Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River Conservation District
3590 E. Main Street Trinidad, CO 81082
(719) 497-3118 SPPRCD@gmail.com

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 7, 2025

PRESENTED BY: *Lori Chatterley, District Manager*

1. ROUTINE ITEMS:

A. Call meeting to order: The meeting was called to order by President Bill Wilkinson at 12:14pm.

B. Roll call of attendance:

Bill Wilkinson, President—Present	**Joey DeGarbo, Vice President**—Present
Doug Taylor, Treasurer—Present	**Tami Tamburelli, Member**—Present
Nancy Monteleone, Member—Present	**Bob Porter, Member**—Present
Gaylene DeCristino, Member—Present	

C. District Employees in attendance: Keith Mantelli, Donna Albertson, Lori Chatterley
NRCS Employees in attendance: Sammie Molinaro, Zoe Moffit

D. Introduction of Guests/From the Audience: Tony (Purgatoire River Water Conservancy District), Julie Knudson (PWP), Garth Schaefer (CSBC), Sydney Wilkinson (Las Animas County Extension Office)

E. Recording of Time and Mileage:

MEMBER	Previous total	Trips since last meeting	YTD TOTAL
Bill Wilkerson	**10**	2	**12**
Joey DeGarbo	**7**	1	**8**
Doug Taylor	**10**	2	**12**
Tami Tamburelli	**62**	4	**66**
Bob Porter	**5**	1	**6**
Nancy Monteleone	**5**	1	**6**
Gaylene DeCristino	**0**	1	**1**

2. <u>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION and/or ACTION</u>

A. Approval of Minutes of July 3, 2025 meeting (Action Item)
Motion to approve the minutes: Doug Taylor; Second: Nancy Monteleone
The Motion was carried 7-0 with all voting yes.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report/Approval of Bills & Salaries (Action Item)
Bill said the fair sale went $700 over budget for a total of $6700. Tami noticed that the USDA lease money was not reflecting on the monthly report. Lori said the money is still coming in and will talk to Stacey about it.
Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills/Salaries: Joey DeGarbo; Second: Doug Taylor
The Motion was carried 7-0 with all voting yes.

C. Building Report *(No action was taken)*

1. USDA Lease renewal communication: Sammie put Lori in contact with the They USDA renewal team. They are delayed but will still pay month to month while the lease is being contracted and will be in touch.

2. Oscar did some work: Carbon monoxide detectors, A/C filters & clean, plaques etc., fix holes

3. T&T Electric Co. Inc completed work—1 light that we missed getting quoted and Lori will ask.

4. Select Locksmith serviced front door lock and made 20 keys

5. The Bug Man sprayed

6. Alarm system/Wireless receiver/Cameras: Problems during lightning storm that took out wireless internet antenna and alarm system communication. Also, problem with no camera covering entry/exit to parking lot. Lori to get a quote on fiber and camera (possibly camera inside building by entrance).
7. Flagpole: Keith fixed it.
8. Parking Lot (did discussion and walk through at end of agenda)

D. Outgoing Correspondence *(No action was taken)*
1. 2026 CSCB Matching Grant Application—fencing cost share submitted, requested $25,000
2. DCT Report/Reimbursement Request sent; EFT received $11,790.77
3. 2025 MG 2nd Quarter report submitted—0 complete 2nd quarter 2025
4. Advertising: 2025-26 Supplemental Matching Grant through Sept. 1; being run on website, Facebook, and in the Chronicle, free mention on radio, free city info. Board. 13 applications so far.
5. Facebook Page: created (former one deleted by Gilian); please like or follow and invite friends.

E. Incoming Correspondence
1. 4H letters—everyone read the letters regarding the fair from: Jacklyn Rogers, Tate Baker, Destiny Archuleta, Michael Archuleta, Kassidy Larson, Lakynn Arnhold, Alexis Malespini, Lily Amato, and Emma Amato. *No action was taken.*
2. Safety deposit box @ InBank: No board member (even Bill who has 30 years on the board) knows anything about the safety deposit box. If we don't have a key, it probably isn't worth rekeying. *Motion to authorize District Manager Lori Chatterley to investigate the safety deposit box at InBank made by: Tami Tamburelli; Second: Joey DeGarbo. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
3. CSCB Direct Assistance was received $8104.40—we do not apply for this, just have to be in good standing. *No action was taken.*
4. American Ground Water Trust Board: accepting applications for their board. No action was taken.
5. World Journal Fair Results Sponsorship (Action Item): After discussion it was decide to sponsor 1 week of fair results ads. *Motion made by: Joey DeGarbo; Second: Doug Taylor Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
6. Upper Arkansas Watershed Association Membership Dues (Action Item) *Motion to pay $10 dues made by Tami Tamburelli; Second by Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
7. CACD Region Meeting/Conference (will not have annual meeting until Nov.): Discussed the timeline and requested Lori email the agenda to the board. *No action was taken.*
8. Grassland CRP Information: Applications due tomorrow. Discussion about low rates ($8/acre for Las Animas County and 10-15 year commitment). *No action was taken.*
9. Restoring Wolverines to CO public meeting information. Last meeting is Saturday. *No action was taken.*
10. Insects on Rangeland Workshop: Zoe gave some information and talked about its relation to soil health. She encouraged people to attend on September 12 in Pueblo. *No action was taken.*
11. CD Stakeholder meeting regarding Title 35 Landowner Definition will be Aug. 11 online. *No action was taken.*
12. Virtual Fencing workshop: Sammie would like a fall workshop for a half day in October with a variety of vendors. The district would be asked to sponsor food/drinks/location. Sammie will get a cost to bring back to the board in September. Next spring Sammie would like to get an onsite demonstration with someone using virtual fencing in our area. *No action was taken.*
13. Well monitoring (Kate Zeigler, Zeigler Geologic Consulting, LLC): Some explanation was given of previous work with Kate Zeigler and well monitoring. There was a discussion regarding water quantity

versus quality. It was suggested that Kate be invited to attend a PWP Water workshop in October. *No action was taken.*

F. New Business

1. **DCT Program Overview** info: Sammie presented the information regarding the DCT program. Discussion about what to do if the position does not receive federal funding and if the district could fund it themselves. DCT would then work for the district only. Keith said work demand varies significantly week by week for district cost share and matching grant work. Part time may work, but unsure. If no government funding, MOUs can still be in place for office, equipment, vehicles, etc. with NRCS. Bill said we will move forward as if it will be funded and Tami suggested we discuss advertising for the DCT position at the September meeting since Keith retires in December and we want some training done before he leaves. Lori will contact the state for an update on the DCT funding. Sammie suggested we go over the MOU with NRCS at the September meeting also. *No action was taken.*
2. **2026 DCT Grant/Budget** and District match commitment (Action Item): Lori presented the 2026 Reenrollment application and budget with a $12,702 district match. *Motion to approve the application and match by Tami Tamburelli; Second: Joey DeGarbo. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
3. **CSCB Supervisor's List**: Typos were corrected, information updated, and Sydney Wilkinson was added as ex-officio. *No action was taken.*
4. **District Debit card policy** (Action Item): Lori presented an official policy to reflect current practices and limits and be in place for insurance and reporting requirements. Donna noted that fuel for district vehicles was not listed specifically which was her main use of the card. There is a %00 a month limit per individual unless previously approved and a $3000 limit at all times on the card. *Motion was made by Joey DeGarbo to approve the policy with the fuel addition; Second: Tami Tamburelli. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
5. **Document Destruction Log** and shred approval (Action Item): Lori presented the document log detailing document types, dates, and retention guidelines. She take the documents to Pueblo to securely shred for $1.50/pound. Still a lot more files to sort/shred per state retention guidelines provided by the attorney general's office. *Motion to approve by Joey DeGarbo; Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
6. **Draft MOA with Branson-Trinchera Conservation District** (Action Item): Discussed the amount B-TCD contributes towards the DCT and DM and what would happen if the DCT position had to become solely district funded. Discussed the amount of work the DM does for each district. Bill stressed that the MOA is just a conversation/proposal between districts and SP-PRCD does not want to put any strain on B-TCD's budget. It was suggested propose keeping the DCT contribution at $3000 and raising the DM contribution amount to $5000. This would start the conversation and the district expects a counterproposal. *Motion made by Tami Tamburelli to start the conversation with B-TCD. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
7. **Authorize Lori Chatterley to sign Conservation Plan Schedule of Operations for CRP** (Action Item): Sammie said the former DM was allowed to execute these documents for easier processing. *Motion to authorize Lori Chatterley to execute CRP documents by Tami Tamburelli. Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*
8. **River Trailer** (Action Item): Discussion about need for plate renewal and some repairs. *Motion to accept the transfer agreement for the river trailer from Turkey Creek Conservation District made by Joey DeGarbo. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*

9. **Las Animas County Community Wildfire Grant:** Sammie requested help compiling a list of interested parties/stakeholders in wildfire planning from I-25 east to help get the word out. Julie clarified that this is just in the plan stage and there would be community meetings. *No action was taken.*
10. **Tami Tamburelli interim District Manager thank you**: Bill asked the board for a motion to support a gift for member Tami Tamburelli for the months of work she did to keep the district afloat between district managers. *Motion was made by Joey DeGarbo; Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.* The gift was a weekend getaway at the Pagosa Hot Springs resort to be coordinated and purchased by Lori.

G. Old Business

1. 2025-26 Supplemental Matching Grant project amount discussion: Lori had reported earlier that the SMG was okayed by CSCB to also have $5000 matches even though the grant was written with $3000 matches. That will take care of the forestry projects that were already committed. Keith would prefer to keep the $3000 matches since that is how he is taking applications and it works well for fencing. He has 13 so far. Applications close September 1, 2025. The grant closes June 2026. Donna stated she does not want a share of the grant as she has enough and big matches are not needed in the weed program. *No action was taken.*

2. SnoCat Bill of Sale (Action Item): Lori reported there was no VIN on either Snocat or trailer. Tami said the buyer is ready to get it running for winter. Bill said buyer will assume all responsibility for the purchase. *Motion to approve the Bill of Sale made by Joey DeGarbo; Second: Tami Tamburelli. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*

3. Remove Jonnalea Tortorelli from Century Savings signature cards (Action Item): *Motion made by Tami Tamburelli; Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yes.*

H. From the Board

Tami suggested that the district sponsor a landowner education meeting regarding entities in our area offering to pay for geothermal, helium, solar, wind, etc. installations, drillings, etc. on private land. Discussion followed regarding land stewardship, reclamation, and some bad practices of some companies. Everyone agreed this was a good idea. Garth said CSCB is doing a presentation in Rocky Ford TBD for large solar installations. Julie said she is having a community meeting in the spring that might work. Bill mentioned working with Sydney. It was suggested to do small meetings in different parts of the county. A short radio interview was also suggested. Tami will work on it and bring some thoughts in September. *No action was taken.*

**Member Joey DeGarbo left @ 1:55pm*

I. Las Animas County Planning and Zoning

The State of Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety sent the Reclamation Permit Application form for Las Animas County Jolly Pit. Sammie told Lori to give anything like this to him when it comes in. He goes and checks them out for the district and NRCS. *No action was taken.*

J. Weed Tech Report/Updates

Donna said she received a quote from Colonial General insurance for commercial weed spraying. It was approximately $1212 plus a $300 business license. Lori expressed some concern about the backend/admin side of commercial spraying with taxes, etc. Donna said she will not do the

taxes/reporting. Bill said we would discuss that in September. Las Animas County no longer has a weed manager. There is a need. Lori will reach out to some other districts that are doing it already and see what their best practices are. *No action was taken.*
Donna presented her tiered weed program payout. *Motion was made to approve it by Tami Tamburelli; Second: Bob Porter. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.*
Donna presented some weed program applications to sign. She listed some GOCO funded projects for information. She presented information on electric weeding and some new herbicide. She said her CDA grant money salary will run out before December. She said EPA is looking for board members on the pesticide committee. *No further action was taken.*

K. District Technician Report

- 2025 CSCB Matching Grant (fence) completions: Jessica Dalrick, Gary Mestas, Doug Taylor *Motion to approve by Tami Tamburelli; Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.*
- 2025 District Cost Share completions: Randee DeCristino, Marilyn Hungerford, Keith Mantelli It was noted that Joe Amato did Keith's checkout. *Motion to approve by Tami Tamburelli; Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.*
- Donna asked if the Russian Olive/Tamarisk in river bottoms was considered brush clearing. It was determined that yes it was. Keith said the scoring sheet for the SMG should have the 2025 MG as a category instead of the 2024 and will correct that.
- 2025-26 Supplemental Matching Grant completions: (not awarded yet)

L. NRCS Report
Sammie reported on program updates, planning first applications, CRP, USDA reorganization, and the snotel report. *No action was taken.*

M. Anything from the public
Julie reported that there is a bear grant for the Aguilar/Trinidad area for things like fencing for bees, and livestock/bear issues. Also that we were collaborators for the Plant ID workshop and she gave out 20 of our books. Bill said Sydney may be able to help get the weed guides reprinted. *No action was taken.*

N. Parking Lot:
1. Bid/project discussion and walk around—the board went outside and talked through the needed water mitigation/drainage repairs.
2. Approve Bid Opening (Action Item): *Doug Taylor made a motion to approve the bid opening; Second: Tami Tamburelli. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.* **A special meeting will be held August 25th at 2pm to open and deliberate on bid awards.**
3. Discuss paving timeline/bid process: options for paving were discussed. *No action was taken.*

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Pursuant to §24-6-402 (4)(a), C.R.S., The purchase, acquisition, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest: Investment Products. *Motion made to go into executive session for the above stated statute by Doug Taylor; Second: Bob Porter. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes. No action was taken and items discussed were related only to the topic stated on the agenda.*

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4. ACTION ITEMS based on Executive Session topics *(as needed):*

1. Investment Products: The board returned into open session and discussed investing in a 3 month CD and a Money Market for $100,000 each at Edward Jones. Tami will find out what paperwork is needed. *Motion by Doug Taylor; Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.*

6. NEXT BOARD MEETING –

- **A special meeting will be held August 25th at 2pm to open and deliberate on bid awards.**
- **Next regular meeting will be held September 4, 2025 @ 12pm**

5. ADJOURNMENT @ 3:13pm *Motion by Doug Taylor; Second: Tami Tamburelli. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yes.*

Signed: Lori Chatterton Date: 8/14/25

SP-PRCD District Manger