

## ***La Plata Conservation District (LPCD) Board Meeting Minutes***

**Location:** NRCS Office 31 Suttle Drive, Durango, CO, 81301

**Time/Date:** 5:00PM to 8:00PM; March 17, 2015

### **Attendee List: Board Members:**

Tom Hartnett, President

Dave Miller, Treasurer

Sterling Moss, NRCS

Cecilia Whitaker, Secretary

Paul Gray, LAPCO liaison

Gary Thrash, CACD/Watershed

Bill Szilva,

Terry Jefferies

### **Quorum (need 4 voting members) yes**

**Guests:** Rod Cook- La Plata County Daniel Fulmer

1. Call to order Bill Szilva
2. Introduction of guests. Rod Cook- Oxeye Project; Young's canyon project; Weed Office discussion (handout of county weed management activities). Proposal for relocating to NRCS Office to better meet public service for the weed activity. Discussion on storage, office needs, staffing, vehicles. Ideas: incorporate weed board, LPCD to initiate discussions with county on how we can work together.
3. Approve Agenda: Terry Jefferies Motion to approve; Paul Gray 2<sup>nd</sup>. Agenda approved.
4. Review minutes [Action item] (5) Motion to accept minutes by Tom Hartnett; 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Gray; approved February minutes.
5. Public Comments and Communications: Daniel Fulmer- follow up on a suggestion from Laura (NRCS) at Soil Health Workshop on possibility for LPCD to acquire and rent out soil testing equipment. Board/NRCS to look into cost and what equipment could be included in a soils kit for rent to landowners.
6. LPCD Long Range Plan- Motion to approve as corrected by Bill Szilva; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Gray Long range plan approved and signed by supervisors present.
7. Treasurer's Report (5) total revenue \$3,823.79. Motion to accept by Gary Thrash; Paul Gray 2<sup>nd</sup> Report accepted and approved.
8. Old Business
- A. Supervisors Reports/Project Updates
  1. Bill Szilva –CDA Grant Approvals (10) Florida River Watershed Noxious Weed Control grant request approved by Colorado Department of Agriculture for \$12,500. Partnership with USFS, private land, La Plata County. All B listed species thistles, houndstongue. Our involvement is as a facilitator. Using veteran program through SWCC.

Tom and Bill attended Grant writing workshop. Emphasis on person with most knowledge to write grants. Tom met with woman on Garden project there. Tom: created two folders on One

Drive for grants: one for info from workshop; one for active grants. Need someone who tracks grants formally.

2. Gary: update on Soil Health workshop today. 40 attendees; 12 soil samples from here. Partnerships with AWP and Connecting for conservation to look to future opportunities.

CACD legislation tracking includes Bill on Federal water rights in Colorado. Gary Moyer in D.C for NACD flyin, meeting with legislative staff there. New NRCS State Conservationist, Clint Evans, was on CACD call. Emphasizing partnerships with conservation districts as a priority.

3. Cecilia Whitaker – Tree Sales (10) Tree selection workshop with CSFS held on March 11<sup>th</sup> with a follow up workshop on tree planting on 18<sup>th</sup>. Tree sales going well.
4. Paul Gray – LAPCO (5) No issues from LAPCO. Met with Jack Burk on plotmaster offer from Mancos CD. Motion to not make an offer to Mancos CD for their plotmaster by Cecilia Whitaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Terry Jefferies. Motion carried with one opposed.
5. Terry Jefferies – Movie “Resilient” sponsorship (5) Resilient screening attendance by Sterling and Terry- disappointed in lack of traditional ag producer attendance. Made donation to La Plata County youth fund. Covered by Durango Herald with mention of LPCD.
6. Dave Miller – Website N/A
7. Tom Hartnett – Pres. Report (20) Daughter updating LPCD brochures. Capacity building folder on One Drive. Gave presentation to manager meeting for Lake Nighthorse.  
Marketing- Fast Signs wants to do program on district. Tom working on material for display booth. Front page article on Durango Herald on dust work.  
Reviewed “Symphony of Soil”- we can buy copies in bulk.  
Suggest upgrading our PC to Windows 8.1  
Suggest \$80 to promote on face book.  
Suggest off site meeting in May?  
Checked into product called “Wood Straw”  
Grant workshop: encourage to go for a SARE grant for cover crops on dry land.

b. 2015 Annual Plan of Work – Time/Mileage Report (10) Reminders.

c. Calendar Review, Task List Review (5) Home and Ranch meeting April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## 1. **Partner Reports**

i. NRCS (10)

Clint Evans new state conservationist to be in Durango April 8<sup>th</sup>. See info on soil kit prices under new business.

ii. CSCB (15) Natalie has resigned. Moving to Frisco for husbands job change.

## 9. New Business

a. Response to Proposal Garden Project Southwest Colorado

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- b. Future Use of CSCB Grant Maximum \$25K or Mini Grants
- c. Audit Exemption: Tom reviewed questions on excel form. Motion that the board approve the completed and final application for exemption from audit as submitted was made by Bill Szilva 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Gray. Audit exemption resolution approved unanimously. **RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE FOR EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT** circulated for signatures. Tom will submit to State Auditor's office.
- d. Rod Cook Report - see above.
- e. CDOT Update: Safety funds available. Possible use on 141 for dust issue.
- f. LPCD acquisition of soil kit to loan/rent out. Sterling checked catalog on Soil kit prices: Penetrometer will cost \$240; Oakfield 19" soil probe \$59;
- g. Next Board Meeting – April 21, Chair: Gary Thrash
- h. Adjourn Motion by Terry 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul. Adjourned 8pm.

*Prepared by Gary Thrash*