

**Colorado Association of Conservation Districts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2019, at 7:30 AM via Teleconference**

Attendees:

Scott Jones, CACD President - Colorado River Watershed
Mike Cleary, CACD Vice President - Gunnison/Dolores River Watershed
Gary Thrash, Director - San Juan Basin Watershed /CO Representative to NACD
Jim Cecil, Director - Republican River Watershed
Charlie Carnahan, Director - Upper South Platte Watershed
George Fosha, Director - Upper Arkansas River Watershed
Nick Charchalis, Director - North Platte/White/Yampa River Watershed
Steve McEndree, Director – Lower Arkansas River Watershed
Nancy Berges, Director - Lower South Platte Watershed
Tyler Neely, Director - Rio Grande River Watershed
Bob Warner, CO Alternative Representative to NACD
Brett Moore, CACD Lobbyist
Bobbi Ketels, CACD Executive Director

Absent:

Les Owen, CDA
Mark Cronquist

Guests:

Clint Evans, NRCS
Francine Lheritier, NRCS
Stephen Jaouen, NRCS
Nikki Brinson, CSCB

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Jones at 7:32 AM after establishing a quorum. President Scott Jones asked for any additional agenda items. With no additional requests, the board moved on with the agenda.

Prior Meeting Minutes:

President Scott Jones asked if the board would agree to table the Sept 2019 minutes and approve via email when received by Bobbi. Scott asked the board to please read through them and reply with any corrections and/or approval via email, copying all board members. Vice President Mike Cleary stated this was a great idea & suggested to the board that maybe we start adopting this practice.

CDA Update-Les Owen:

No Update

NRCS Update-Clint Evans, Francine, Stephen:

Clint Evans started out by saying they have had a pretty successful Fiscal Year 2019, despite some on-going challenges of hiring. They did advertise 22 positions between May and Mid-July, 3 more advertised in August, and are still waiting on a list of applicants for one of the soil con vacancies. Overall, they were able to hire approximately 60% of those positions. But only gained two or three employees. With this, they had an equal number move out of state and accept other career ladder promotions within the agency in other states. Clint stated this is the first year in the last five fiscal years that they actually finished the fiscal year with the exact same number of employees as when they started. All the preceding years they were down 10 or 15 bodies by the end of the year. They started the year at 174 and ended the year at 174 or 175. With that little bit of hiring, they were able to hold the numbers steady; and they have around 40 more positions they are working on. prioritizing

This includes everything from engineers, civil engineering technicians, range conservationist, soil conservationist, and a couple of upcoming leadership vacancies that will occur. Do to one transfer and one upcoming retirement.

Clint announced that Tim Macklin, the Western Governors Association liaison and EWP program coordinator, here on our leadership team, has accepted the Area 3 Conservationist position. Tim will start as the AC for the Pueblo, Rocky Ford, and southeast area – starting on October 27th. Tim is going to continue to reside in Denver due to his wife's employment. He will be on the road quite a lot to be out in the field offices in area 3. They are hoping to be able to advertise the Western Governors Association and the EWP program coordinator position sometime in early calendar year 2020.

Clint stated that they do have a number of field positions to advertise as well. Of those several position that they advertised in fiscal year 19 they have a few locations where it is hard to recruit – Eads and Hugo are a couple of examples. They are going to look at some alternatives with their human resource team in DC to see if they might be able to offer hiring bonuses or something similar in order to try and entice folks to go to these more rural locations. Some of these challenges – where a lot of these folks are dual income families; it is difficult for them to go to these rural locations if there are not opportunities for spousal employment. This will be an on-going challenge, and they will have to see how they can adjust it as they move towards the future.

Clint gave an update on the 2018 Farm Bill Rules; as far as when are they coming out, when to expect new information on the roll-out for FY20. They are being told by the national office that they are in the process of developing those interim draft rules. The various programs are in different stages of review by the office general council, the office of management budget, as well as the department level review that is required before being published in the Federal Register. They are anticipating having all of the interim draft rules for our conservation programs published in the Federal Register and available for that 60-day public comment period sometime in early or mid-December. In the meantime, Clint stated they are waiting to receive program rules. Right now, they have very limited authority to do any program related work for existing programs.

Clint explained they can work on existing contracts and prior year agreements that are in place where our contracts were obligated, and they have some authority to carry those out. But any new sign-ups are currently on hold because they don't have any authorities at the present time without those rules being published. Clint is not anticipating having much information until sometime in December. He said they will get some workshops or webinars or something scheduled once they have the rules and they want to have an opportunity to roll out the information to staff internally, so that they hear it first, before they start putting it out more broadly to partners and potential customers.

Clint gave the heads up that this is going to be a bit of a rough and challenging year for NRCS to implement programs and get all of the funding rolled out in calendar year 20. It's going to come hard and fast and it's going to be a wild ride to get this 1st year of the 2018 farm bill rules implemented. He asked for all to be ready for things to come our way pretty quickly; and know we will probably hear a lot of frustration from folks either wanting more information sooner or concerned about short timelines when it comes out. But unfortunately, this is just going to be the nature of the process due to things coming out so late in FY20.

Clint changed the subject stating he, Francine, Stephen were hoping to discuss the resolution from the Middle Park Conservation District and to share a little information about how the assistance to producer's in the Middle Park Conservation District, has actually increased pretty substantially over the last 2 years, in calendar year 2018 and FY2019. Clint stated he would turn it over to Francine and Stephen to talk a little bit about what's been accomplished with the Middle Park Conservation District and then follow up with discussion about what some of his concerns are and the false perceptions that he feels this resolution is putting out there and potentially promoting to our partners at the NACD as well as within the state.

Stephen started out by saying thanks for the opportunity to discuss the matter. He went on to say in the last 2 years NRCS along with other partners have been pushing to try to increase their work up in Middle Park after a couple years of not having too much visibility and they have been driving to get some more assistance in this area.

In FY2018 they did a little over 264 thousand dollars in financial assistance in this area through their EQIP program and this year they increased that quite substantially to a little over 725 thousand dollars of obligations out there for 2019. That shows a pretty good increase. A good amount of that is where we partnered with the District to do the PCP project and this has been pretty successful. They have also been working with a community partner to do some work on RCCP. This has been going pretty heavy up there and it's a lot of work because they are doing a lot of river restoration type work. Derrick, the soil con, in this office has been spending quite a bit of time up there working with those folks and those partners to get that implemented.

They are seeing some installations. Last year they saw some and this year they are seeing a good chunk more. The hope is to get a lot of these projects in the ground. There is a lot of time and energy and work from the Kremmling office in that area, and they are seeing some good increases in the financial obligations that they are putting out. Steve said they hope that this helps bring more folks in the door and as they get it rolling into this next 2020 cycle. Steve added they can see those hold steady or increase again. Derek has been doing a great job reaching out and getting folks through that process.

Clint asked Steve to give some perspective by sharing with the Board what the financial assistance was in 2015, 2016, and 2017, in comparison to what they have done in 2018 and 2019. Steve responded by saying since 2010 they haven't had any obligations over 200 thousand dollars. In 2017 and 2016 they had just a little over 30 thousand. In 2015 they almost hit 200 thousand. But everything has been pretty much below 50 to 100 thousand for the last 10 years until 2018 and 2019. It has been a fairly hefty increase in obligations in that area and hope to continue that into the future.

Clint pointed out to the Board with these increases in funding, that also leads to an increase in conservation planning acres and assistance to producers in this area. There seems to be a concern with the Middle Park Conservation District Manager and possibly the Board as well with the fact that we don't have a body in a seat 5 days a week. Clint recognized Stephen and Derrick and his team that are out of Glenwood Springs for their hard work and pointed out that maybe they are only physically in the office maybe one or two days a week but they are out there in the field working with the producers, on the land where we need to be getting the work done. He added that they are providing a pretty substantial amount of support, amounting to almost a million dollars in financial assistance going into that conservation district over the last 2 years. Clint stated at a minimum they say those funds turn over twice within a community and with a lot of structural practices can be 4 to 5 times. At a minimum that is 2 million dollars worth of economic stimulus into the Middle Park Conservation District. This is a pretty substantial amount of funding that the district could use when they go and give their annual report to their County Commissioners when they are requesting financial support through the County.

Clint added that this is a pretty substantial amount of assistance that they are bringing through the conservation partnership with the District and with those private landowners that they can use. Clint stated again that he wanted to give Stephen the credits for taking that office, which is 70-75 miles for he and his staff to travel up there and provide that assistance. There is a sign on the door, so folks know who to call or when they are going to be in. They have been trying to be as accessible as they possibly can. Derrick Wiley that Stephen had mentioned there on his staff is now the designated lead resource conservationist on Stephen's team. That is the primary point of contact for the Kremmling field office in the Middle Park Conservation District.

Clint stated they just wanted to have an opportunity to share this information and thanked Scott and Bobbi for the extra time on the agenda and that they just wanted to make sure that the State Association Board was aware that even though they don't have a body in a chair every day, they are continuing to focus on all conservation districts, and providing assistance all across the state. Clint added that they have increased their funding every year for the last 4 years in a row. This year was just a little over 45 million in EQIP obligations, in addition to the CSP funds of around 20 million total in the state, plus 22 million in Emergency Watershed Protection, and he thinks somewhere around 14.6 or 14.8 million in ag conservation easement program funding.

Taking all of this into consideration, he was a little concerned as this resolution came up at the last fact-to-face meeting in September. When Clint saw that it was supported as written by the Association it was a little frustrating that this type of resolution got passed and was forwarded with language in it saying it was being referred to NACD or something to that effect, without any real data to support the concerns that were raised by the Middle Park Conservation District

Clint is not wanting to complain about it, just wanting to bring this to the board's attention and to just say as one of CACD's primary partners he would hope in the future there would be an opportunity to either have some discussion about these type of concerns or resolutions when they are brought forward. If there is a way to do that within CACD's overall process, to give them an opportunity to share so folks are making informed decisions when they are voting. He felt folks voted because the resolution was written something to the effect basically that NRCS wasn't providing assistance to these rural conservation districts. Clint pointed out that 95% of our conservation districts are rural in Colorado and NRCS is providing assistance to all of them located everywhere despite some staffing challenges and despite not being able to have a body in a seat 5 days a week, having that body in a chair sitting in an office 5 days a week isn't what equates to a assistance. To add to this, Middle Park does not have a district manager in the office 5 days a week.

Francine shared that the last time they had a fulltime employee up in Kremmling was 2017, and at that time they had one contract and only 30 thousand dollars of obligation. In just doing a little division, in the 1st year that Stephen and his team took

over there was an 8.5 times increase, since that 2017 if you look at 2019 alone it is a 23 times increase, exhibiting a remarkable matrix. Francine stated they were a little bit blindsided by this and added that she had gone up personally and met with that board and discussed some of these matrix with them. No one from NRCS was aware that this resolution was being passed, and they are wanting clarification of the process starting at the district level, watershed level and state level procedures for passing resolutions.

CACD President Scott Jones clarified that the resolution was voted on at the 2018 watershed meeting. He stated that he did not know if there were notes but could ask and he did remember they were at Kremmling watershed meeting when it came through. It was clarified that this resolution was from a year ago and voted on at the October 2018 watershed meeting. Further discussion took place between Scott and Clint. Scott stated he would make sure Steven and his team are included in the emails from the watershed and apologized if they had not been in the past. Clint thanked the board again for giving them the opportunity to share the matrix and discuss the concerns.

CACD Director George Fosha stated he personally knew 4 of the 5 Board members on their including one of his nephews and that he has done consulting work for those 5 on their various ranches. George also stated that Mark Volt was such a presence in Kremmling for many, many years, and when Mark decided to step down it was like the attitude there was "Oh Mark's gone – now what do we do?" George stated he appreciated Steve and Francine stepping up like they have because that's been great. He also stated he is willing to volunteer to do a little personal contact that probably should have done before now, in talking to these board members. George expressed he felt a little responsible for not going to bat for NRCS and extended his apologies for not being more on the ground with this particular issue here. Clint thanked George and stated no apologies necessary and that he appreciated any help with communication with this district and reaching out to them with any future concerns.

Vice President Mike Cleary added to the conversation, stating part of the deal is if these guys want to pass a resolution to succeed from the union, it is not our job to shut them down at the watershed level but, our resolutions process doesn't stop there. Resolutions run through committees prior to membership vote and he appreciates having this data. Mike added that it makes it very easy to have an intelligent conversation when we are in committee with these resolutions. This is where we kick into high gear in the process. Clint thanked Mike and added going forward with new resolutions if there is anything pertaining to NRCS that if CACD would like to have some supporting data to have for discussion, please let him know and they will be happy to provide this data in advance.

Clint stated he understands the message from Scott and Mike that as the state association the board does not have control what all the districts do; stating he understands and respects that and the process of membership passing resolutions. His ask is to just be able to get more detailed information in front of folks so that they can make an informed decision on what they are voting on. From there, if they still vote for it and it passes, then that is how it goes, but at least everyone knows they had the information available to them. President Scott Jones thanked Clint, Francine and Steven for their time and presentation.

Legislative Update- Brett Moore:

Brett started off to say we are still kind of working through the interim here. As we just discussed with the policy committee this morning, we are about ninety days out from the next legislative session, so things are starting to come together a little bit more as far as people talking about bill concepts. The water resource review committee has their final committee meeting coming up later this month in Denver where they will discuss their bills, drafts, and concepts. And then those all go to a legislative council, which is a legislative committee that votes to approve for the session in early November. We will be looking at those and have a pretty solid update on that by the annual meeting when we come together in November.

As we discussed at the previous Board meeting, we are working with the legislative committee to make sure that we have gone through all the resolutions and that we are getting those all placed properly in the policy book, and that we can show action on all those; and we've got a little bit of a to-do list left. Brett stated he feels we will have a nice report and be able to answer any questions about any of the resolutions passed last year by the time we get to annual meeting next month. Other than that, he expects there will be an Ag council meeting sometime this fall or winter. Although He has not seen that scheduled yet, Brett will be represent CACD at this meeting.

NACD Update-Gary Thrash:

CACD Director Gary Thrash reported that he sent out an email with a copy of the NACD marketplace material that is available through Cabela's. He felt that it might be of interest to folks to promote throughout the state. On the marketplace there is a fall promotion that they have going on similar to what they did with the baseball cap. This is for a Yeti 14 oz. mug, package of two; that are professionally engraved with the logo of the conservation district. This promotion is running during the month of November. Gary stated that this might be an opportunity for districts to put together for awards or something that they want to do for year-end. The baseball cap promotion was pretty successful for them. NACD profited about 25 hundred dollars on their part of that nationwide. Gary stated he knew his local district took advantage of the promotion and ordered some hats CACD also participated by ordering 4 dozen of the hats for the upcoming annual meeting. Gary mentioned in talking with Bobbi we ended up with just putting the logo without putting the name on it, to keep the hat pretty simple and attractive.

Gary reminded everyone of NACD's "Next Generation Leadership Institute," which he had mentioned last month. They had a webinar on this, and they will be announcing in December who will be in that 1st year long training session for the Next Generation Leadership Institute that they are sponsoring. The announcement will be made at the 2020 NACD Annual Meeting. He added their meeting will be in Las Vegas the 1st part of February. Gary reminded everyone that they are looking for live auction items now and all proceeds from this year's live auction will go to the National Conservation Foundation; a sister organization of NACD that does a lot of fund raising and sponsoring of events too. Bob Warner is on that Board of Directors.

Bob Warner added a couple of comments to Gary's update; reiterating that the 2020 National Meeting will be in Las Vegas beginning February 9th through about the 12th. The summer board meeting will be in Bismarck, North Dakota around July 17th or 18th for about 3 days. Most likely it will be combined with the North Central Region meeting. Planning ahead, the 75th anniversary NACD meeting for 2021 will be New Orleans. The 2020 Envirothon will be in Lincoln, Nebraska around the last part of July. Bob stated he would like to encourage anybody that has an opportunity to go to the National Meeting in Vegas or the summer board meeting. The combined Pacific and Southwest Region Meeting date has not been set yet, but it will be on the Big Island in Hawaii most likely in September or August of 2020.

Envirothon Update:

No Update

CACD FINANCIALS:

Executive Director Bobbi Ketels asked that the Board agree to review and approve via email as agreed with the minutes. Scott stated for the board to be looking for those and to please respond to approve after reading or if there are any questions please comment in your emails. Don't just leave it blank. Make sure you send it to reply all too, so we all know what is being said.

Camp Rocky:

No Update

Annual Meeting:

Executive Director Bobbi Ketels started by going through the daily agenda to make sure everyone had their assignments and knew where to meet each day. She stated there would be the normal get together after Sunday check-in for about an hour to review the final agenda and assignments in more detail. Monday November 18th we all agreed the CACD / CSCB joint Board Meeting would start off with a session from Ray Ledgerwood on a Strategic Thinking work session for the 2 boards. Ray will simultaneously work with both boards, both on individual goals and strategic plans for both boards working together. This session will run from 9 AM to 3 PM. Cindy Lair will give an update on plans for the state Soil Health program. After Cindy's update both boards will break off approximately 3:30 for individual meetings for the remainder of the afternoon. CACD will go through any of the resolutions that we want to bring forth to the committee meetings.

Tuesday morning General Session will start at 8:45 am and run until 12 pm. Commissioner of Ag Kate Greenberg, has confirmed. We also have confirmation from the State Land Board Matt Pullert to speak. We are working on a request that was submitted on our behalf by Lew Owen for the BLM State Director to speak as well as working on a lead to include an FSA speaker to cover CRP. Ray Ledgerwood is scheduled to end the Tuesday General Session with the Watershed Leadership training follow-up from the spring workshops. Tuesday luncheon presentation will be on the Envirothon Education program. This should help promote Envirothon and help with this new lineup that we have for more state involvement. Tuesday afternoon will be the five resource committee meetings and we are working on short presentations to take place in each of the resource meetings. We still have plugged in for the District Employees Association Meeting. Every year it has always been a

bit of an overlap, running from 4:30 to 5:30. Tuesday evening, we are planning on doing something a little bit different instead of everybody running off for dinner on their own, we are having a special evening dinner event; it will be a ticketed event. We are looking for sponsors in order to keep the dinner ticket pricing down around \$15 per ticket, and we are working on a fully loaded water panel discussion for the dinner banquet. Bobbi asked if anyone on the Board could help with this line-up. Gretchen also said she could help us out next week for anything that we need to confirm there. VP Mike Cleary asked about the general topics for the water panel. We are really looking to make that a very broad panel and discuss everything we absolutely can, so we have Phil Brinks, Greg Peterson, Kelly Hendrickson, Gretchen Rank, Erin Wilson from Wilson Water Group, and then still looking to add a few more on that.

Gretchen and Bobbi will be working on that next week; and if anyone else has any suggestions please share. Notes were sent out to give a better idea of what topics each speaker is planning to cover.

VP Mike Cleary stated that part of this water panel was not just presentation but, the fact that we recognize that there are a lot of water panels out there that don't have any input from people that actually have water and run water. And so, we thought it would be very valuable to have a lot of interaction in the last third of the presentation where people from the audience can ask the tough questions; that I have noticed that there is a total lack of grasp on the meetings I've attended. This includes such things as you save water upstream; keeps a junior water right holder from taking it at the next head gate. Things like that. We thought by giving a question and answer period in this and making it interactive, we might be able to educate some of these people that are promoting water rights and water plans with the perspective of the agricultural community.

Clint added a couple of thoughts for the water panel; regarding source water protection Christina Bury with Denver Water. He has participated in a couple of source water panels with her and she does a really nice job talking about the impacts of managing forest lands and how it can impact municipal water supplies and things like that. The other person Clint suggested was Keenan Diker with CDPHE, who has been heavily involved in our Source Water Protection Advisory Committee and National Water Quality Initiative Committees as well as the Lower Ark Water Quality Working Group.

Wednesday morning General Session will run 8 am to 9 am where we will have our partner presentations with Clint and Cindy and then we will have our legislative with Brett. Wednesday morning Break Out Sessions will be a little bit different this year with only two break outs versus 6 last year. One will be geared toward a supervisor roundtable. The second breakout will be District Manger Employee Training with CSCB. Wednesday awards luncheon event will run 12:30 to 2:30 PM. Discussion took place about help for Gary with the award nominee review process. Scott and George said they would be able to help. Gary gave a quick rundown on how the process works. Gretchen also agreed to help, and Bobbi will work on an NRCS person to be on the committee.

The CACD General Membership Assembly from 3 to 5 pm. Right after that, we will end the day with a committee wrap up meeting. Thursday morning, we will have our normal CACD face to face Board meeting.

Mike added that he wanted to have further water panel discussion and will work with Bobbi in the coming 3 weeks to have this water panel nailed down and relevant, because as pointed out in our committee meetings concerns that he had on the lack of content when we had that discussion last year. Mike has been to several water panel discussions over the last five years and they just dance around the periphery and a lot of times we just get sort of cocktail circuit talk. He wants to make that the water panel is very relevant and it's not just a rehash of sound bites. Mike asked George if he has some specific input that he would think we need to cover Mike would like to hear. George agreed and stated this seems to be the general tendency in these panel discussions. Further detailed discussions took place around the water panel, the hard questions & scenarios that do not get answered or addressed.

Some of these questions would include how do you keep water in the river if somebody gives it up upstream and somebody takes it out downstream; the other one is as we have fought in our District everybody wants to save water – no compensation for it – we put in all these expensive systems and maintenance, it's expensive. And there is no – other than an "atta boy" there is no real way to deal with the increased cost of managing water in agricultural districts such as Delta and on, and on. We have to have - like I say I'd love to have input on really hard questions and have State Legislators there not just people that are interested. I would like them to be – we need to invite some State Legislators to this Water Panel – I think it is a very great idea, but we need people to sit down and take notes and understand that there is more to it than what they are just being told at 40 thousand feet. At the end of the day they need to be asked "How are you going to protect us from not just taking our water," because they had that mechanism as well.

Mike ended by making a request of the board. He has reached out via email to all of our Sponsors, all levels from last year – except for the Walton Foundation. He stated this week he will actually be calling every one of those individually, but if the board could please help him with getting some sponsors this year that would be great. He further stated he would reach out to Walton Foundation and some other leads he had. He will track all of these down and let us know where we stand by Thursday. Further board discussion took place on the sponsorship levels offered.

Director Jim Cecil agreed upon request to be the moderator for the Membership Business Meeting.

Further discussion took place about the role of the moderator, who is best qualified, how the process should work and not interfere with a moderator who is also voting for a district. The idea of hiring a parliamentarian – that's somebody that is more process than involved in the organization. Director Nancy Berges suggested that we have a moderator, but we also have a back-up just in case something would come up we would be covered.

Director Jim Cecil agreed upon request to be the moderator for the Membership Business Meeting. Everyone agreed to confirm with Harold Unwin to act as the back up moderator. Discussions then took place on the process for district proxies, assistance with taking notes and having the meeting recorded. The board also discussed the idea of having Brian from Barn Media record the general sessions as last year. VP Mike Cleary liked the idea. All agreed if the funding was available to cover the cost. Final discussions for the annual meeting focused on an auctioneer. George stated he had a good friend that is an auctioneer out in Calhan, which is close to Colorado Springs, Mike Heitman. Mike has done auctioneering for these types of programs before and agreed he could look into that as well.

Bobbi gave an update on the NRCS amended agreement for year 3. This is something she has worked very hard on and the approval was received on September 30th. The amended agreement was approved at \$74,800. Bobbi will send a copy out to the board. We were able to increase for each project that we do, as well as continuing the workshop, and speakership program. This was a lot of work, but with a successful outcome, increasing available match funding for all CACD programs.

CSCB Update-Nikki Brinson:

Nikki Brinson from CSCB jumped on the call briefly as she was traveling with Cindy, in and out of meetings. Nikki asked the board if there was anything specific, they wanted an update on. Bobbi asked for the supervisors list to use in promoting the supervisors breakout session. Bobbi also thanked Nikki for the great email promotion she did on the district employee training session. The board asked Nikki if they had advertised Mark's position and how it was going. Nikki said they were working on it and that their goal was to get it filled as soon as possible. They are working with HR on the logistics. The board asked Nikki to let Cindy and Les know they are very appreciative of all the behind the scenes assistance. Everyone agreed we could discuss updates on Envirothon at a later date.

Misc. President Updates:

Scott gave a brief update on CAWA and their last meeting. He will email notes to everyone. They have been doing a lot with the water planning, and he knows that they are traveling around and doing presentations to Districts. Scott asked Mike if he had anything else to add on fundraising. Mike replied that Thursday would be his day to do follow-up, my day to do that. He would like a final list of Districts that we can subsidize with funds received. He will share with George and Nick as they are on that committee. He will give them that list on Thursday and then will forward it on to Bobbi and just get that done. Updates were given from other directors as to where they were at with their recommendations within their watersheds.

Mike added that where we were going to 1st pass / look at Districts that have a partial payment history in the past. And, we would like to subsidize them with a credit/grant to give them voting status. If somebody is making a \$100 payment I don't think they are 1st choice on the list, but if somebody's making a \$600 to \$800 payment I think they are a good candidate, that in good faith we should give them the right to attend the meeting as a voting member. Further board discussion took place. about helping qualifying districts reach voting capacity before we step down and give somebody who is paying \$500 for voting capacity. But if there is money left over, we are not going to discriminate – we will just work down the line and get as many people - as many Districts on as we can. The board went into discussion about district history in paying full or partial dues, including certain ongoing struggles with non-paying districts; budget related or not seeing the value in CACD membership. The board discussed in detail ways to continue to address and ways to continue to engage with watersheds and districts, continuing to work on bringing districts back into the fold, engaging and building that district/state association partnership. The board also agreed to offer the new supervisor scholarship again this year. Director Tyler Neely agreed to handle the award plaques.

Scott asked if anyone had anything further to discuss. Director Nick Charchalis made further comment to add to the water panel conversation. He stated one thing he felt important is to get a statistic on how much each watershed has used in agricultural operations. A simple percentage to kind of compare, kind of quantify what it is agriculture stands to lose. An interesting statistic on the Yampa is agriculture only uses 8% of this river.

Now other drainages are a lot more. Nick feels that would be good to know so if someone can tell us that at the beginning of that panel presentation of the speakerships there, that would kind of set the stage a little bit. Scott said he thought Phil Brink would have that information and could include in his presentation. Nick stated that he had attended one of Phil's seminars, but he had never heard it in any of the seminars. Nick stated again the importance of getting this information out and we need to ask somebody to get it for us and that it would be very beneficial.

Scott thanked everyone for their input and participation and reminded everyone of the dates for the annual meeting.

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobbi Ketels
CACD Executive Director