



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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Minutes

Monthly Meeting of the MPCD Board of Supervisors 106 S. 2nd St, Kremmling, CO 80459

December 12, 2017

The December 2017 Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by President Deb Wood at 12:15pm. Other attendees included Jay Yust, Vice President; Justin Fosha, Treasurer; John Longhill, Member; Brien Rose, Member; Katlin Miller, Executive Director; Mark Volt, DCT; Ron Cousineau, CSFS District Forester; Derrick Wyle, Acting DC Kremmling Office; and Stephen Jaouen, DC Glenwood Springs.

First up, Deb asked for a motion to approve both the October 2017 minutes. **Justin moved and Jay seconded to approve the October minutes. Motion passed.**

Katlin next asked all members to update their Board Member Activity Sheets for miles and hours spent on district activities. She told the group that this will be the final opportunity to update the sheets for this year, so all board members should update their sheets with everything they have done this year.

Under Guest Reports, Ron reported on the CSFS Agency Restructure. The agency is doing away with the Districts and going to an Area approach. Ron has applied for and has been offered the Area Forester position. He said that the public should notice no difference in the Granby office and that the services should remain the same. That being said, the Granby office will be short one forester, and Ryan will be our new District representative. Additionally, the Granby CSFS office is currently working on two fuels reduction projects near Grand Lake, the BLM and USFS Good Neighbor agreements, and a Forests to Faucets 2 project with Denver Water.

Moving on to NRCS, Stephen and Derrick reported that Derrick will be on a 4-month detail as Acting DC. He plans to be in the Kremmling office an average of 2 days a week. EQIP and TCP applications are due by this Friday (December 15th), RCPP applications are due on January 9th. The 2019 TCP applications currently have a January 5th deadline, but that deadline might get extended. **Justin made a motion for the District to submit two different TCP applications: one for the High Mountain Flood Irrigation and another for Middle Park Forest Health. Jay seconded the motion. Motion passed.** Ron agreed to assist with the Forest Health TCP program.

Also under the NRCS Report, Stephen reported that the number of fulltime NRCS employees in the State of Colorado has dropped from 340 to 209 over the last 10 years. The NRCS National Office is also pushing for there to no longer be any one-man field offices. Thus, they are looking to possible combine offices (especially in Northwest Colorado). Because Kremmling and Walden are both one-man offices, there is a good chance they could be combined. There is also a possibility that that one office could serve all of Routt, Jackson, Grand, and Summit. Headquarters is still deciding what to do, but it looks like a merger of offices is very likely.



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Under MPCD Reports, Katlin said that she will go over the financials when we discuss the 2018 Budget. Mark reported that we were approved for the 2018 DCT program. As such, he will continue to work throughout the winter. He will mostly be working on planning for the various EQIP, TCP, and RCPP signups. He will also continue doing manual snow surveys at Gore Pass and Corral Creek. Northern Water has picked up the Granby sites, so Mark will not be doing them. Nevertheless, he will continue writing the monthly snow reports for the newspapers.

Moving on to Old Business, Katlin reported that she got in touch with Vanessa Villalobos at Triple V Designs. Vanessa provided quotes for both decals and metal signs. The decals are going to be very difficult and laborious to install, so Katlin recommended that we go with the metal signs instead. The metal signs are \$39 each for a 39" x 9" sign. **Brien moved to purchase 2 metal signs that say "You are in" on them. Justin seconded. Motion passed.** Once we see how the first two signs come out, we will discuss getting more signs.

Regarding the discussion at the last meeting about Board Meeting dates. Katlin looked at our bylaws, and they do say that we must meet once a month. If we do not meet monthly, we are out of compliance with our bylaws. The board discussed the fact that we do not typically have enough business to justify monthly meetings; thus, they decided we should try for a bylaws change. Katlin explained that a Bylaws change may only occur if we first get 50 people to sign a petition for a bylaws change. Once we get that, we must place a legal ad in the newspaper of each county that states the proposed change. Those ads must run once at least 2 weeks prior to the board meeting in which the bylaws change will occur. At the meeting, a majority vote of everyone present is required for the change to be approved. **Justin moved that the proposed bylaws change read "The Board of Supervisors will hold at least four (4) Board Meetings a year." Jay seconded. Motion passed.** Katlin will write up the proposed bylaws change and make some petitions for the group to get signed.

Moving onto the Annual Dinner, Katlin said that the decisions on the food had been made via the online survey she sent out to the MPCD and MSPG board members. We will be having the Roast Beef and Kahlua Pork, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Oven Roasted Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert for \$34. We still have not figured out the alcohol though. **The Board suggested to Katlin that she try to find someone who will do a cash bar. If she cannot find someone to do a cash bar, the Board said that we should not do alcohol at all.** Katlin agreed to look for someone to do a cash bar.

Next up, Katlin confirmed that the MMA Account that we had at Bank of the West had been transferred to our Colotrust Account (per the decision made at the October meeting). In speaking with the folks at Colotrust, she found out that there is a higher interest account that we can switch to if we wish. Though it technically has a higher risk associated with it due to the portfolio it is invested in, the folks at Colotrust said that they have never lost money with that account in all the years they have had it. They also said that most of their clients



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are invested in the Higher Interest account. Katlin encouraged the board to consider switching to the higher interest rate account. Katlin also told the Board that she had been advised by the bank tellers at Bank of the West that it would be wise to transfer some funds from our Checking Account into some kind of investment account. The tellers said that maintaining over \$70,000+ in a checking account is not recommended. As such, Katlin looked back at our bank records and agreed that we could reduce our account to \$50,000 and still be okay. Furthermore, we can always transfer funds from Colotrast to Bank of the West whenever we need to. Accordingly, **Jay moved to change our account from the lower interest account to the higher interest account and to also reduce our bank account to \$50,000 by transferring the balance in excess of \$50,000 to our Colotrast account. Justin seconded. Motion passed.**

Also under Old Business, Katlin asked the group whether they wished to have a plaque made in honor of Dave Abbott for the Annual Dinner. **The Board mutually agreed that we should get a plaque.**

Finally, under Old Business, the Board reviewed the completed Annual Plan of Work for 2017, the Proposed 2018 Annual Plan of Work, and the 2018 Budget. The Board went line by line and made changes as needed. *See the attached versions of all three to see the final edits.* **Regarding the 2018 Budget, Brien moved to approve the Resolution to Approve the Budget and Resolution to Appropriate Sums of Money. Justin seconded. Motion passed.**

Moving on to New Business, Katlin told the Board that 2018 is an election year. Justin and Brien will be up for election. We are required to hold an election, and must pass an election resolution to proceed. Thus, **Brien moved to approve the Resolution for the 2018 Regular District Election as well as the Resolution to Designate Katlin Miller as the 2018 Designated Election Official. Justin seconded. Motion passed.**

Finally, Katlin asked the Board if they wished to offer a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior in Grand of Summit counties again this year. **The Board mutually agreed that we should offer a \$500 scholarship again this year. They asked Katlin to specify in the application that applicants should be going into a field of conservation, natural resources, or agriculture that relates to Colorado (i.e. not Oceanography or Marine Biology).**

There were no comments under Closing Roundtable, so the meeting adjourned at 3 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 16th at NOON at the District Office.