



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

Minutes 6/10/25

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 – Steve Hinkemeyer, Colton Murray, Nick Charchalis, Jorgiea Raftopoulos, Rod Cook, Bill Green DM – Kacey Green DCT – Nicky Boulger SG – Mark Lowrey, Cassie Lamb NRCS – Nakayla Lestina Guests - Jess Murray w/ Alabaster Consulting and Design, Doug Davis, Rebecca Burton

Call meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM by President Jorgiea Raftopoulos

Reading of Previous Minutes: Steve moved to accept minutes, Colton seconded. Motion passed

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

Board Time Report:

Name	Time	Note
Wayne Counts	N/A	
Nick Charchalis	10	
Colton Murray	5	
Rod Cook	6	
Stephen Hinkemeyer	10	
Bill Green	3	
Jorgiea Raftopoulos	5	

Jess Murray from Alabaster Consulting and Design presented on what she can do in order to help the district promote the Greater Sage-grouse project to a wider audience. The board appreciated her enthusiasm and knowledge and will let Kacey follow up on specifics.

NRCS UPDATE: Nakayla updated on deadlines and contracts. Nicky was given the OK to help in Meeker. Currently working on 3-4 EQIP contracts, then will work on CSP certifications in August. Doug asked how producer relations have been since the reduced staff and Nakayla reported that everyone has been very understanding. At the state level, they are strategizing on how to get temporary staff.

DCT Report: Nicky Boulger has been working on tree sales, wrapping up STAR (now complete) and has helped schedule the river trailer. The majority of her time has been dedicated to NRCS right now. Nakayla was thankful, and Nicky has been a huge help!

District Manager Report: Kacey Green gave grant funding updates

ATB - *reviewed projects for*

Ence - \$10,975, Agee - \$10,975

Steve moved, and Colton seconded to approve Ence and Agee for America the Beautiful funding. This would bring the total left in ATB grant project funding to \$31,128.00

Visintainer \$10,975 – will discuss during SG committee report

RV Bar Angus \$10,975- will discuss during SG committee report

Producer Cost Share

Application received from Wyman (return) – open for review July 1

Paul Anderson – Steve moved, Colton seconded to approve project for \$2500

Nicky will follow up with Paul

Sagebrush BIL – *review projects for:*

Visintainer, \$132,960

RV Angus \$18,283

Colton moved to approve, but after discussing that these 2 projects are split between Sage grouse, ATB and BIL funding he withdrew his motion. These projects will be discussed as a whole during the Sage grouse committee report
CDA BIL \$31,500 (*must be spent by Nov*) Kacey will ask if perhaps some of the ATB projects would be suited for this funding, and may shuffle appropriate and approved projects here, since the timeline is shorter

STAR - Kacey asked for approval of \$2500 for bonus for Nicky Boulger with STAR capacity funding. Colton moved, Steve seconded. Motion passed. Thank you Nicky for taking the lead on this project and wrapping it up.

Kacey passed along information for a weed meeting taking place at the extension office

Committee Report: NFWF Sage Grouse

Colton, Mark, Cassie updated the board about projects approved through the Sage grouse committee. These include RV Bar Angus \$154,000, Visintainer \$106,191.68 Raftopoulos \$89,750. RV Bar and Visintainer projects are large-scale and Mark recommended pulling funds from BIL, ATB and Sage grouse to fund them. Raftopoulos would be funded fully through Sage grouse funding. Financial breakdowns can be seen in the final project reports.

Colton moved, Nick seconded to fund RV Bar Angus project through all 3 funding sources. Motion passed

Steve moved and Colton seconded to fund the Visintainer project through all 3 funding sources. Motion passed

Bill moved and Nick seconded to fund Raftopoulos project through Sage grouse funding. Motion passed.

There was one more project that was not approved through committee due to issues with fencing requests. Mark is following up with the landowner on this project.

Budget report – Kacey will update budgets to reflect allocated funds. She asked to purchase AV equipment for the conference room and check into purchasing or leasing a printer/ copier. The copy bill for the last meeting was over \$500. Nick moved and Colton seconded to spend the funds needed for equipment. We had been waiting to see if the NRCS request was approved, but it had not been yet. Steve suggested at least a 70 inch monitor and capabilities for video conferencing. Mark asked for a cart so that a monitor would not have to be permanently mounted. Nick moved to spend up to \$1500 on the necessary equipment. Colton seconded. Motion passed.

Steve noted that there have been discussions with Jeff Comstock and Alan Bittner regarding NFWF funds that were earmarked for easements and lands with wilderness characteristics, to possibly be moved into the habitat fund. This isn't guaranteed, but if we continue to fund great habitat projects, there is this possibility.

Old Business:

- Land Use Board – Steve reported that the LUB passed the updated County Land Use Plan. The plan includes how the county will deal with state and federal land, not private. Nick asked about any industrial projects – no, those go through Planning and Zoning, but LUB looks at those with no vote.
- Doug asked if there has been any progress on getting leafy spurge under control in the county. The feedback was that there has been some success with biologic controls in riparian areas in the Yampa, but the overall feeling is that there is still much work to be done.
- Local Working Group results were discussed. The attendance was low, but the priorities have not changed much from the last several years.

New Business:

- Oath of Office was taken by Bill and Steve.
- Bill turned in his resignation and the board thanked him for 10 years of volunteer service. Cupcakes were enjoyed! Colton moved and Steve seconded to accept

Bill's resignation and to appoint Doug Davis to fill the remainder of Bill's term.
Motion passed.

- Officers will be elected at the July meeting

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, July 8th at 4:30 PM

Adjourn: Colton moved and Steve seconded to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM