

Delta Conservation District
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2011

Supervisors Present

Jim Cazer – President
Jim Blankenship – Vice President
Thelma Starner – Treasurer
Michael Cleary – Supervisor (call-in)
Ralph D'Alessandro – Supervisor
Susan Raymond – Supervisor
Mark Shaffer – Supervisor
Gayle Ware – Supervisor

Supervisors Absent

James Schott – Supervisor

Others Present

Kristie Martin – DCD District Manager
Wes Boyce – NRCS Acting District Conservationist

Meeting called to order at 2:07pm

Agenda Presented: Jim Blankenship moved to accept agenda with addition, Gayle Ware seconded. **Motion carried.**

Minutes presented: Jim Blankenship moved to approve minutes as presented. Ralph D'Alessandro seconded. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report presented– Thelma Starner moved to accept the financials and bills to pay as presented. Jim Blankenship seconded. **Motion carried.**

Board Absence – James Schott notified board that he could not attend this board meeting. Thelma Starner moved that we accept absence. Ralph D'Alessandro seconded. **Motion Carried.**

NRCS Report – Wes Boyce

7 Seasonal High Tunnel applications submitted. Dozen or so other EQIP application submitted equating to approximately \$650,000 in funds. The majority is associated with salinity. Wes attended LG Salinity Basin Planning Meeting. Kid Jacobsen, BOR Basin States Program Overseer, estimated contract between BOR and CSCB to be signed within the month.

Salinity Study: Purpose was to discuss @ \$300,000 offered by Salinity Forum to BOR to conduct a study including identifying what we have accomplished in Salinity reduction, areas that need to be achieved, best way to achieve further salinity reduction. A study team has been designated. James Schott is a part of the team. Jack Barnett is person responsible for providing BOR with Salinity Study Funds to BOR. Currently the Lower Gunnison is at 50% estimated salinity savings. EQIP Deadline 2nd Round of Funding is Thursday, February 17. Currently, there are about 11 potential BSP projects once new contract is established.

ACTION: Find out if IWM funds will be paid on projects beyond September 30, 2012 for current BSPP projects from Jim Currier.

ACTION: Review ALL BSPP contracts to determine if appropriate payments and work have been completed.

Employee Reports reviewed from packet

- **Ditch Mapping** – Ralph talked to Mike Baker and reports that Mike is pleased with the progress.
- **SCT** -

Subcommittee Reports

1. **Contracts** – Proposed new BSP contract presented with recommendations to changes made to Jim Currier's original. Important to differentiate between individuals and one for ditch companies in the application process. All participants in lateral projects must sign application and the also sign the plan presented to develop a contract. Question was presented on whether to require group project laterals to incorporate or not as part of the eligibility as presented by Contracts Committee. Contracts Committee will change Incorporation to 3 or more individuals applying for a group project to be incorporated. They will also add consideration for livestock water under section E7 in proposed contract.

Break called at 3:55pm

Meeting called back to order at 4:02pm

Contracts continued. Ralph D'Alessandro moved that the BSPP letter presented be sent out to all outstanding BSPP project. Thelma seconded. **Motion carried.**

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2. **Planning** – Subdivision Review
3. **Policy and Procedures** – Modifications to Personnel Policy. Question was raised about accrued vacation leave for part-time, full-time, regular or temporary employees on whether there is ability to take vacation leave during probationary period. Ralph D'Alessandro moved that employees can accrue leave during probationary period but cannot utilize accrued time within first 6-month employment period unless receipt of approval from a member of the executive committee is received. Jim Blankenship seconded. **Motion carried.** Ralph D'Alessandro moved that a part-time, temporary employee does not accrue vacation or sick-time leave. Jim Blankenship Seconded. **Motion carried.** Ralph D'Alessandro moved that a full-time, temporary employee accrues vacation and sick-leave the same as a full-time, regular employee. Gayle Ware seconded. **Motion carried.**
4. **Education & Outreach** – Small Acreage Report; Ditch Company Pie & Coffee Meeting. Consider doing a series of Ditch Company meetings to educate them. Ralph D'Alessandro moved that we approve funds allocated in Education and Outreach budget to do a series to educate ditch water users on funding opportunities, Salinity Program and overall general irrigation issues. Jim Blankenship seconded. **Motion carried.**
ACTION: E & O Committee to meet 1pm on Thursday, February 17 at Coal Train to plan first session of Ditch Water User series workshop.
5. **Budget** – Nothing to report. General Fund Budget submitted end of January.
6. **Employee** – IWM position: interview and hire, funding situation

Old Business

Clipper Ditch and Grand View Mesa Ditch update – Michael Cleary

Michael Cleary moved that the board formally request, in the form of a letter, that the BOR, with their own funds and expertise, put together a request for bid package that outlines the scope of work that Ditch Co are undertaking before a formal request to BOR is made by the Ditch Company for future funding opportunities. Susan Raymond seconded. **Motion Carried.**

ACTION: Michael Cleary to draw up a letter to BOR to this end.

Mesa/Delta CD sign – Jim Cazer

Mesa proposed place aluminum signs on each side, each one stating the District's name and the exiting District's name. \$185/each. Each district would pay for one.

ACTION: Find out the total costs from Mesa.

New Business

District By-Laws update/ form committee – Kristie Martin

Thelma Starnar and Ralph D'Alessandro agreed to form By-Law Committee to help Kristie Martin facilitate updating current By-Laws, dated 1981. Gayle Ware and Susan Raymond agreed to help get petition signatures.

ACTION: Have By-Law committee meeting to begin revision.

Conservation Leadership: Influencing Legislation & Regulations Capitol Visit, Feb 21-22 – Kristie Martin to attend.

Talk to them about getting natural gas stations funded in rural areas. We use twice as much in rural areas.

Invite legislators to speak at our annual landowner meeting.

Selenium Management Program Report – Ralph D'Alessandro

DCD annual meeting planning (held April 17 in 2010) – Jim Cazer

Host it on second Saturday in April, April 9th. Board president to do a farewell speech. Gayle Ware, Jim Cazer and Thelma Starnar agreed to form Annual Meeting Committee. Need to find speaker and decide on venue.

ACTION: Have Annual Meeting Planning committee meeting to plan event.

Camp Rocky – Jim Cazer

Team work and board policy – Jim Cazer

Meeting adjourned 5:40pm

Minutes respectively submitted by Kristie Martin, District Manager