



HIGH DESERT CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS **ANNUAL** MEETING MINUTES

December 8th, 2020 4:00-6:00 pm

ZOOM MEETING: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87908769869](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87908769869)

Planting Seeds of Inspiration to Promote Conscious Stewardship of our Natural Resources

NOTICE OF A REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING HIGH DESERT CONSERVATION DISTRICT PURSUANT TO (CRS 24-6-402) OF THE Colorado GOVERNMENT CODE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: The Regular Meeting of the board of supervisors of the HIGH DESERT CONSERVATION DISTRICT will be at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 8th, 2020 at the USDA Service Center, 628 West 5th, Cortez, Colorado and the following items of business will be considered and acted upon:

4:00 CALL TO ORDER - Suzanne Aiken, President "This virtual, December 8, 2020, HDCD Board of Supervisors meeting is also serving, for all intent and purposes, as the 2020 Annual HDCD Meeting due to the COVID virus global pandemic. All required protocols for advance public notification of such meeting and disclosure of financial records have been followed."

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: none

Virtually Present by Zoom meeting:, Suzanne Aikin, David Temple, Hassan Hourmanesh, Adam Kackstetter, Susan Thomas, Joe Lanier, Jim Farrier, Greg Vlaming, Joel Lee **Absent:** none

APPROVAL OF December AGENDA Motion to accept by Susan, seconded by Jim- **passed**
APPROVAL OF November MINUTES Motion to accept by Jim, seconded by Joe- **passed**

Review of November's Action Items:

- Consult with Gretchen about how to organize our Google drive and make sure everyone has access to share documents: Suzanne spoke with Gretchen who will set up our Gdrive and keep the old documents available in case we still want access to them.
- Hassan will look over CSCB's bylaws template formed from their study of districts to see if there are any new considerations to adopt, or change: **Tabled**
- Hassan will work with Greg and Gretchen to get us a short list of our best Grant options: **Tabled**
- Greg will work with Haley to see what it will take to remove the old website: Greg spoke with Haley who was unaware that we had two sites. Greg will work with Haley to develop a plan to bring the old website down. Greg will review the old website first, to make sure we are not missing anything on the new website. Haley's contract ends at the end of this year and has warned us that she will not be available to work for us after June of 2021. Suzanne will work with Gretchen on hiring a new website coordinator to work on our shared website with Mancos CD. It was agreed among the board that we will hire locally if we can.
- Approve HDCD 2021 Budget: After a detailed discussion of the numbers and some fine-tuning, The board **passed** the 2021 proposed budget. Motion to accept by Jim, seconded by Adam
- Greg's Action items: Tree sales Advertising dollars spent, posters posted? Bonnie's newcomer packet printed? : Greg purchased the radio spots on KSJD and has already received interest from the community as a result. The Free press will run a free public notice ad for us as long as we need it. Greg has decided to not pursue other advertising efforts for now because the state Forestry department is already low on tree inventory. Sales may suffer because of COVID and drought. Tree sales in past years were bolstered by walk in customers to the NRCS office, which is not happening now. Greg has posted flyers around town and checks them periodically to make sure they stay posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

- **President** – Suzanne Aikin checked in with Alyssa about our annual report. No news yet on who won the \$500 incentive Suzanne made us eligible for.
- **Vice President** – David Temple : no report
- **Treasurer** – Hassan Hourmanesh – no additional report

- **Secretary** – Adam Kackstetter - no report

STAFF REPORTS

- **NRCS** – Joel Lee says the office is shut down to the public again as of December 1st. Joel and his team have been encouraging our community to sign up for EOIP program before the January deadline. It has been a tough year for he and his staff. The workload is tremendous, and the ability to do their jobs has been complicated.
- **DM** – Greg Vlaming: The seed drill is being rented on speculation of rain, and he has done some consulting work at Fozzies Farm. Greg reminded Joe and David that they can meet with Greg anytime about the comprehensive soil analysis on their farms.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Grants/Funding - Tabled**
Introduce ourselves to our County Commissioners – **Tabled** due to COVID-19
- **Who has the District electronic mailing list?:** The district previously had our list serve through Mail chimp. Gretchen and Suzanne are working to retrieve the list and migrate it to Google so that we can all have access to it. This might happen before next meeting if all goes well.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Fundraiser ideas–** HDCCD would greatly benefit from a signature event to serve our community and raise awareness for the district. Can we re-Invent “Made in Montezuma”?- **Tabled**
- **The board could work on our Elevator speech to clearly and concisely explain our complicated relationship with our community:** this can include development of a message to our county commissioners- **Tabled**
- **Short Survey to better serve our constituents? –** dropped off the Table until more certain times
- **Board retreat and possibly hiring of a facilitator to assist us.** Adam asked the board if we want to hire a facilitator to help us vision our future. Suzanne raised the point that Alyssa from CSCB offers a similar service to all districts free of charge. All agreed that we will ask for the assist from Alyssa first, and if we need professional facilitation down the road we can contact Sagebrush limited as they were well recommended. **Action Item** The board and Greg agreed to send Adam (by Friday) the top three things they would like discussed in our future “Retreat” like, workgroup meeting.

5:38 **ADJOURN** – Suzanne Aikin, President

NEXT WORKGROUP MEETING: TBA **NEXT MEETING: January 12th, 2021** **by**
Location: TBA **Zoom 4:00-6:00**

The High Desert Conservation Board may convene in executive session on any of the above items in accordance with (CRS 24-6-402) Colorado Sunshine Act.