2018 CACD Resolutions

## CONSENT CALENDAR:

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| Title of Resolution: | CACD Supports State and Federal Soil Health Programs |
| Policy: | Whereas Conservation Districts were created in response to the Great American Dust Bowl, the largest man-caused natural disaster of our time, to conserve soil resources and reduce soil erosion and'  Whereas Conservation Districts are directly involved in soil conservation partnerships to help agricultural producers be good land stewards, and;  Whereas healthy soils provide environmental benefits such as improved water holding capacity, water quality, air quality: agricultural production resilience to weather extremes, and carbon sequestration, and:  Whereas improving soil nutrient cycling and soil microbial populations reduce wind and water erosion and;  Whereas climate variability causes extreme drought to become the norm not the exception in the Western region, and;  Whereas uncertainty and skepticism about soil health practices being successful in arid water-short environments continue to be a barrier to adoption,  Therefore, be it resolved that CACD will actively support soil health policies and legislation that:   1. help agriculture producers apply proven technologies for fostering soil health through increased education demonstration and financial incentives and 2. support a state program that will coordinate and monitor soil health improvement activities to catalogue collective benefit to agricultural producers and citizens of Colorado. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Shavano Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Consent |

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| Title of Resolution: | Dust Bowl Priority Area |
| Policy: | Therefore, be it resolved that the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts request Colorado Natural Resource Conservation Service, The Colorado Department of Agriculture and the Colorado Farm Service Agency to reinstate the dust bowl priority area in Southeastern Colorado. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Olney Boone Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Consent |

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| Title of Resolution: | *Tax Exemption for Ag Related Fencing Supplies* |
| Policy: | That agricultural related fencing materials be exempt from city, county and state sales tax. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Delta Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Consent |

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| Title of Resolution: | *Wildlife Priority Area Designation for CRP offers* |
| Policy: | CACD will encourage Farm Service Agency (FSA) to reinstate a Wildlife Priority Area designation with associated EBI points for Southeast Colorado for future CRP sign ups. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Kiowa County Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Consent |

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| Title of Resolution: | *CACD & NACD Encourage NRCS to Increase Staffing in Understaffed Offices* |
| Policy: | *WHEREAS, Conservation Districts and the Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) were both founded on the principle of providing landowners with the knowledge and tools to sustainably manage their land and conserve soil, water, wildlife, and other natural resources; and,*  *WHEREAS, Conservation Districts and NRCS have always had strong partnerships working together to provide technical assistance and education to landowners and agricultural producers; and,*  *WHEREAS, landowners and agricultural producers, even in the small, remote, and rural communities, continue to request assistance from Conservation Districts and NRCS; and*  *WHEREAS, NRCS has been experiencing nationwide cutbacks, and the lack of full-time NRCS personnel in some offices has placed an extra burden on small, overworked, and understaffed Conservation Districts to assist landowners with nearly every conservation-related need they have; and,*  *WHEREAS, the lack of an NRCS presence in some offices has left landowners questioning whether NRCS fully supports them;*  *BE IT RESOLVED, Colorado Association of Conservation Districts (CACD) and National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) fully support Conservation Districts in the State of Colorado and nationwide. Furthermore, CACD and NACD encourage NRCS, on a state and national level, to more fully support ALL Conservation Districts, regardless of size, locality, or population. CACD and NACD suggest the NRCS show that support by prioritizing the placement of staff in small, remote field offices that currently have no full-time NRCS personnel.* |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Middle Park Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Consent |

## APPROVED:

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| Title of Resolution: | 2019 CACD Dues |
| Policy: | Effective January 1, 2019 District Dues to CACD are assessed at $900 |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Prowers Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Motion carried 2 to 1, table. Motion defeated. |

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| Title of Resolution: | 2019 CACD Dues |
| Policy: | Therefore, be it resolved that the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts 2019 Annual Membership dues shall be $1,200.00 |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Colorado Association of Conservation Districts |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Motion passed 2 to 1, motion passed. |

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| Title of Resolution: | Health Insurance for Conservation District Employees through collaboration with CACD |
| Policy: | CACD research health insurance options for conservation district employees state wide and connect with other state associations that currently provide health insurance to conservation district employees to determine if their programs can be replicated in Colorado. CACD provide these services if they are optional and there is a savings to districts. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Mancos Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Motion passed 2 to 1, motion passed. |

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| Title of Resolution: | Liability Insurance for Conservation District Employees through collaboration with CACD |
| Policy: | CACD research an umbrella liability insurance policy, including directors and officers coverage, for Conservation Districts state wide, connect with other state associations that currently provide liability insurance to Conservation Districts to determine if their programs can be replicated in Colorado; and provide this service for Conservation Districts if the premiums are a savings to Conservation Districts and CACD can cover their costs for the service |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Mancos Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as written. |
| Membership Action: | Motion passed 2 to 1, motion passed. |

## AMENDED:

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| Title of Resolution: | *Curtail the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) for Ag Equipment* |
| Policy: | Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA), be terminated on farm and agricultural equipment to allow access to software for repair documents, repair or adjustment of devices on farm tractors, agricultural equipment and other equipment that may be easily repaired by qualified mechanics or techs without consultation or required repair by the manufacturer or manufacturer dealer. CACD to have lobbyist address at a state level and to forward to NACD to address at national level. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Big Thompson Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as amended. |
| Membership Action: | Motion passed. |

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| Title of Resolution: | *Federal Legalization of Industrial Hemp and Segregation from any Marijuana Classification* |
| Policy: | BE IT RESOLVED; Industrial Hemp has been proven to be different cultivars free from the cannabinoids found in marijuana. With this distinction and the fact that all Industrial Hemp grown within the State of Colorado is to be registered and regulated by the Colorado Department of Agriculture and is required to be tested to contain less than 0.03 % tetrahydrocannabinol, (THC) which is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects. Legislation be instilled for Industrial Hemp for the legalization on a Federal basis to comply with the highly regulated State of Colorado laws and therefore be excluded as a Type I drug. That Industrial Hemp shall include, fiber, seed, biomass and cannabinoid (CBD) and not be subject of Federal restraints which could lead to loss of use of USDA and other federal payments, programs and services, federally funded water and banking as well as other unidentified risks. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Big Thompson Conservation District |
| Committee Action: | Approved as amended. |
| Membership Action: | Motion tabled until after Farmbill is approved. (bring back 2019) |

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| Title of Resolution: | *Selection of Conservationist of the Year* |
| Policy: | ACTION ITEM- The CACD Board shall review the existing Conservationist of the Year policies with the intent of revising them to reflect changing land uses and land ownership categories throughout Colorado with the intent of recognizing a range of Conservation applications. Clarification of application criteria (format, technology use, etc.) for submission of entries from the Watershed Associations (WAs) would be beneficial to the WAs. Examples might include Farmer, Rancher, Small Acreage, Non-Profit, Private Lands Forestry, Urban/Suburban, etc. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Double El Conservation District. |
| Committee Action: | Resolution defeated, changed to action item. |
| Membership Action: |  |

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| Title of Resolution: | *License for Off Road Bicycles and E-Bikes* |
| Policy: | That annual license fee be charged to all off road bicycles using public lands to be administered by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife. |
| District/ Committee Submitting: | Delta Conservation District. |
| Committee Action: | Approved as amended. |
| Membership Action: | Motion passes 21 to 4. |

## EMERGENCY RESOLUTION:

## DEFEATED: