Routt County Conservation District Board Meeting Minutes December 17th 2024 8:15 am Mountain Valley Bank Meeting Room

Attending:

Board Members: Lyn Halliday Kent Sandstedt Tyler Snyder Michael Moon Cam Kuelthau Patrick Stanko Stephen Evans Jeremy Kline

Partners and Public: Todd Hagenbuch Via Zoom Kathryn Bidell Via Zoom Erin Gelling Shawn Sabo

I. Call to Order:

-The meeting was called to order at 8:20 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.

November 18th Minutes Approval

*Stephen motioned to approve the minutes as sent in the Board Packet . Lyn 2nd **Motion Passed

Budget Discussion

Cam mentioned that he had published the proposed budget for 2025 in the newspaper. The District's proposed expenses are \$115,000 and the projected income is \$110,000. Cam mentioned that we have \$5000 in accounts to cover the difference.

*Patrick motioned to adopt the budget for 2025 as presented by Cam and noticed in the newspaper. Lyn 2^{nd} ** Motion passed

GLCI Update

Sharon mentioned that the collars should be coming in February and that Kathy has submitted another funding request. Sharon mentioned that the funds for her time have not been received to date, but her and Kathy are following up to see what might have gone wrong.

Board Member Roles and Succession

The Board needs to designate an election official and do a formal call for nominations. The Board members up for re-election are Lyn, Cam, Kent and Stephen. If they are interested in continuing then they will need to fill out a self-nomination form. If we still have space on the Board or do not get any contesting nominations then the Election Official can cancel the elections. The timeline at which this needs to take place is as follows: January – take nominations, February – Notice of Election, March – cancel elections if no nominations above and beyond our 11 person Board threshold. *Kent motioned to designate Lyn as the Designated Election Official. Michael 2nd **Motion passed.

Sharon mentioned that she would like to join the Board. Sharon has a concern that her being on the Board might create a conflict of interest with her position as a technician for the GLCI grant. Cam said there should be no issue if Sharon recuses herself from GLCI decisions at the Board level given that she is compensated out of that program. Sharons compensation was decided upon out of the GLCI committee and has been in place since before she expressed interest in joining the Board.

Jeremy updated that he still plans to move out of the Valley this summer but will stay on the Board until his departure.

Tyler mentioned stepping down as President of the Board and taking on more of an operational role over the GLCI grant process and weed sprayer rental.

*Lyn motioned for Patrick to take on the role of President as of January 2025. Tyler 2nd **Motion passed

Kent said that he will begin to take on preparing the minutes from the Secretary seat that he currently holds.

Cam mentioned that he will consider the position of Vice President but is not certain he will continue his position on the Board after May. The Board discussed the possibility of Sharon taking on the Vice President or Treasury role after she is officially onboarded.

Board Member Reports

Patrick mentioned that they have received a water smart grant for automation on the Bear River and there is a CAA meeting on Thursday.

Kent updated the Board on the Weed Advisory Board meeting last week and that they posted an informational flier and webpage for our weed sprayer that will go out with the tax letters.

Todd gave a CSU report and is working with Reece Melton on soil's health project and is continuing studies on the Legacy Ranch.

Lyn mentioned that the results of the edge of field study for water quality done by UYWG will be discussed at the February meeting. They also performed an isotopic study on the Bear River for nutrient loading.

NRCS Report

Shawn mentioned that the Resource Team Lead position is posted again and the NRCS would like to have that position filled by February or early March. He informed the Board the EQUIP application period is closed but that Act Now EQUIP is still open until March 7th. He mentioned that there was a training in November for the new RCPP program that will address conflict mitigation with wildlife at the NRCS level. The program will fund range riding, turbo fladry, carcass management, and fox lights.

Next meeting January 21st 8:15am MVB

Kent Motioned to Adjourn at 9:46 AM