



Colorado Agricultural Value-Added Development Board

Board of Directors

Mel Rettig (Chairman)
Grand Junction, CO

Brian Neufeld
Hooper, CO

Randy Wilks
Burlington, CO

Robert Bray
Redvale, CO

John P. Cure
Idalia, CO

Ben Rainbolt
Denver, CO

Tom Wingfield
Golden, CO

John Salazar (Ex Officio)
Commissioner of Agriculture

Tom Lipetzky (Secretary)
Colorado Department of
Agriculture

Lillie Collins
(Assistant Secretary)
Colorado Department of
Agriculture

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Meeting Minutes Big Thompson c/r December 2, 2014 @ 1:30 p.m.

Present: Mel Rettig, Brian Neufeld, Randy Wilks, John Cure, Ben Rainbolt, Tom Wingfield. Eric Lane, Sam Anderson, Tom Lipetzky, Shaina Knight, and Lillie Collins from CDA.

- 1. Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
(Motion: Randy moved to accept, Tom W. seconded. Vote was unanimous.)
- 3. Approval of Prior Minutes**
➤ June 20, 2014
(Motion: Tom W. moved, Ben seconded. Vote was unanimous.)
- 4. Financial Report**
Tom L. gave details on the budget. In January 2015 \$150,000 will be transferred into account. Then in March another \$150,000 will be transferred in. Total in account is now \$1.6 million, so after the transfers it will be \$1.9 million. Two different sub-accounts will be created, renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- 5. Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Programs**
Eric presented an overview of two reports, CSU's "Dairy and Irrigation Efficiency Pilot Program Evaluation" and CEO's "Final Report: Colorado Dairy and Irrigation Efficiency Pilot". Also provided was a map of the participating dairies and power irrigators.

Next step for energy efficiency: CEO will hire a contractor for the next three years to implement a statewide program based on the pilot. The program aims to engage 180 producers and help them tap into federal dollars (EQIP and REAP). ACRE³ will budget \$350k in energy efficiency funds over three years to support audits and implementation of EE measures. The program will also budget \$350k over same three years for renewable energy measures (primarily renewable thermal technologies).

The program submitted an RCPP proposal to USDA for small hydro to build thirty pressurized irrigation systems with hydropower over four years. Projects will include all new irrigation systems as well as retrofits. The commitment from ACRE³ is \$550k. Total estimates are \$300k from producers and \$1.8 million from NRCS.

Progress continues with CEO to update the small hydro handbook. CEO is committing \$28k. ACRE³ is contributing \$20k for this as well as a new technical manual specifically for small hydro on pressurized irrigation system. There will be two workshops to train people about 60 people. Contractors are being selected.

Total: \$1.25M to be invested (3 years RE & EE and 4 years Small Hydro) on at least 30 hydro and 144 EE.

(Motion: Brian made a motion to allocate \$1.25M toward above mentioned projects. Randy seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous to approve.)

Information the Board requested about a prior ACRE small hydro project: \$35k paid from ACRE on southwest corner of Elk View Ranch. It's working well for him and several of his neighbors have inquired if they could get help from ACRE³ too.

6. Value-Added & Marketing Programs

- Ag Development & Investment Partnership
Representative Young may be putting a marketing ag bill together. If approved it will probably be run through CDA and the Value-Added board. Partner with growers on feasibility studies. Colorado inventors/ag is heavily contributing.

- Enrich Ag Update
Shaina passed out a summary (attached) and went through the details for the board. *(Motion: Tom W. moved to accept changes (except to add controlled substance language to it), Ben seconded. Vote was unanimous.)*

7. Other Business

None.

8. Adjourned at 3:26m