

Routt County Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
April 16th 2024 8:15 am
Mountain Valley Bank Meeting Room

Attending:

Board Members:

Lyn Halliday Via Zoom
Kent Sandstedt
Tyler Snyder
Michael Moon
Cam Kuelthau
Patrick Stanko

Partners and Public:

Todd Hagenbuch
Kara Vigeau via Zoom
Erin Gelling
Chad Cherevko
Ian Widden
Vance Fulton
Kathryn Bidell Via Zoom

I. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 8:19 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 the March 19th 2024 minutes

- *Michael moved to approve the minutes as with a written change from DOLA to DORA. Cam seconded
- *Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report

Cam informed the board that he has set up one account for the purpose of managing the GLCI grant process and he has provided a document as a resolution reflecting the District's 3 accounts: 1. the general operating account, 2. The Scholarship Account, and 3. The GLCI Grant Account.

*Kent motioned to adopt the Bank Resolution set forth in the Board Packet. Patrick Seconded. *Motion Passed.

Cam mentioned that there is no new treasury report at the is time but we are accruing expenses for Kathrn's time.

GLCI Update

Kathrn informed the Board that the base stations have been ordered and there are 5 applicants of which 4 have been contacted and the total number of collars needed is around 500. Participants are willing to

purchase a share of the collars so that more operations can join the project. Kathryn mention that she had been approved to use the EZ Fed Grants program by Kristen, which raised several concerns with the Board and Kathryn agreed that she would contact Barbara to get to the bottom of why the permission email went to Kristen. Lyn said she will assist Kathryn with setting up the EZ Grants Login. Kathryn will also ask Barb about the advancements and what we need to do to ensure that our vendors get paid on time.

Lyn suggested that a Board Member be designated for the EAUTH site and Patrick Volunteered to be the contact. Lyn said she will help facilitate a phone call between Patrick and Barb.

Lyn asked about the applicants and if the subcommittee had an RF planning map at this point. Michael mentioned that the subcommittee is finishing up the rancher participation discussion and will report soon. Michael said there have been no recent committee meetings.

The Board had a discussion about the Open Meetings Act and it was decided that the Committee will post their meeting notices within 24 hours with agendas posted to the website.

Michael suggested a subcommittee meeting for the week of April 22nd. The committee agreed to meet next Thursday, April 25th at 1:30PM over zoom. The committee will approve its own minutes and then report those to the full Board. Cam asked for a special Board meeting over Zoom the week of the 29th of April to approve participants. Michael mentioned that the participants will need to buy the collars and then be reimbursed.

Annual Landowner's Meeting Review

Chad mentioned that he will help with the LWG portion next year if the Board would like. He is passionate about those and believes there is a tremendous need. Chad recommended that the Board ask participants about the problems facing the community to achieve a focused discussion about the needs of the producers. Michael really liked having the IWMP partners there and the GLCI project helped to fill seats at the meeting. Lyn thought the meeting had a well-rounded set of speakers and she was encouraged by the turnout. The Board really enjoyed Tim's speech and all commented on how well he did.

NRCS Update

The NRCS staff introduced themselves starting with the new lead Kara Vigeau, Followed by Erin Gelling (a local hire who enjoys the area and is interested in ag) , Chad Cherevko (area 1 NRCS with 20+ years of experience.), Ian Widden (started last week and is from Washington), and Vance Fulton (a long time local employee who is the Engineering Technician for Routt/Moffat/Jackson/Grand Counties) Chad mentioned to the Board that Nakayla will be done with her lead assignment and Kara will step in, she will be in Steamboat every Monday and Wednesday, as well as every other Friday. There have been zero applications for Clinton's position, and it has been extended for 4 months. Right now, the NRCS is struggling with a back log of engineering and contract implementation. There is a direct hire authority that holds higher pay potential. Chad would like help with training the new hires on the system of ranch ownership in the valley and for them to be able to do field trips with producers.

Star

Board Member Reports

Kent mention that the weed days will be held on May 28th and June 2nd

The wildfire mitigation council will meet on May 16th in Steamboat.

Patrick said that CAA is taking applications for water projects on the Bear.

Tyler mentioned that Kristy Wallner of the Silt BLM office is looking for a fiscal agent to manage some CDF funds for a project on King Mountain and asked if the District is willing to be a fiscal agent for that project. The Board discussed making the GLCI project a success before taking on more.

Next meeting May 21st 8:15am MVB

Kent Motioned to Adjourn at 10:36 AM