



MOTIVATING LANDOWNERS TO PURSUE, COMMIT, AND DELIVER ON-THE-GROUND CONSERVATION PRACTICES

MIDDLE PARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO BOX 265 106 S. 2ND ST.

KREMMLING, CO 80459

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Meeting Minutes: January 7, 2014

The January Meeting for the MPCD Board of Supervisors was Called to Order at 6:10pm by acting president, Dave Abbott. Other members present were Deb Wood (treasurer), Justin Fosha (member), Jay Yust (member) and John Longhill (secretary, on the phone). Mark Volt (NRCS), Katlin Miller (district manager), Travis Hoesli (CSU Extension), and Paul Cada (Colorado State Forest Service) were also present.

The December Minutes were approved as read.

Paul from the Colorado State Forest Service showed up to discuss CSFS happenings. They are planning two different workshops for this spring; one on Regeneration Survey and Management, and the other on Best Management Practices (Water Quality). Paul invited MPCD to work with them on these workshops. The idea of writing a Press Release on the agencies in Middle Park that work for private landowners (aka CSFS & MPCD). **Katlin, Ron, and Paul will work on that press release together.**

Under Reports, Deb reported on the Big Lake Ditch Meeting that was held in mid-December. She did not have a lot of info to report but said that it may affect irrigation because less water may be present in the Big Lake Ditch.

Moving on, Katlin presented her timesheet and DM report to the group. She worked 97 hours in December on the Budget, Annual Plan of Work, Newsletter, and Soil Tent. For the year 2013, Katlin worked a total of 840 hours and received a net pay of \$9180.36 (gross pay of \$11,760). **Dave suggested that it is time for a DM Review and will send all board members an evaluation form to fill out on Katlin's performance. Mark, Dave, and Katlin will then meet to discuss her performance.**

Under the Financial Report, Katlin reported that we currently have \$115,416.42 on hand in our checking and Colotrust accounts. This compares to \$112,602.16 on this date in 2012. Katlin also presented the final Budget vs Actual Reports for 2013 and so far in 2014. The report shows a positive value of \$2433.28 for 2013 and a minus \$1210 so far in 2014. Checks written this month include for Electronic Funds Transfers for tax payments (Federal Income, State Income, Unemployment, and Sales Tax). In addition Katlin was paid \$1064.11 for December Wages, and a check to Littletree Inn was written to cover Aaron Clay's hotel. Katlin also made several deposits this month for water law attendees, seed and trees.

Under Old Business, Katlin reminded the board that a Weed Board Meeting has been scheduled for January 13, 2014, at 1pm at the Grand County BOCC meeting room. Katlin invited all the town managers, USFS, CSFS, BLM, DOW, Extension, and RMNP. Lisa Taylor from Summit is also planning to attend. All MPCD board members were encouraged to attend.



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Katlin also updated the board on the Water Law Workshop to be held next week Friday, January 17th. She has 42 verbal commitments and 19 checks in hand. After December's Meeting, Katlin contacted the Colorado River Water Conservancy District for support of the workshop and received \$200 in the mail. Katlin is planning to do subway sandwiches for lunch and Midtown Café bakery goods for breakfast. Katlin also reserved a room for Aaron Clay at the Littletree Inn for \$85.

In the Winter 2013-2014 Newsletter Katlin sent out in later December Katlin included an article on the Annual Dinner; however, she has yet to receive any registration form back in the mail.

Also under Old Business, Katlin brought up some subjects that had been tabled until now, including Tire Tanks, Soil Tent Reimbursement, and the Website Host. **Deb moved to amend the 2014 Budget to include \$10,000 for tire tanks and \$2,000 for a contingency line item. It was seconded by Justin and the motion passed.** Deb then moved to reimburse the soil tent purchase under the 2013 Budget because it was purchased in October 2013. Jay seconded it and the motion passed. *Katlin discussed the possibility of changing web hosts, but the Board mutually agreed that it was not worth it and that we should stay with John Longhill's web hosting service.*

Under New Business, Katlin proposed to the board that we look into cooperating more with the North Park Conservation District. We have similar interests and concerns. Ideas for such cooperation could include newsletters, workshops, seed and tree orders. Katlin said that she could work with Rachel from NPCD to figure out the best means of cooperation. **The Board collectively agreed that Katlin should work with NPCD if at all possible.**

Also under New Business, Katlin asked the board to consider changing her title from District Manager to Executive Director. She recently came across so sample job descriptions for Executive Directors and realized that they were EXACTLY what she does. Katlin also suggested that Executive Director looks better for both the individual and the district. **After some discussion, John moved and Deb seconded to change the District Manager's title from District Manager to Executive Director. Motion passed.**

Next up, Katlin told the board that she and Dave had to forfeit the Safety Deposit Box a few weeks ago. In an attempt to remove Bonnie as a signer, it was discovered that the key was missing. Instead of charging us \$400 for drilling it, the Bank offered us a plea deal of Forfeiting the Box at no charge. Katlin proposed keeping the external hard drive at her house to reduce the risk of fire burning up everything; however, **the Board also suggested we also look into storing out stuff in the "Cloud". Katlin will look into it.**

Because 2014 is an election year for Dave and Justin, **Justin moved and Jay seconded to pass Resolutions to hold Elections and appoint Katlin as the Election Officer. Motion Passed.** Deb and Dave signed the resolutions.



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Additionally, under New Business, Katlin brought up the Conservationist of the Year Award. Katlin has not received any nomination forms yet; however, Mark suggested we think about Pinto Valley Ranch. They have done a lot of sage grouse work, irrigation work, and spring developments. **Deb moved to nominated Pinto Valley as the Conservationist of the Year with Battle Creek as a second choice should Pinto decline the nomination. Justin seconded it and the motion passed.**

Lastly, under New Business, Katlin told the board that she received notification from CACD that they intend to do a District Outreach Program this year to ad districts in inter-office relationships and provide additional resources to districts. After much discussion, it was agreed that other districts could use the assistance of this program more than us. **Accordingly, Deb moved that we do not apply for the District Outreach Program and provide other districts the opportunity to apply instead. Jay seconded and the motion passed.**

Under NRCS Reports, Mark mentioned that the NRCS EQIP Deadline for projects is January 17th. He has four landowners interested so far. Mark also updated the Board on the snow course surveys. He said that all snow courses are moving forward this year. Finally, Mark mentioned to the board that we are still hoping to do the Aerial Seeding Project this year. He intends to work with Katlin in the next few weeks to finalize projected costs.

Lastly, under Closing Roundtable Justin mentioned that he spoke with his uncle George from Blue Valley Ranch to get it in the contract for the Highway 9 overpass project to have MPCD provide the seed. George said he would work on it.

Travis also mentioned in the Closing Roundtable that CSU Extension is partnering more closely with CSU Research and that funding may come available in the future to help with conservation projects, such as the Aerial Clover Seeding Monitoring.

Dave reminded everyone prior to adjournment that the MPCD Board is the primary entity of the Grand County Weed Board, so Board Members should attend if at all possible.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at 6pm at the MPCD/NRCS Office.