

*Delta Conservation District
Monthly Board Minutes
September 13, 2010*

Present

Jim Cazer – President
Michael Cleary - Supervisor
Ralph D'Alessandro - Supervisor
Susan Raymond – Supervisor
James Schott - Supervisor
Mark Shaffer - Supervisor
Gayle Ware – Supervisor
Kristie Martin- District Employee
John Miller – District Employee
Brian Sorenson – NRCS Representative

Guests

Faye Pase – FSA Supervisor -- Springfield, Arizona
Bob Hurford – Division of Water Conservation, Lead Engineer

Absent

Jim Blankenship- Vice President
Thelma Starner- Treasurer
Eric Jessen – Supervisor

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

New District Employee Introduction – John Miller, Engineering Technician

Agenda Presented: James Schott motioned to accept agenda as presented, Mike Cleary seconded. **Motion accepted.**

ACTION: Mike Cleary requested discussion of Clipper Ditch lawsuit. Jim Cazer suggested getting more information and discussing at next meeting.

Minutes presented: James Schott motioned to approve August minutes as presented. Gayle Ware seconded. **Motion accepted.**

Treasurer's Report – Kristie Martin presented current balance in checking account and bills to be paid for this month. No financial reports available until Chart of Accounts and budget are updated and finalized. James Schott motioned to table approval of financial reports until finalized, Ralph seconded. **Motion accepted.** Ralph D'Alessandro motioned to accept bills to pay as presented, James Schott seconded. **Motion accepted.**

ACTION: Updated Chart of Accounts and budget to present to Board.

Discussion: Jim Cazer brought up paying employees twice a month. He suggests not requiring the board's approval for those employees who are on salary or set hourly wage in order to pay employees twice a month. James Schott motioned that monthly payroll not be brought for approval by board for employees whom annual salary has been previously approved by board. Ralph D' Alessandro seconded. **Motion accepted.**

Discussion: Ralph would like a listing of the checks included in the board packet including check numbers, payee, and amount for the board records. Ralph D'Alessandro motioned for this to be included in the minutes of the monthly board meeting. Mike Cleary seconded. **Motion accepted.**

ACTION: Include check numbers, payee, and amount for the board records in future minutes.

Division of Water Resources Report, Bob Hurford – Tailwater/ Wastewater – Summary: If landowner creates a more efficient system for use of water, then those who have filed Tailwater rights downstream do not have right to pursue action against that landowner to receive the water so long as the water was used on the landowner's property for which the water rights are attached. It is owner's responsibility to deal with tailwater as to not flood landowner's downstream. Reference was made to Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 37, Article 84, Section 101. Goal of Division of Water Resources is to keep order and to prevent water issues.

Discussion: The question should be asked "What is the impact of the tailwater to landowners downstream?" NRCS should be aware of the regulations and present engineering specs to meet standards for the landowner.

Board Appointment, Thelma Starner – James Schott motioned to appoint Thelma Starner as board member retroactive to May 10, 2010. Ralph D seconded. **Motion accepted.**

NRCS Report- Brian Sorenson - Salinity/BSPP Report and NRCS PII (Personal Identifiable Information) Policy.

BSPP report – There are 11 current BSPP contracts in this office with expiration dates within 2011 that need to be revised or cancelled. There is no more funding available for BSPP for Delta District per Debbie Blume. Ralph D'Alessandro stated that this needs to be verified with Jim Currier based upon the August 9 meeting when Jim Currier reported that he would make all of the cancelled projects funds of ~\$100K available to the BSPP for this district.

ACTION: Meeting with Jim Currier, Jim Cazer and Brian Sorenson to further discuss funds available and discuss protocols for the new BSP program, which changes over ~October 1, 2010.

ACTION: Contracts Committee and Brian Sorenson to meet to determine application process and finalize/update application. Send current copy of BSPP application to contract committee. Contracts Committee need to put together a checklist for the process and identify responsibilities of each partner organization.

ACTION: The BSPP/BSP Program training by NRCS is to be Monday, October 11, 4-6pm pending approval of NRCS employees.

NRCS has done review of contracts and found that many of the cancellation of contracts are due to weak economy. There is a new loan program through FSA to help producers at a 4% interest rate. Only available to new producers not those currently under contract.

PII Discussion: NRCS PII form is not appropriate for Board Members of District.

ACTION: NRCS will revisit PII form and revise to make appropriate for Board Members.

Ralph pointed out that we need to develop and implement a District Confidentiality Form as is required on an annual basis.

ACTION: Create DCD Confidentiality Form, similar to that of the NRCS PII, to be implemented.

Jim Cazer, President, called break 8:35pm, to return 8:45pm.

Meeting called back to order 8:46pm

Subcommittee Reports

- Contracts
 1. Committee met. Michael Cleary has revised Contract Survey. He will work with Kristie Martin to re-format and send out to board for review. Contracts Committee to meet before October 11 training. They will let Kristie know of committee meetings so they can be posted.
 2. Ralph reported on Basin States Salinity Advisory luncheon and training.
- Planning
 1. No meetings. No issues on the table.
- Policy and Procedures
 1. Personnel Policy: Gayle commented that on page 3 the investigations process should be 2 weeks to 30 days for a complaint to be presented to board. Ralph suggests 30-45 days for complaint to be presented because of monthly board meeting.
ACTION: Change to 45 days for complaint to be presented to board.
 2. Board Policy: Gayle asked if there is a need for Associate Board Policy. Jim pointed out that Robbie LeValley with Extension office is a type of Associate member. This policy is to be reviewed and finalized for next meeting.
- Education and Outreach
 1. Committee met. Cedar Keshet, in attendance, asked the district to consider her as an Education Outreach Coordinator for the District. Committee advised her to prepare a written proposal and to consider helping research and write grants to receive funding for this position on behalf of the district.
 2. County Fair Survey: 12 responses – noxious weeds was a big concern. Look at doing a community education and feedback seminar utilizing CACD grant funds available.
ACTION: Look into grant funding and regulations from CACD for Landowner/ Small Acreage meeting.
- Budget
 1. Budget committee met. Report covered in Treasurer's report.
- Employee
 1. New employee, Engineering Technician - John Miller.

District Employees Report- Interview for Ditch Map position, week of September 20.

Ralph D'Alessandro reports that Ditch Mapping contract with BOR has been approved for next \$25,000 grant funds.

New Business

Monthly Board Meeting Time – propose an earlier time

Jim Cazer reports that during winter months it may be better to have earlier monthly meeting. James Schott motioned to change meeting time to 2pm beginning in November. Michael Cleary seconded. **Motion accepted.** Ralph D'Alessandro abstained.

CSCB Board Nomination – Consider nomination. James Schott motioned for Jim Cazer to be nominated to this position. Michael Cleary seconded. **Motion accepted.**

ACTION: Complete CSCB nomination form and submit.

SDA Nomination Form – There was no interest from board for nominating a person into this position.

Mesa/Delta District Sign – Cost share of \$88 for sign with Delta Conservation District on one side. Michael Cleary thinks we should put our own sign up. Mark Schaffer thinks we request it on the west side. Jim Cazer will request the west side of Highway.

ACTION: Contact Mesa District to discuss positioning of sign.

Proposition 101-60-61/ Fremont CD Resolution – Colorado Conservation Districts, CACD Members, have been asked to present its position is on this matter. James Schott motioned that we join and support of the resolution. Gayle Ware seconded. Ralph D'Alessandro reports that our funding is impacted by these propositions. Michael Cleary asked why we are taking a blanket position on this political issue. Michael Cleary dissented. Mark Schaffer and Susan Raymond abstained. **Motion accepted by a 3-1 vote.**

ACTION: Respond to CACD on the Board's position in favor of Fremont County CD resolution and its position against the Proposition 101, Amendment 60 and 61 Ballot Initiatives.

Letter – Painted Sky – Solar Project

Painted Sky wants District to send a letter of support for this grant application. There is concern that this is not agricultural in nature and also whether there is a conflict of interest for owner, McCloud, seeking grant. James Schott motioned that we do not sign the letter. Michael Cleary seconded. **Motion accepted.**

ACTION: Contact Painted Sky and let them know Board's position against supporting this project.

State Fair Luncheon: Mileage reimbursement for Kristie Martin, District Manager, for attendance to the State Fair luncheon with John Stulp, Colorado Agricultural Commissioner. Attendance to luncheon approved by Jim Cazer. Michael Cleary motioned to reimburse Kristie for mileage. Ralph D'Alessandro seconded. **Motioned approved.**

ACTION: Write thank you letter to Commissioner but suggest better organization and interaction for attendees for future luncheons.

ACTION: Reimburse Kristie for mileage.

Upcoming Events

CACD Annual Conference, November 15-19, 2010

District Manager and One Supervisor registration fee is presented complimentary from CACD. Jim Cazer can pay his own registration. He asked if any other Board Members interested in Comp ticket. Also, he asked the board to consider paying for District Manager's room and board in order to attend annual conference.

ACTION: Consider sending District Manager to CACD Conference in November.

Meeting adjourned 9:51pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristie Martin, District Manager