Colorado First Conservation District
970-329-3145
145 Commerce Street Craig, CO 81625

Minutes 8/12/25

Place: 145 Commerce Street

NOTE: Agenda subject to changes and additions. Please note that the Board may discuss any topic relevant to CFCD business, whether or not the topic has been specifically noted on this agenda.

Attendance: Board Members - Rod Cook, Doug Davis, Nick Charchalis, Steve Hinkemeyer CFCD Staff - Nicky Boulger, Kacey Green, Cassie Lamb, Mark Lowrey NRCS - Nakayla Lestina Guest - Rebecca Burton

Call meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 by Steve Hinkemeyer

Reading of Previous Minutes: Nick moved, Doug seconded to approve July minutes. Motion passed

Treasure's Report: Nick moved, Doug seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed

Board Time Report:

Name	Time	Note
Wayne Counts	N/A	
Nick Charchalis	10	
Colton Murray	N/A	
Rod Cook	4	
Stephen Hinkemeyer	12	
Doug Davis	10	
Jorgiea Raftopoulos	N/A	

NRCS UPDATE: Nakayla reported that they are working on CSP & EQIP Certifications, FY ends 9/30/25. They will re-rank roll-over applications and may not have any new applications. Field work has been slow, but they may be assisting field calls for Rio Blanco. A producer had asked about funding for fencing supplies following the Lee and Elk fires - as of right now, there is not necessarily emergency funding, but can run an application through EQIP. The best course is to contact the FSA office to see if there is a disaster pool of funding.

DCT Report: Nicky Boulger has completed her first contracts with NRCS! She has been helping with certifications and learning a lot along the way. For the district, she is working on the demo plot, getting seed planned for the different plots.

District Manager Report: Kacey Green

Grant Updates

- ATB/ CDA BIL projects are coming along well. All CDA BIL funding has been allocated, other than one more quarter of administrative fees. Kacey showed updated budget for ATB
- Producer Cost Share presented project applications for Beckett and Hendricks. Nick moved and Doug seconded to approve both projects. Motion passed
- Sagebrush BIL - no updates on projects but the reimbursement process is going really well
- YVEA Fiscal Management Opportunity - application due by the end of August. Was able to negotiate 2% on $850,000, and that all has to go to billable hours after the project is awarded. Kacey is working on final drafts of the application and MOU
- NFWF Rocky Mountain Rangelands - Application submitted for specific projects that didn't quite fit into the Sage grouse framework: Pankey and Gerber
- STAR capacity funding came through for the final capacity payment of $12,000. It was unclear if we would receive this or not. Kacey asked the board to allocate $2500 for Nicky Boulger as a bonus for completing STAR work. Doug moved, Rod seconded. Motion passed

Old Business:

- Land Use Board – Steve reported that there was not a meeting, but in September they will be getting updates and summary of energy, including geothermal and nuclear. No conservation easement money from NFWF has been allocated due to contentious language. Reiterated that now would be a good time to ask NFWF to reallocate funds from conservation easements into habitat. Kacey is following up on this, wants to wait until after this meeting to see which projects got approved and update the budget.
- Moffat County Fair - Mark and Cassie set up a table and information. There wasn't very much foot traffic, but that seemed due to overall fair attendance - there weren't many people there at all.

New Business:

- Watershed Meeting - will be **September 17th** 11:00 AM at the Moffat County Extension Office. Please be thinking about resolutions and Resolutions and

Awards. Nick mentioned that a new resolution at the CACD is concerning removing the requirement for board supervisors to be landowners. This is a statutory requirement, and there is worry that it may have repercussions on other policy/ statute. He will keep updated on this.

- Annual CACD Meeting - In conjunction with Regional Meeting will be **September 7-11th** Golden, CO - Pacific AND Southwest regions :11 states. The Annual business meeting will still be held online with Zoom meeting for committees.
    - Resolutions, Awards & Poster contest deadlines October 1
    - Resource Committee Meetings - online October 20-24

Committee Report:
NFWF Sage Grouse – Colton, Mark, Cassie, Kacey

Governor candidate Greg Lopez was in town for a meeting and came by the Sage-grouse committee meeting. He talked a bit about his platform and expressed appreciation for conservation work that directly involved landowners.

Kacey gave the budget overview and there was some discussion regarding asking for more NFWF funds to be shifted from easements to the project budget. Kacey wants to wait until the projects from this meeting are approved to get the most updated information to BLM and NFWF.

2 projects that were approved at the Sage-grouse committee meeting for review by the board were Charchalis South, and McFarland. It was recommended that Charchalis North project was divided up by landowner and reviewed individually as ATB projects (L. Lyons, A. Lyons, Ashbaugh and Charchalis). These are smaller acreage and focus on invasive annual grass treatments. There is also an ATB application for Kerste that needs reviewed. Nick had to leave the meeting, therefore there was not a quorum to vote on Sage grouse or ATB projects. Kacey will set up a special meeting via Zoom to discuss these projects.

SEE ATTACHED MINUTES from special meeting 8/26/25

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, September 9th, 2025 at 5:00

Not a quorum to officially vote on meeting adjournment