

HIGH DESERT CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING AGENDA January 12th, 2021 4:00-6:00 pm

ZOOM MEETING: <u>HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87908769869</u>

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

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: none

Virtually **Present** by Zoom meeting: Suzanne Aikin, David Temple, Hassan Hourmanesh, Adam Kackstetter, Susan Thomas, Joe Lanier, Greg Vlaming, Joel Lee **Absent**: Jim Farrier

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2021 AGENDA Motion to accept by Hassan, seconded by Joe- passed APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2020 MINUTES Motion to accept by David, seconded by Susan- passed

Review of December's Action Items:

- Google drive access- Gretchen has taken this on, and it is in her very capable hands
- Hassan look over CSCB's bylaws template formed from their study of districts to see if there are
 any new considerations to adopt, or change and created a thorough and detailed document that
 outlines his recommended changes, included more concise language. He will send this info out
 to the board for their review Action Item
- Hassan will work with Greg and Gretchen to get us a short list of our best Grant options. This is something we are going to do together as a board at the end of this month thanks to organization from Alyssa Clarida (CSCB) and Gretchen Rank (MCD, HDCD). Action Item Board members should complete assignments detailed by Alyssa in her recent email to the board.
- Greg will work with Haley to see what it will take to remove the old website. Suzanne and
 Gretchen jumped in to help and all are hoping for progress soon. The old website domain is
 controlled by "The Geeks" a business owned by previous Manager Victoria Peterson who has not
 yet responded our calls. We are not yet sure how this will be resolved, but a Google search of our
 name does not show our new website on the first whole page of findings. Action Item
- The board and Greg agreed to send Adam the top three things they would like discussed in our future "Retreat" like, workgroup meeting. Suzanne, Hassan, Susan, Greg, and Adam submitted topics and they were forwarded to Alyssa and Gretchen to be used in our retreat design.
- Approve Suzanne signing the annual Resolution to Exclude District Supervisors as Employees For The purposes of Workers Compensation Insurance provisions Motion to accept by Hassan, seconded by David- passed

OFFICER REPORTS

- President Suzanne Aikin confirmed that HDCD is indeed eligible for \$500 because she submitted our annual report on time to the DOLA portal. Suzanne agreed to send the board a copy of our 2020 annual report Action Item
- Vice President David Temple offered no report
- **Treasurer** Hassan Hourmanesh (see above for Hassan's Action items).
- Secretary Adam Kackstetter offered no report

STAFF REPORTS

- Joel Lee NRCS may find some funding for support of the county weed department for Tamarisk and Russian Olive control. Joel and the senior members of his team are working to bring the new members up to speed. The EQIP application deadline has recently passed so his team is reviewing this year applications and will start funding contracts in March and April. Joel's COVID guidance has changed a bit to more of a top down instruction, and his office still finds themselves at 50% capacity with his employees rotating through to share the office while continuing to meet customers outside. Joel was kind enough to share the snowpack percentage so far for this year and it is early yet, but shaping up to be another low snow year ,so far. It seems the more north you go in the basin the better it gets, but mid slope and in in same places in Mancos we are at 60ish percent and 20ish percent respectively for annual snowpack right now.
- Greg Vlaming Not much to report this time of year. Tree sales are trickling in for what the state
 department of Forestry has available, and we have not sold much weed barrier or doing many
 rentals. Greg has spent \$100 of his \$200 budget for tree sale advertising and plans to spend the
 other half after the Presidential inauguration because people seem to be distracted right now
 with Politics and the Capital unrest.

OLD BUSINESS

- Grants/Funding Will be discussed at this boards retreat later this month
- Introduce ourselves to our County Commissioners Tabled due to COVID-19
- Fundraiser ideas— HDCD 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 will help us introduce ourselves to our Commissioners as well - Tabled.
- Our Board and staff retreat facilitated by CSCB is scheduled for Monday, January 25th on ZOOM.
 Suzanne agreed to help the board stay organized by sending us a list of assignment regarding which Colorado Conservation Districts we should each contact to fulfill Alyssa's requests that will prepare us for our retreat. Action Item

NEW BUSINESS

David pointed out that the Colorado department of Agriculture has Grants available for Specialty Crops, Interns, and Noxious Weed Management. There was talk about posting a link to it on our website so that we can share these opportunities with producers in Montezuma County. David agreed to look into the Invasive Weed application to see if we could provide a valuable service to our neighbors by partnering with the county weed department. **Action Item**

Adam agreed to forward minutes directly to our website manager Haley from here on out. **Action Item**

5:12 ADJOURN – Suzanne Aikin, President

NEXT WORKGROUP MEETING: TBA NEXT MEETING: February 9th, 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.

The Public was invited to attend this meeting.