

Agenda 1/13/26

Place: USDA Office 145 Commerce Street Craig, CO

**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 - Nick Charchalis, Steve Hinkemeyer, Rod Cook, Doug Davis. Staff -Cassie Lamb, Kacey Green, Mark Lowrey, Nicky Boulger

Call meeting to Order: Steve called to order at 4:33 pm

Reading of Previous Minutes: Nick moved to approve December Minutes, Rod seconded the motion. Motion passed

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

Guests: Rebecca Burton

Board Time Report:

Name	Time	Note
Wayne Counts	N/A	
Nick Charchalis	10	
Colton Murray	N/A	
Rod Cook	4	
Stephen Hinkemeyer	8	
Doug Davis	5	
Jorgiea Raftopoulos	N/A	

NRCS UPDATE: Nicky - all certifications are done for CSP, January 15th CSP and EQIP due, almost all certifications are done. Wolf mitigation funds will rollover
Steve asked - who pays for range riders - CPW covers that cost now
Nick asked - do we know how much the cost share on wolf mitigation will be? Nicky - not sure yet

DCT Report: Nicky Boulger has been working extensively in Routt, Jackson, Meker, Rangely - working on cultural resources, with Vance on surveying, certifying RCPP contracts, grazing EQIP. (Nicky has been invaluable to the NRCS office and going above and beyond to help producers).

District Manager Report: Kacey Green

DCT Suggestion for 2027: consider asking for money from other districts to kick in on the match for DCT. This could be tricky because the work Nicky is doing in other counties is NRCS , not Conservation District. The state also suggested we may consider a shared position with other districts full time. Nick thought it would be good to ask for additional DCT, keep Nicky flexible kudos to Nicky! Nick thought it was a good idea to ask for money from other districts and Doug mentioned there is no downside in asking. CSCB is recognizing that DCTs are really helping to keep NRCS offices contracts moving along right now . Routt has no one - only reason these contracts are going forward is Nicky doing cultural resources. Nick believes that DCTs are the future answer, and the federal government is not likely to hire back open positions in the near future.. Kacey suggested that landowners need to be vocal about projects falling through.

Nick said we need to get Nicky bonus. Kacey will look at 2026 budget and find where this can come from. 2025 bonus was from STAR funding.

Nick suggested that a bonus for staff be paid from ATB & BIL. Kacey suggested 5% of administration funds as was decided in the past. Kacey will email the board with numbers. All were in agreement.

No updates on NFWF increase.

Old Business:

- Land Use Board – Steve/ Doug - there was no land use board meeting - last month mostly discussed battery storage.
- Budget and Banking - Steve and Kacey were able to visit Yampa Valley bank and suggested the following: Change payroll account to a money market. We may need to add another account at another bank to make sure that we don't go over the \$250 k limit for FDIC. Doug and Nick - there are pools to avoid this issue. We can request to take the auto renewal feature off of CD - Steve can do this.

Doug needs to be added to bank accounts as a signer.

Doug moved, Nick seconded to switch payroll account to a money market, and open multiple CDs IF necessary - Motion Passed.

Nick moved to add Doug Davis as signer on all appropriate financial institutions Rod seconded. Motion Passed

Steve presented a draft of investment policy. Kacey mentioned that we have financial policy but not investment policy. - see attached - probably need to have a lawyer look at this. Nick suggested that we should probably look at buying a

building. Kacey asked what is the process to get a lease signed with USDA? The board would need to look at current leases, Kacey will ask at the office.

New Business:

- Nicky has been working on annual meeting and gave the following updates:
 - In order to expedite time and put more emphasis on main speaker, the placemats will have a blurb from each group and speakers will be available for questions.
 - Meal
 - tri-tip Maneotis \$12/ per person OR pulled pork with sides \$19
 - Bridges bid tri-tip at \$15.50 per person OR 125 people = \$1800
 - Sides will be done by Nicky and Kacey - baked potato, salad, steamed veggies, rolls, dessert, butterTotal cost estimates \$15-16 per person
4h kids to serve
Doug is worried about too much work, but Nicky is adept at catering and says it is not that big of a deal.
Nicky will be going to Grand Junction to get supplies
 - Nick moved to approve annual meeting expenses. Doug seconded.
Motion Passed
 - \$500 door prize - grant for any conservation in order to get people to RSVP. Steve said that Moffat County is not great at RSVP. Nick thought it was a good idea and asked that we really promote it on social media. The director of Palisade Insectary is confirmed as the main speaker, as well as Jeff Comstock and District and Sage grouse project updates. Rod moved to spend \$500 on a door prize and also a room for the guest speaker. Doug seconded. Motion Passed

Conservationist of the Year - Doug Davis, Davis Family Farms will be recognized at the National Western Stock Show. CACD has offered to pay for rooms and rodeo tickets for any staff and/ or board members who would like to attend. Mark is able to go to Denver, Nick will be there, but unfortunately Doug is unable to attend. Congratulations to Doug!

Nicky nominates Giles & Lorraine Polson (SP?). They bought part of the RioRoMo and have been doing great things to improve the property. Practices like hauling manure, developing springs, weeds, erosion control, all natural landscaping at home. All on their own dime. No outside funding. Nick also noticed that they have been doing a fabulous job. No other nominations. Rod moved, Nick seconded to award Polson. Motion passed. Next year it would be good to talk about some of the landowners that have participated in Sage grouse habitat projects.

Kacey suggested Identity Graphics for the sign and coffee mug. Board agreed
Nicky will do a write up and get photos
Kacey will also put together a recognition for Bill Green who served on the board for many years.

Committee Report:

NFWF Sage Grouse – Mark

Camilleti - Woven wire fence removal - approved at committee -
RAD Counts - CRP field conversion - approved at committee -
Doug moved, Rod seconded to approve both projects. Motion passed

Wyagant Bobcat ranch - tabled due to per acre price point
Swartzell - discussed rescinding the project due to lack of communication and follow-up send certified letter. Doug moved to rescind the project and send a certified letter. Rod seconded. Motion Passed. Mark will follow up and draft letter

Mark asked about using the education and outreach budget for Rocky Mountain Youth Core groups. Kacey replied that line item does not have enough funding to cover that, however she make sure that RMYC gets promoted on website for any work contracted with them.

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 Time: Flexible. Put it on calendar but maybe move earlier - 4:00 to tag onto end of Sage Grouse meeting

ANNUAL MEETING = Tuesday, February 17th 5:00

Adjourn: Doug moved, Rod seconded. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm

Note: See attached emails for votes:

Nicky Travel

Bonuses