



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

MIDDLE PARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO BOX 265 106 S. 2<sup>ND</sup> ST.

KREMMLING, CO 80459

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## Minutes

### Monthly Meeting of the MPCD Board of Directors 106 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Kremmling, CO 80459

July 2, 2015

The July 2015 meeting of the MPCD Board of Supervisors was called to order by President Deb Wood at 7:45pm. Other attendees included Jay Yust; Vice President; Justin Fosha, Treasurer; Katlin Miller, Executive Director; Mark Volt, NRCS; Paul Bruchez; and Matt Schiltz, CSFS.

First Up, Paul Bruchez spoke about a RCPP proposal on the ILVK Upper Colorado River Irrigation and Restoration Assessment. The assessment is looking to help 12 landowners along the Colorado River outside Kremmling to resolve issues including failing diversion structures, loss of agricultural infrastructure and land due to stream bank erosion, and loss of aquatic habitat. The group of landowners is applying for a multi-million dollar grant under NRCS' Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and is looking for local support from various entities, including the Middle Park Conservation District. After much discussion, **Justin Fosha moved and Jay Yust seconded to support the RCPP pre-proposal citing that it fits in with our Water Conservation Resource Concern in our APW and LRP. Motion Passed.** After further discussion, **Jay Yust moved to approve a \$100 guaranteed monetary contribution to the proposal, with the possibility of an additional \$4000 of in-kind assistance for Outreach and Education, Conservation Practices, and Administrative Costs. Justin Fosha seconded the motion and the Motion Passed.**

Next up, Matt Schiltz of the Granby CSFS Office reported that his office is dealing with lots of forest insect and disease problems currently, such as Large Aspen Tortrix, Spruce Beetle, and Pine Needle Scale. CSFS is thinking of hosting an Insect ID Workshop this summer and asked the MPCD to partner with them on it. **The Board unanimously said YES.** Additionally, Matt reported the timber markets are doing well in Grand County, and his office is considering doing a Living Snow Fence on SLB property near Granby this fall.

Under District Reports, Katlin presented the financials from May to June. There were no questions. However, **the Board unanimously approved an Ad to run in the Sky-Hi News and Summit Daily on Seed and Tree Sales. They further asked Katlin to see if we can get a free article in the Grand Gazette.**

Under Old Business, Katlin reported that she submitted the 2016 Matching Grant Application to CSCB in June with funding being applied to Irrigation Improvement. She reported that according to the online survey submitted in May to our constituents, Irrigation Cost-Share was by far the number one priority for landowners.



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Katlin then moved on to report that she looked up prices for QuickBooks and Credit Card Machines as requested by the Board during the May meeting. The 2015 QuickBooks Desktop Upgrade will cost \$199.99. This upgrade was initially suggested by our accountant, Tim Day, during the Exemption from Audit Review. The credit card usage fee for QuickBooks is 3.5% +\$0.25 per transaction. For Paypal, the fee is 2.9% + \$0.30 per transaction. If we were to get an actual in-store machine, there would be an additional monthly fee and a PCI Compliance fee of \$99 per year. Knowing all of this, **Justin Fosha motioned and Jay Yust seconded to purchase the QuickBooks Upgrade but hold off on Credit Card purchases for now. Motion Passed.**

Katlin moved on to discuss the price of Facebook advertising that was tabled from May. Katlin reported that we can do any price that we like. You tell Facebook how much you want to spend (i.e. \$5 per day or a lump sum of \$50) and then Facebook advertising your business according to the budget. However, Katlin suggested to the board that we wait to publicize our Facebook page until she has more on the page and makes it look a little better. **As such, a decision of Facebook advertising was tabled.**

Also under Old Business, Katlin reminded the Board that Hay Day is at the Grizzly Ranch south of Walden next week Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. She encouraged board members to attend if at all possible.

Lastly under Old Business, Katlin and Mark both spoke about the 2015 Irrigation Cost-Share Program. Two projects, Skylark Cattle Company and Drowsy Water Ranch, have completed their projects and have been inspected by Mark. Katlin presented the final contracts and figures to the Board for each project. Drowsy Water Ranch's cost-share reimbursement for the District's share of the materials is \$1064.46. Skylark Cattle Company's cost-share reimbursement is \$2487.00. **Jay Yust moved and Deb Wood seconded to approve these projects and write checks to the landowners for their reimbursements. Motion Passed.** *Note: Justin Fosha elected to abstain from the discussion and vote due to Conflict of Interest.* Katlin told the board that she would write checks to these individuals but would not be submitting reimbursement requested to Tammra of CSCB until all other projects were done in the fall. Mark then spoke more about the other projects he has visited; however, all other projects are waiting until after haying season to complete their projects.

Under New Business, **Jay Yust moved and Justin Fosha seconded to give the Leadership with Horses Program of Swan Center Outreach a \$125 Scholarship as per the 2015 MPCD Budget. Motion Passed.**

The Board then discussed having a Booth at the MPFR. Katlin suggested we ask the CSFS and the Grand County Wildfire Council to partner with us on a one-day Educational Booth about Wildfire Risk and Fire



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Mitigation. **The Board liked the idea and asked Katlin to ask the entities if they would do that with us on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Justin also asked Katlin to see if we can get the booth for free but Justin and Deb moved and seconded to approve the \$35 Vendor Fee if needed. Motion Passed.** Katlin told the board she would email them with more info on a schedule for the day later on this month.

Next up, Katlin reported that she has been working with Ben Pleimann of Summit Weed Department and Dan Schroeder of CSU Extension on another Weed Workshop in Frisco. The workshop will be similar to the one held last year but instead focus on smaller acreage property owners and town folk. Also new this year, Summit County will be buying seed from the District to give to landowners in exchange for a bag of noxious weeds pulled from their property. The mix will be our short mix with a touch of wildflower seed. The workshop will be held on July 17<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 at the Summit Senior Center in Frisco. The cost is \$10 per person and lunch will be provided.

A recent initiative by NRCS, CACD, and CSCB is to have Conservation Districts host Local Working Group Meetings in their areas of service. These meetings are meant to provide landowners with an opportunity to express their opinions on the direction that NRCS should take in meeting landowner needs and priorities. After some discussion, the **Board mutually agreed that the recent survey sent out to constituents in May regarding cost-share funding sufficed as landowner input on needs and desires.** Similar public surveys performed by the District in past years have come back with comparable results to the latest survey. **Thus, the Board asked Katlin to report back to CSCB, NRCS, and CACD with the results of our survey as a representative view of local needs in Middle Park.**

Next up, Katlin told the Board that it was that time of year to hold Officer Elections once again. Technically, they should have been held in June, but we did not have a meeting last month. **Jay Yust moved and Justin Fosha seconded to forego elections this year and retain their same officer positions. Motion Passed.**

Lastly under New Business, Katlin reported that the NACD is offering their education materials at 60-75% through September. She told the board she has hopes of going into the schools but currently does not have curriculum to teach from. At a rate of \$4.40 per pack of 25, she felt it was a steal of a deal. The Board agreed. **Justin Fosha moved and Deb Wood seconded to purchase up to 2 packs each for Grade 4-5 and Grade 6+. Motion Passed.**



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## **Minutes**

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*July 2, 2015*

Finally, Mark Volt, NRCS DC, reported that he has been working tediously on the MPCD Irrigation Cost-Share Program and his 4 EQIP Contracts. He also reported that Donn Slusher, the new SGI Biologist, is settling into the office nicely.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm** at the MPCD/NRCS Office.