

Colorado League of RC&D Councils

Bi-Monthly Conference Call

October 28, 2008

Members Present

Marty McMillan—Southeast
Harold Anderson—San Luis Valley
Linda Matthews—Painted Sky
Nellie Zion—Northeast
Roy Horvath—San Juan
KristiGay—East Central Coordinator
Bob Frye—San Juan and League VP

Call to Order—Bob Frye called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Review of Minutes—Minutes from 29 April were postponed.

Financial Report--There was none as Gail was not present.

Old Business—

Mini-Grants—Bob said that 4 councils have requested their funds and 4 councils have not requested funds. He said that he had not heard of any problems and the group agreed.

Web Site—Roy asked about feedback about the league web site and no one had much to say. Nellie and Linda both looked up the site on line. Linda said she liked it. Roy mentioned there was a lot of options and capacity available that could perhaps be discussed in conjunction with the strategic plan. **The League web site is www.corcd.org**

New Business—

November Meeting—Bob suggested an annual meeting in November in conjunction with the Colorado Association of Conservation District (CACD) meeting in Estes Park. He asked the group for their opinions. Nellie and Harold said that historically we have met with the CACD. Bob did not feel that one meeting per year was not enough to maintain momentum. Harold indicated CACD had reserved a room from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Thursday, November 20, 2008.

The group felt that we needed to get all we could to attend. Harold, Nellie and Bob could attend. Roy was a maybe as he had another commitment. Linda and Marty were both supportive but probably could not attend. Linda will be resigning from Painted Sky Council as she will no longer be a Hinsdale County Commissioner. Harold suggested that Linda could fill a at large position. Linda said their by-laws did not provide for such

a position. The group agreed that this was too bad as Linda as been a real asset to RC&D and we need all the help we can get.

Bob said there were funds in the amount of about \$2600 expiring this year that could be used to cover meals, lodging and mileage to encourage council members to attend. Bob said that there had been discussions in the past about a part-time “executive director” for the league that could help with grant writing for councils along with other duties. This had not gone beyond general discussions. At the November 2008 meeting in Colorado Springs, Jim Brewer from East Central had also made this recommendation. The possibility of such a position was also part of the strategic plan discussions.

Harold and Bob discussed allocating about \$300-\$400 per council. Harold made the motion to have the meeting and to use League funds and Linda seconded. All were in favor. Because of prior CACD commitments of several Council members it was suggested the League Meeting begin at 10:00 AM. Bob said he would follow up with Kristi to get the change made. Bob said information would go out to all councils about the annual meeting and information about funds available to cover cost of attendance.

The web site for CACD is www.cacd.us. The lodging and meetings will be at the Rocky Mountain Park Inn (Holiday Inn) in Estes Park. The phone number is 970-586-2332. They have a block of rooms at \$78.00/night. Reservations should be made by November 4 to receive the \$78 rate.

Roy said that he had not made much progress with the strategic plan but that he was willing to continue to work on it. Harold confirmed that the discussions that had taken place last spring were on the right track and should be continued. Roy mentioned the RC&D grant program that Paul Van Ryzen had mentioned might be a possibility. Bob said he thought there could be support form the State NRCS Office for part-time help. Harold talked about the idea of getting funding to help have a part time help for each of the Councils to maintain the momentum. Nellie and Kristi discussed previous approaches for “director” position. Bob asked about getting a copy of Darlene’s job description. Linda mentioned the Executive Assistant position that the Southwest Nebraska Council has in place.

Bob said he would like to see the Council move up a couple of notches and be more active and visible. Bob will pursue some ideas—he mentioned the conversations that Randy and he had about bringing in some people from other out of state Councils to share their stories. Harold thought that would be good.

Bob asked if there was other business and there was none. Harold moved to adjourn and Roy seconded. The vote to adjourn was unanimous and meeting adjourned 7:55 PM.

RespectfullySubmitted by:
Roy Horvath and Bob Frye