

La Plata Conservation District (LPCD) Board Meeting Minutes

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

Time/Date: 5:00PM to 8:00PM; April 21, 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

1. **Call to order**, Gary Thrash- presiding.
2. **Introduction of guests:** Steve Phillips;
3. **Approve Agenda:** Added discussion on Home and Ranch show schedule
4. **Review minutes** [Action item] Approved.
5. **Public Comments and Communications**
 - a. Steve Phillips- update/recommendation on scholarship. Only 3 applications; Steve's recommendation: Sarah Lawton- Animas High School, lettered volleyball, swimming and diving, going to Colorado college Environmental Science major- motion by Terry, 2nd by Dave. Unanimous. Steve will send a letter to all candidates on LPCD letterhead and get photo and bio for Sarah.
6. **Treasurer's Report**

\$40,452.06 in bank. Will post reports on One Drive.

Check signature question from Tom- Dave, Paul, and who else? Dave will check -need to add others; Board to research issue of detaboring.
7. **Old Business**
 - a. **Supervisors Reports/Project Updates**
 - i. Bill Szilva – On grant reporting to CSCB; CDA Grant- Florida will begin spraying in 3 weeks. Thanks to Terry for recommendation on biomass feasibility study- looking at matching USDA grant for study. Tom- update on oxeye daisy grant-
 - ii. Gary Thrash -Watershed, CACD
 1. Season extending workshop at Old Fort. Dolores CD sells materials for high tunnels; proposal by Adobe House Farm for bulk buying of ¼ mile length bed covering material (caterpillar tunnels)- might be something LPCD could sell.
 2. Judy Garrigues- Dolores/High Desert Conservation Area wants to be kept abreast of our efforts with the weed program.
 3. May 7th webinar with Colorado Water Congress on “Rainwater Harvesting in Colorado”. \$30 registration fee; 12-1 pm webinar.

4. Annual meeting for CACD will be in Park Hyatt Beaver Creek; Beaver Creek, Colo 11/15-19. Start thinking about resolutions; conservationist of the year nominations, etc.
5. La Plata County Comprehensive Plan update: should we be engaged. 1st Thursday of each month. April was for agriculture. PROJECT # 2015-0010, 2001
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

- iii. Cecilia Whitaker – tree sales; # of sales where we have adjustments for taxes or refund for something not available. Total 7100+ trees sold; \$13239.15+- in sales.
Delivery tomorrow, pickup this week. Tom Campion and Paul Gray to hand out 450 trees to schools this year starting Thursday.
- iv. Paul Gray – LAPCO n/a. Trees- helping Tom Campion in giving trees to 4th graders. Trees will be tagged with LPCD/Durango Nursery Supply logos. Sharron Orr available to help. Tom passed appreciation from John Taylor for Paul’s help with La Co
- v. Terry Jefferies- Thanks from La Plata County Youth Agriculture for our support in screening of video “Resilient”.
- vi. Dave Miller – Website- tree order form shut down.
 1. Suggestion to put weed grant on home page.
 2. Home and Ranch show discussion: Dave to send out email on schedule.
- vii. Tom Hartnett – President Report
 1. Documentation and continuing build out of OneDrive
 - a. Operations Manual. Overview of what is in manual. On OneDrive under Administration Folder.
 - b. Dewitt weed barrier cost sheet
 - c. Home and Ranch Show handouts
 2. Grant related discussion
 - a. Garden Project grant discussion- motion by Bill for garden project to write grant proposal for 20K for 2016, 2nd Terry; complete by next board meeting- passed.
 3. Recruitment/Volunteer Activities
 4. Outreach- Dust meetings.
 5. Marketing- Booth work- posters to be laminated Tom getting stuff ready for show.
 6. Misc.
 - a. Reminder for getting supervisor certification through CSCB.

8. **2015 Annual Plan of Work – Time/Mileage Report-** Reminder.

9. **Calendar Review, Task List Review**

- a. May 7 “Rainwater use in Colorado “- Colorado Water Congress webinar.
- b. May 19- burning certification.
- c. May 6th- Annual Children’s water festival

10. **Partner Reports**

- i. NRCS. Sterling Moss
Not much dust this year on La Plata. EQUIP applications turned in last Friday \$1.5M for irrigation, 80k for forestry, Should know in next week or two what can be covered.
Snowpack very low 30-40 % of average.

Sterling will order soil compaction and soil sampler (sp) approximately \$400 Motion by Bill,
2nd by Paul passed. Sterling to get description written on use.

Additional 10 soil samples from landowners processed thru Soil Health partnership.

Trees- NRCS folks available to help unload.

ii. CSCB : N/A

11. New Business

a. Future Use of CSCB Grant Maximum \$25K or Mini Grant- see *Garden project above*.

12. Executive Session

a. Weed Office proposal- need to pursue discussions with county on our involvement in weed program
Tom,

13. Next Board Meeting – May 19, 2015. Chair: Cecilia Whitaker

14. Adjourned 8 p.m.

Prepared by Gary Thrash