Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River Conservation District

May 7, 2026 (12:00 PM)
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
MINUTES

1. **ROUTINE ITEMS:**
   - ***A.*** **Call Meeting to Order & Roll Call of Attendance:** *The meeting was called to order by President Bill Wilkinson at 12:08pm.*

     Bill Wilkinson, President—present
     Doug Taylor, Treasurer—present
     Bob Porter, Member—present
     Gaylene DeCristino, Member—present
     Joey DeGarbo, Vice President –present
     Tami Tamburelli, Member—present
     Nancy Monteleone, Member—present
   - **B. District Employees & NRCS Staff in attendance:** Sammie Molinaro, Lori Chatterley, Alex Makowicki
   - **C. Introduction of Guests:** Julie Knudsen (PWP) arrived at 12:28pm; Tony Arhnold (PRWCD) arrived at 1:01pm.
   - **D. Approval of Minutes:** April 2 (Regular Meeting), April 9 (Special Meeting), April 30 (Annual Meeting), and May 1 (Special Meeting), 2026—Gaylene DeCristino moved to approve the minutes with one correction to the April 2nd minute (she was present and had been marked absent). Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0.
   - **E. Approval of Treasurer's Report/Financials:** April 2026—It was suggested that a budget line be added for the weed program's non-grant related expenses. Doug Taylor made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second: Gaylene DeCristino. Motion carried 7-0.
   - **F. Recording of Time and Mileage:**

MEMBER	Previous total	Trips since last meeting	YTD TOTAL
Bill Wilkerson	**4**	4	**8**
Joey DeGarbo	**3**	4	**7**
Doug Taylor	**6**	3	**9**
Tami Tamburelli	**6**	4	**10**
Bob Porter	**5**	4	**9**
Nancy Monteleone	**4**	4	**8**
Gaylene DeCristino	**5**	2	**7**

   - **G. Public Input (limited to 3 minutes):** No one was present for public input.
2. **NEW BUSINESS**
   - **A. CONSIDER/APPROVE:** Upper Arkansas Watershed Association Membership Dues $20—Motion to approve the $20 dues by Tami Tamburelli. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0.
   - **B. CONSIDER/APPROVE:** NACD Annual Membership, various levels—Short discussion about how much the district contributed in the past and the services received. Motion to pay $250 for NACD dues by Doug Taylor. Second: Joey DeGarbo. Motion carried 7-0.
   - **C. DISCUSSION/CONSIDER:** Intergovernmental Agreement with County for 2026 (Noxious Weeds)—Alex gave a report of how things are proceeding with Las Animas County. They have $17,500 budgeted in total for noxious weed management. (Which includes $5000 for the district and $10,000 for a commercial sprayer). There is no agreement drafted or in place for 2026, so the district reviewed an older, 2023 IGA for discussion. It was noted that if the County agrees to the $5000 for the district, it may be better spent to start weed mapping for the county and do education/outreach in lieu of spraying ROW. Discussion also touched on identifying priority species for our local area and the use of commercial sprayers for some of the work. The board told Alex to only do what he was comfortable doing with his licensure in progress. No action was taken.

D. **DISCUSSION:** 2026 NRCS Local Work Group Meeting Recap—Sammie gave his report. It was the largest turnout he had seen in 15-20 years for the area. The target for NRCS will be forestry management from the input and comments. Some feedback could help the district with future plans for events/workshops/fieldtrips. It was noted that to have turnout at field trips, it needs to be an innovative "hot" topic, with carefully considered timing and should always provide food. It was suggested that we have interrelated topics as much as possible and incorporate weeds with things like fire. Sammie said the 2027 NRCS Targeted Proposal for EQUIP will be forestry.

3. **OLD BUSINESS**
   A. **CONSIDER/APPROVE:** 2027 CSCB Matching Grant Application Draft Budget—It was discussed that the CSCB MG application should include more diverse practices and raise the cost share to $5000 to match the District Cost Share. Lori presented the budget with the $3500 district cash match. Motion to approve the draft budget by Joey DeGarbo. Second: Gaylene DeCristino. Motion carried 7-0.
   B. **CONSIDER/APPROVE:** Supplemental Matching Grant Cost Share completion: Joe Tarabino ($3000 fence) & 2026 District Cost Share completion: J&B DeGarbo Family Farms, LLC ($5000 pipeline)—The board looked over and discussed the projects. They asked Lori to research if the change in scope for the Tarabino project had come to the board previously. The land leveler came up in conversation and Lori was directed to start the bid process to sell it. Motion to approve the Tarabino fence payment by Tami Tamburelli. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 7-0. Motion to approve the DeGarbo pipeline payment by Tami Tamburelli. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 6-0 with Joey DeGarbo abstaining due to conflict of interest.
   C. **CONSIDER/APPROVE:** Updated estimate for 2026 District Cost Share: JL Torres Ditch—Lori explained this cost share had been awarded contingent upon a site visit and that the district was aware the cost could increase slightly, mostly due to not having a DCT. Joe Amato visited the site and updated the estimate by $925 with an increased cost share of $462.50. The award would still be under the $5000 limit and the overall district cost share budget would still be under $50,000. Motion to approve the updated award by Joey DeGarbo; Second: Bob Porter. Motion carried 7-0.
4. **REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS/ETC.**
   A. **REPORT:** District Manager—Lori gave her report about the building, equipment, correspondence, projects, etc. Also, Joe Amato has really carried district projects forward in absence of a DCT.
   B. **REPORT:** District Noxious Weed Tech—Alex had Tarabino Real Estate, Joelle Sissons, and Cary Nelson sign up for the noxious weed cost share. He suggested when people are asked to "sit out" after 5 years, that the district consider funding it as a re-seeding year to build up natural defenses. He takes his QS exam tomorrow. The first week of June the CDA will be here to spray. Alex also wants the cost share to run on a calendar year so it is easier for the budget and tracking/reporting. Tami suggested the district sponsor a pizza party for the CDA visit in June, that she likes the idea of the transition to a seed cost-share in an off year, and that it is important that the landowner get paid when someone is spraying on their behalf and not the sprayer themselves. Bill noted the "tier" awarded should be stated directly on the cost-share award paperwork. Lori noted they were not collecting SSNs due to raising the 1099 threshold to $2000 for 2026 and to keep PII at a minimum. Bob suggested Alex do before/after photos to really see the work getting done.
   C. **REPORT:** NRCS—Sammie gave his report. The last storm helped with precipitation. NRCS funding is very competitive with a multi-office funding pool. Trinidad is fully staffed; traveling to help others. *Note: Julie asked to give a PWP update. They have the State of the Purgatoire Conference on Saturday. CPW has funding for the watershed as a priority.*
   D. **ITEMS FROM THE BOARD—**There is a CPW Roundtable May 11 at TSC.
5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** *Motion to go into Executive Session at 2:12pm by Joey Degabo; Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 6-0 as Tami had stepped out.*

A. §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., Personnel matters: District Conservation Technician contract

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 2:53pm by Doug Taylor. Second: Tami Tamubrelli. Motion carried 7-0.

6. **ACTION ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**
   - **A.** District Conservation Technician contract—Joey DeGarbo made a motion to approve the Employment Agreement and offer Randee DeCristino $22/hour with a 90 day review period. Second: Doug Taylor. Motion carried 6-0 with Gaylene DeCristino abstaining due to being related.

These action items were also taken based on Lori's District Manager Report:

Tami Tamburelli made a motion to increase the Janitor's contract by $100/month starting on July 1, 2026. Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 7-0.

Joey DeGarbo motioned to have Lori buy Joe Amato a $200 gift card to the Smokehouse restaurant as a thank you for stepping in to help. Second: Nancy Monteleone. Motion carried 7-0.

7. **NEXT BOARD MEETING –**Will be June 11, 2026 (SECOND Thursday)
8. **ADJOURNMENT**—Motion to adjourn 2:57pm by Tami Tamburelli. Second: everyone. Motion carried 7-0.

Signed: Lori Chatterton Date: 5-12-26

SP-PRCD District Manger