



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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### Meeting Minutes: December 10, 2013

The December 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), and John Longhill (secretary, on the phone). James Thorneycroft and Katlin Miller (district manager) were also present. Ron Cousineau also called in for a brief period of time to discuss the Timber Meeting.

**The November Minutes were approved as read following a motion and second from Deb Wood and Justin Fosha, respectively.**

Under Reports, Dave presented a summary of the 2013 Annual CACD meeting (see attached). He highlighted the passing of the resolution sponsored by the MPCD, stating that the vote was unanimously in favor our standpoint of federal land management. Dave also discussed the fiduciary responsibility of conservation districts to represent landowners on the federal level to federal land agencies, such as the BLM and USFS. Apparently, as a publically elected board, Conservation Districts can act as Cooperating Agencies that demand a response to resource concerns. Dave said that federal land agencies do not have to respond to letters or requests from individuals, but they do have to respond to letters written by our board. Dave suggested that we, as the Middle Park Conservation District, create more partnerships and get more actively involved in resource issues concerning our landowners. **Deb moved and Justin seconded that we, as a board, request cooperative agency status from BLM, USFS, & NPS. Motion passed.** Katlin will draft letters to them to present at the January meeting. **Katlin will also pursue a partnership with the Colorado River Conservancy District on the upcoming Water Law Class.**

Moving on, Katlin presented her timesheet and DM report to the group. She worked 31 hours in November on cost-share wrap up and meeting prep/follow-up. Her wages were \$289.80 for the month of November.

Lastly under reports, Ron Cousineau spoke over the phone to the group about the Timber Meeting that was held on Monday, December 9, 2013, at the Grand County BOCC meeting room. The meeting was a forum for the timber industry in Grand County to express concern to the BOCC and USFS about the timber management of local forests. They expressed concern that there is a lot of standing dead timber and that the USFS is not actively managing it or providing enough opportunities for timber sales. The USFS provided lots of numbers but no clear resolution came out of the meeting. We will have to wait and see if the USFS comes back with clearer goals and objectives for timber management or answers to some of the unanswered questions. Katlin has been added to the "interested parties" list and will provide more information as updates come along.

Under New & Old Business, Katlin mentioned that a Weed Board Meeting has been scheduled for January 13, 2014, at 1pm at the Grand County BOCC meeting room. Invitations to the local stakeholders (BLM, USFS, CSFS, towns) will go out shortly. Katlin also presented an email from Travis Hoesli (Grand County Cooperative Extension) on an herbicide applicators class and testing opportunities. The email



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said that the cost would be \$20 for the booklet and test. **The board agreed that a one-day Saturday class would be a good idea. They supported the idea of \$20 charge + a little extra to cover the cost of lunch for a full-day event.**

Katlin reminded the board of our Water Law in a Nutshell Workshop that has been scheduled for January 17, 2014, and asked the board to assist her in hanging up flyers.

Katlin also notified the Board that she had received notification that the Summit Foundation decided not to fund our grant request for \$3500 to go towards workshops and educational materials. The Grand County BOCC also denied our request for funding but agreed to pay us for Subdivision Reviews should they come up.

Under the 2013 Budget, Katlin presented her Financial Report for the month of November. We currently have \$113,506.42 in total assets, compared to \$112,866 at this time last year. Income for the month came mostly in the form of advertisements for 2014, a few seed sales, and tree sales. CSCB also direct deposited roughly \$18,000 for 2013 Irrigation Cost-Share Reimbursements. We also had \$300 in income for the January Water Law Class. Checks for the month were written to Katlin for November pay and reimbursement of postage, Renewal of Sales Tax License, Workman's Comp Insurance, and Weld Labs for resubmittal if hay analyses. **Deb also moved and Justin seconded to reimburse Dave in the amount of \$445 to cover some of the costs of the CACD Annual Meeting. Motion passed.** \$445 for the CACD meeting and \$55 from the training Katlin attended earlier this summer add up to the 2013 budgeted amount of \$500 for "meeting expenses".

Under 2014 Budget, Katlin brought up an opportunity to reduce website costs by half or more by going with a different website host, but no decisions were made. Katlin also presented the Board with a revised budget for 2014. **After some discussion, Deb moved and Justin seconded to approve the budget as read. Motion passed.** See attached. This budget does not include contributions to D&O Insurance, Dues, Mileage, or Meeting Expenses. A future mill levy was also discussed but no decision was made. **Justin also moved to put a "Voluntary Membership" on the Annual Dinner form to generate more income. Deb seconded, and the motion passed.**

Katlin brought to the board the idea of the "Conservationist of the Year" Vide Game as a valuable educational tool. Cost is \$10 per game and she believes 25 would be sufficient for now to get into the classrooms. **Due to Budget Constraints, the Board decided not to purchase them right now but maybe later.**

Also under New Business, Katlin gave an update that we have secured \$24,000 for the aerial seeding project out of a total \$37,000. Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory has committed to \$4,000, Colorado Parks & Wildlife to \$5,000, US Fish & Wildlife Service to \$5,000, and MP Habitat Partnership Program to



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\$10,000. We are still waiting for Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Mule Deer Foundation to respond to our grant requests.

Additionally, Katlin told the board that she had spoken to a lady from the Continental Divide Land Trust about a presentation they are putting on regarding the Colorado River and its Tributaries. The presentation will be held in Silverthorne on February 20<sup>th</sup>. **The Board mutually agreed to support the event via publication on our website and in our newsletter but not financially at this time due to lack of budgetary funds.**

Lastly, under New Business, Katlin asked the Board what they wanted to do with regard to the Annual Plan of Work and Workshops. The funding from Summit Foundation did not come through, so **the board mutually agreed to only budget for one water law class, one forestry workshop, one weed workshop, and one small acreage workshop on the 2014 Annual Plan of Work. The Range workshop will be cut from the 2014 Annual Plan due to the presumed lack of interest.**

Finally, Deb notified the board of a meeting on December 16<sup>th</sup> for the Big Lake Ditch. She is planning to attend and will report on it at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

**Next meeting is Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 6pm at the MPCD/NRCS Office.**

**CACD ANNUAL MTG. REPORT**

Following is a brief report from the CACD Annual meeting, I can give a longer verbal report at our next meeting, if you are interested. There is a lot going on regulation and legislative wise that may have some affect on our local producers and landowners.

**CSCB – Cindy Lair**

Prepare for disasters in advance

Find new partners now! Have several suggestions. i.e. Colorado River Conservation District

**NRCS – Phyllis Phillips**

Budget cut – some positions not filled

Flood - \$50 mil – 60% for irrigation

Snow program – No Closings now

Retiring

**SOIL HEALTH – Ray Archuleta**

Many ideas on soil health, cover crops, diversity and carbon sequestration

**WATER RIGHTS – Judge Gregory Hobbs**

1-1/2 hr. review of Colorado water history, Colo. Foundation for Water education, 1<sup>st</sup>. act of Colo. Territory was to establish water rights (water for public use beneficial). Ditch is a property right, even across federal lands. We may be interested in "Colorado Foundation For Water Education".

**FOREST HEALTH – Clinton Georg - (Sawmill in Saratoga, Wyoming)**

Beetles indicate lack of forest health and mismanagement (not harvesting)

Forests are mostly same age, need to be harvested to allow regrowth (lodgepole mature at 150 yrs. And need to be harvested). The change in management over the past decade has resulted in a loss of jobs in logging, loss of sawmills loss of market and higher prices for imported building materials

USFS is spending much more money of fighting forest fires than on logging and management. Logging would be an income source while fire fighting is a money loss. Fire fighting has increased about 10 fold in the last ten yrs. As a result of mismanagement in the previous 30 yrs.

Additionally, new growing forests is a carbon sink, while old mature forests don't store carbon.

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT FIDUCIARY Karen Budd-Falen (Wyoming lawyer)**

Long presentation on Federal Control vs. Local control – WE are the local government and BLM, USFS, EPA etc. are required (by law) to listen to us on any regulations or regulation changes that they are considering that would affect local producers or land owners. They are also required to respond to us on any all of our comments. We should consider becoming a cooperating agency for BLM, USFS, and

maybe even US Corps of Engineers to protect local producers and landowner in the areas of water, range use and forestry (esp. fire protection).

**NEPA!!!!!!!!!!!!**

I have several booklets and materials that you may be interested in reviewing and will be getting more.

#### **CACD BUSINESS MEETING AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The resolution that we presented, as emergency resolution, was passed Unamiously!!!!

Most of the resolutions you expressed positions on were passed as you wished. I will provide a copy of all so you can add them to your copy of CACD Policy Manual.

Legislation lobbyist reported that had real success in Colorado legislature maintaining funding through CACB (Dept. of Agr.) as well as NACD support on conservation parts of the Farm Bill. NACD is already supporting CACD positions on fighting federal positions on conservation and forestry. We are getting support from Colorado legislators.

## Middle Park Conservation District Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison January through December 2013

14

	Jan - Dec 11	Jan - Dec 12	Jan - Aug 13	Budget 2013	2014-12.09.13
<b>Income</b>					
Accounting Error--Income	1,000.00	0.00	3.09		
Advertising Inc. newsletter/web	840.00	895.00	880.00	1,200.00	1,600.00
Annual Dinner Income	2,068.00	120.00	494.00	120.00	2,250.00
Cost-Share In			1,547.87	25,000.00	
Direct Assistance	4,477.31	4,965.90	3,829.56	5,000.00	4,000.00
Dividend Income	45.00	36.00			
Equipment Sales	0.00	851.00	0.00		
Gift Received	499.00	0.00	0.00		
Grants Received	5,000.00	0.00	0.00		
Hay Analysis Income	120.00	0.00		200.00	300.00
Hay Day Income	775.00	0.00			
Interest Income	53.02	45.22	19.55		30.00
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>					
Seedling Survival Supplies Inc.	36.00	3.00	58.53	25.00	
Seep Collars Income	200.00	100.00	0.00	300.00	
Misc			9,061.72		
<b>Total Miscellaneous Income</b>	<b>236.00</b>	<b>103.00</b>	<b>9,120.25</b>	<b>325.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
PAM Income	1,080.00	1,520.00	945.11	760.00	840.00
Seed Sales Income	33,494.80	55,360.40	37,224.14	35,000.00	44,500.00
Soil Analysis Income					85.00
Subdivision Review Income	200.00	441.24	375.00		
Tax Refund	0.00	-38.00	0.00		
Tire Stock Tank Sales	0.00	1,250.00	4,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Tree Sales Income	33,956.66	106,759.34	8,106.68	15,000.00	10,000.00
Workshops Income			2,700.00		2,600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>83,844.79</b>	<b>172,309.10</b>	<b>69,245.25</b>	<b>84,105.00</b>	<b>67,705.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
Accounting & Prof. Services	0.00	300.00	300.00	50.00	300.00
Accounting Error--Expense	0.00	-0.10	0.00		
Advertising Exp & Subscriptions	175.55	121.59	519.52		50.00
Annual Dinner Expense	2,152.00	457.50	722.00	500.00	2,450.00
Checking Account/Bank Charge			105.88		
Cost-Share Out			1,547.87	22,500.00	
Dues	585.00	325.00	1,325.00	1,550.00	
Education	30.00	35.00	129.47	100.00	250.00
Elections	0.00	70.00	0.00		70.00
Gifts Given			30.85		30.00
Hay Analysis Expense	148.00	0.00		150.00	225.00
Hay Day Expenses	971.15	0.00	100.00	100.00	
<b>Insurance</b>					
Liability Insurance			991.63	1,200.00	0.00
Unemployment Insurance	88.35	38.29	32.86	100.00	60.00

**Middle Park Conservation District**  
**Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison**  
**January through December 2013**

14

	Jan - Dec 11	Jan - Dec 12	Jan - Aug 13	Budget 2013	2014-12.09.13
Workman's Comp Insurance	245.18	297.62		250.00	300.00
Meeting Expenses (CACD, etc)	656.85	478.50	0.00	500.00	
Mileage	2,042.00	1,143.85	712.00	1,000.00	
Miscellaneous Expense			9,061.72		
newsletters	587.19	618.40	0.00		
Office Supplies	582.58	1,374.08	503.92		
PAM Expense	0.00	2,150.00	225.00		375.00
Petty Cash Withdrawal	70.60	73.00	0.00	30.00	
Printing and Reproduction	26.00	62.20	30.85	60.00	
Seed Purchase	19,695.40	50,730.51	28,669.35	21,700.00	33,500.00
Small Acreage Weed Cost-Share				1,000.00	
Seed Sale Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Soil Analysis Expense					65.00
Seedling Survival Supplies Exp.	0.00	-3.00	0.00		
Tax, Payroll					
Fed	3,237.81	3,221.29	3,250.25	3,300.00	3,400.00
State	540.00	540.00	495.00	540.00	600.00
<b>Total Tax, Payroll</b>	<b>3,777.81</b>	<b>3,761.29</b>	<b>3,745.25</b>	<b>3,840.00</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
Tax, Sales	3,950.00	6,337.00	1,081.46	3,500.00	3,000.00
Tire Stock Tank Purchase	0.00	5,000.00	0.00		
Tree Refund	38.77	103.90	312.20		
Tree Seedling Purchase	26,418.45	70,393.15	7,290.74	11,250.00	8,000.00
Wages, District Manager	15,507.92	15,357.29	12,027.76	15,000.00	11,400.00
Website	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Workshops Expense			2,634.59		2,100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>77,948.80</b>	<b>159,325.07</b>	<b>72,199.92</b>	<b>84,480.00</b>	<b>66,275.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>5,895.99</b>	<b>12,984.03</b>	<b>-2,954.67</b>	<b>-375.00</b>	<b>1,430.00</b>