topic and the possibility of using one of the STAR participants was discussed.

Future field days should be brought up at the Annual Landowners Meeting to see where the interest lies. One idea was a hay competition.

### VI. NRCS /RCCD Civil Rights Requirements

Clinton reviewed the civil rights requirements with the Board and had members sign the agreement.

### VIII. Public Forum

No public comments were received.

Next Regular Meeting – July 19, 2022

Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am on a motion by Stephen and second from Lyn.