

Routt County Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
June 15th, 2023 8:30 am
The Egg Steamboat

Attending:

Board Members:

Lyn Halliday
Kent Sandstedt
Tyler Snyder
Cam Kuelthau
Stephen Evans
Patrick Stanko

Partners and Public:

Todd Hagenbuch
Baili Foster
Berkley Bayuk
Eric Fuchs via zoom

I. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Tyler Snyder and a quorum established.
- The meeting was noticed as required by the Sunshine Law.
- Tyler welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining.

Approval of Minutes

The Board voted to approve the minutes from the May 16th Board Meeting (Cam Motioned to approve as distributed and Patrick Seconded). Motion Passed.

Treasures' Report

Cam noted that there no major changes to the Treasurer and said that no motion was necessary

III. Business

1. Todd gave a Legacy Ranch update. They are studying how grazing of mountain ranches might improve soil health. He mentioned that there are a couple test plots of a legume mix and one of Kernsa Wheat. The wheat project is funded by the Land Institute.
- 2.

CAWA Grant

Baili introduced Berkley Bayuk who will be assisting her this summer to implement the virtual fence project. She is an intern hired by the CSU extension and is on a 9–10-week program. Berkely gave the Board a brief background of herself and the Board Members introduced themselves.

GLCI Grant

Tyler updated the Board on Michael's proposal for how structure the management of a contractor to administer the GLCI Grant deliverables. Michael proposed that there be a committee of three who will oversee the contractor with one committee chair who is the direct contact for the contractor. Contractor updates will be done at Board meetings. The committee will handle any major challenges

firsthand and then take it to the Board if necessary. No motions were made at this time but Lyn agreed to ask Michael to be the committee chair.

Lyn gave a brief background of the project to the Board and mentioned that the Baggs CD had several million dollars of funding available and were willing to help participate in the project on the Northern end of the district. Lyn was curious if we can bill into the next year so we can successfully implement the project. Cam mentioned that we need to firm up the budget. The budget currently has twice as much for salary. There needs to be clarity on how the funds will be used beneficially. Cam also asked how the monitoring will be done and who will be the person that will do actual work. The board discussed teaming up with an intern similar to Berkley that will help with operations and monitoring. Lyn mentioned that the Board needs to get Michael approved to head the subcommittee. Cam asked for volunteers to rewrite the grant application. Baili offered to rewrite the proposal for submission by July 15th.

Toolkit Update

Eric Fuchs from Understanding Ag called in over zoom for a Q&A session with the Board. Eric gave a field day description and mentioned that he did another project in the area with Mary Beth Steffans. Eric let the Board know that water retention is important and that he will focus on water saving techniques. The schedule for the field day will be half in the classroom and half onsite to go over six principles of soil health. Cam asked if Eric can provide a breakdown of the travel vs. actual on-site time and Eric said Cathy can provide that. Eric left the Board feeling good about the field day and he instilled some confidence that it will be beneficial.

Board Member Reports

Lyn asked about the weed sprayer literature, Kent said we will have enough cards and flyers for this summer.

Lyn asked about the owl and Patrick said we can borrow Todd's for the next meeting to test it.

Cam motioned to adjourn the meeting and meeting was adjourned at 11:15am

Next Regular Meeting – July 18th, 2023.