



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

Minutes 4/14/26

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.*

SPECIAL MEETING 4/14/2026: Personnel

Attendance: Board members - Jorgiea Raftopoulos, Colton Murray, Doug Davis, Wayne Counts, Nick Charchalis, Steve Hinkemeyer. CFCD Staff - Kacey Green

Meeting was called to order at 3:15 PM by President Jorgiea Raftopoulos. Colton moved, Doug seconded to enter into executive session to meet with Kacey Green regarding personnel/ contract. Motion passed - Board entered into executive session at 3:19 PM

Colton moved, Doug seconded to exit executive session - Motion passed
Colton moved, Doug seconded to adjourn the Special meeting. Motion passed, meeting was adjourned at 4:03 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 4/14/2026

Attendance: Board Members - Colton Murray, Jorgiea Raftopoulos, Wayne Counts, Nick Charchalis, Doug Davis, Steve Hinkemeyer CFCD Staff - Kacey Green, Mark Lowrey, Cassie Lamb, Nicky Boulger

Call meeting to Order: Meeting was called to order at 4:11 pm by President Jorgiea Raftopoulos.

Reading of Previous Minutes: Colton moved to approve March minutes, Nick seconded. Motion passed

Treasure's Report: Kacey pointed out a mistake on the report, she will send out a corrected report. Colton moved to approve as amended, Wayne seconded. Motion passed

Guests:

Ken Brenner and MattSmith of: Headwaters of the Colorado gave a presentation regarding the work they are doing. Future partnerships may include wet meadow restoration projects, and asking for letters of support for future grants.

Board Time Report:

Name	Time	Note
Wayne Counts	10	
Nick Charchalis	10	
Colton Murray	15	
Rod Cook	N/A	
Stephen Hinkemeyer	12	
Doug Davis	8	
Jorgiea Raftopoulos	8	

NRCS UPDATE: Nakayla Lestina reported that by week’s end, selections will be made for contracting. EQIP unsure of awards, but CSP applications should be fully funded and ready for contracting in July. They are working on the backlog of engineering designs and 2025 is now done, and others are starting to get caught up. Date for the Working Group was set for **June 9th at 11:45 am**. Lunch will be provided.

DCT Report: Nicky Boulger has been working on EQIP, CSP and water projects, along with helping Vance with surveying. She has found a new supplier for trees and already has enough orders to cover the cost and make a profit. Board Ok’d travel for Kacey and Nicky to go pick up trees in Loveland on May 7th. Nicky requested a new stand-up desk at an approximate cost of \$289. Colton moved, Nick seconded to buy a desk. Motion passed.

District Manager Report: Kacey Green gave updates on grants (ATB, BIL and NFWF). All funds are good, but ATB and BIL are coming to an end. She has been working with the auditor and accountant, as well as processing quarterly reports.

Old Business:

- Land Use Board – Steve reported that Trevor Balzar with CPW was in attendance at the LUB meeting and talked about habitat conservation & connectivity. There wasn’t a real plan yet, but Trevor is interested in identifying work within Moffat County. Colton mentioned that CPW is looking at conservation easements as a way to expand migration corridors. The LUB was in favor of supporting ideas like this. Doug Davis will be a liaison with CPW on these efforts. Craig Station scheduled to be shut down has been asked to keep Unit available indefinitely, and possibly use coal from 20 Mile. There was a good chance of a gas-fired plant by 2029 but this was tabled for now due to astronomical increase in cost of generators.

New Business:

- Nick updated on issues with the bank accounts at Bank of the San Juans (BSJ). They did not have any current board members as signers, but Wayne and Nick have been going over everything and are now the two signers. The board would like to move these 3 accounts (BLM, Watershed and Northwest Weed) to another

bank. Kacey will check YVB to make sure they can insure a greater amount. Colton moved to close these accounts at BSJ and move to either Bank of Colorado or Yampa Valley Bank and pay associated fees, Doug seconded. Motion passed. Kacey will check on paperwork - we may need these (April) minutes approved before moving forward.

- NACD Dues \$250 Colton moved, Steve seconded to pay dues. Motion passed

Committee Report:

NFWF Sage Grouse – Colton, Mark, Cassie, Kacey

- Kacey reported that HPP came to the district with issues regarding their portion of the Gerber project. Because the amount is over \$50,000 their process can not pay the contractor directly. Asked to run this funding through the district. Kacey mentioned that we are close in our 2026 budget to the audit threshold, and she may have to submit an amendment. Colton said there are probably other ways HPP can handle the funds in the future and there were multiple issues and mistakes with this application on CPWs end, including the \$20,000 that already needed correcting. Wayne moved to run HPP funding through district and waive the 5% admin fee, Doug seconded. 5 voted in favor, 1 nay. Motion passed.
- Ocker project \$11,745.00: Doug moved to approve, Colton seconded - motion passed

Next Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Adjourn Colton moved, Doug seconded to adjourn meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM