



Colorado Agricultural Value-Added Development Board

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(Assistant Secretary)
Colorado Department of
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Meeting Minutes

CDA – Big Thompson C/R
June 23, 2015 @ 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 & Lillie Collins from CDA.

- 1. Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
(Agenda was approved as written.)
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
 - December 2, 2014
 - April 23, 2015*(Motion: Randy made a motion to approve and Brian seconded. Approved unanimously.)*
- 4. Recipient of Enrich Ag Grant – Jeremy West, Weld County School District**
Jeremy West gave an update on how the EnrichAg Grant program is working at the Weld County School District 6. Attached is the hand out of his presentation.
- 5. Value-Added & Marketing Program Update**
Shaina gave an update of the progress of each grant recipient. Attachment gives details.
- 6. ACRE Budget Update**
As the handout shows, the budget has a significant balance but the vast majority of the funds are committed to projects in small hydropower, energy efficiency, and thermal renewable implementation with dairies over the next 3-4 years. Overall, there is significant progress in small hydropower and \$1.8 million in federal funding has been attracted to Colorado to help defray producer's expenses to install more efficient irrigation coupled to hydropower. The collaboration with CEO is also driving hundreds of thousands of Dept. of Energy dollars into energy efficiency in the agricultural sector.
- 7. Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Projects Update**
ACRE program update from Sam A. CDA established formal partnerships in 2014 to leverage program capacity. The RCPP Hydro Program expands \$800,000 in ACRE funding to \$3 million through NRCS to install 30 new hydro and irrigation systems by 2019. The Dairy and Irrigation Efficiency Program expands \$700,000 to more than \$2 million through the Colorado Energy Office to install more than 120 energy efficiency projects and add renewable heating

and cooling systems by 2018. The first projects will begin in Fall 2015. In April, CDA also trained more than 60 engineers to assess and develop hydropower projects for the hydro program.

8. Other Business

Legislation update from Tom L. HB15-1320 introduced by Rep. Young died in the Senate Ag Committee. The bill would have channeled funds to CAVADB to foster ag innovation. It failed simply due to lack of available resources.

9. Adjourned at 3:10 pm.