Teller-Park Conservation District

PO Box 2027 | Woodland Park CO 80866
800 Research Dr Ste 160 | Woodland Park CO 80863-9732
(719) 472-3671 | TellerParkCD@gmail.com

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 10:00am
Meeting Room of Teller County Government Offices

approved

CALL TO ORDER

On Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at about 10:00am, at 800 Research Dr Ste 224 (Teller County Government Office meeting room) the business meeting of the Teller-Park Conservation District (TPCD) was called to order by President Laurie Glauth.

Board members present constituting a quorum were Laurie, Vice-President Wendy Dillenschneider, Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Pruitt, and Board Supervisor Greg Liverman. Board Supervisor Dave Gottenborg and Ex-officio Colorado State University Extension (CSU-Ext) Teller and Park Counties were absent.

District Manager (DM) Mariah Hudson and partners Chris Smith, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Conservationist were present.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Greg moved to approve the business meeting minutes from August 12, 2026, Rebecca seconded; a majority voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board discussed questions about “fixed assets” and the *prior period adjustment* detail on the August 31, 2026 balance sheet. The DM will provide more information about these at the next business meeting. **Motion**: Rebecca moved to accept the August 2026 financial report, Wendy seconded; a majority voted in favor and the report will be filed. The Board discussed a third certificate of deposit (CD), for more competitive rakes at our current financial institution. **Motion**: Rebecca moved to open a $25,000 six-month CD at Park State Bank & Trust, Wendy seconded; a majority voted in favor and the account will be opened.

STAFF REPORTS

DM (Marisa): Mariah reported for Marisa that she’s been helping Mariah get up to speed. Our bank info/changes have been completed and all needed signatures have been obtained. The supervisor list has been submitted as required. Our Dark Skies letter has been sent to Mueller.

Marisa is meeting with Pat on 9/10 to work on the sales tax issues. We are waiting to hear about the status of the CSCB 2027 grant.

DM (Mariah): The DM reported her appreciation for the Board's grace as she learns our District; she primarily started on 9/1 and has explored our records, accessed accounts, connected with landowners and partners, and begun regular staffing duties.

- We received approval from the State Auditor's Office of our 2026 exemption from audit.
- The next Upper Arkansas Watershed Association meeting is Tuesday, 9/15 in Pueblo West (Greg and Wendy requested the DM to cancel their RSVP due to the rescheduling from 9/17, no TPCD Supervisors will be attending).
- Colorado State Conservation Board (CSCB): They will hold their quarterly meeting tomorrow, in-person from Palisade, CO and online. Matching grant applications will be reviewed and voted upon at that meeting. The CSCB continues their virtual coffee hours on the second or third Wednesday of each month beginning at 9:00am; the next meeting is 9/16 with a presentation from Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Lands Section. A printed copy of July's District "visibility" submissions was shared.
- Statutory deadlines: A draft budget is due for the Board's review by 10/15. As "uncompensated public officials" the District may vote to exclude Board Supervisors from Workmen's Compensation; that form is due by 11/15. 2027 is an election year; Laurie and Rebecca's terms expire in 5/2027 but they are both term-limited.
- Insurance: It is not anticipated that we will have any W-2 employees in 2027 and Districts don't generally provide Workmen's Compensation for 1099 staff. Our 2027 liability insurance coverage and documentation needs to be reviewed.
- Website: Our new website is under-construction. The DM attended a Statewide Internet Portal Authority (SIPA) conference on 9/3 including helpful website accessibility breakout sessions.
- Seed drill: The current condition, moving, and getting the drill into the community was discussed. The DM will connect with other districts who have drills to explore their experience, procedures, documentation, and other considerations.
- Publication: Development or partnership regarding a rural mountain living guide was discussed.
- Ideas and recommendations: The DM shared a list of policies to be reviewed, updated, or created. Possible changes to meeting agendas, and the addition of an approved/signature line on meeting minutes were suggested. The Board requested additional details on each monthly DM invoice. A printed survey for Board Supervisors to fill out to guide work, events, partnerships, and efforts for the District was shared.

NRCS (Chris): Chris reported they've done a lot of conservation planning this past month with 23 EQIP applications for 2027. The signup deadline is November 20. He is in the field a lot helping the cultural resource and historic preservation office; this work is intensive and requires land to be walked a second time with the archaeologist. They've had a lot of office walk-ins and a lot of folks

approved

are interested in weed spraying and cost-share. Current CD weed work and the grant may need conversation to update the NRCS office. The state conservationist (Clint Evans) said they are not to touch grass seed sales. Their staff had another meeting about reorganization of the department but they aren't allowed to share details with us; letters should be out by November 2 to their staff about assigned duty stations.

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies (Kyle Deschenes, Partner Biologist): No report.

CSU Extension (Park or Teller County): No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Rebecca has signed our July 8, 2026 updated Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) policy.

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Draft Budget: A draft budget will be crafted for presentation at our 10/14 meeting.

Long Range Plan: Our long range plan does not expire until 12/31/2027. These are due 1/1 every three years and our next plan will be due 1/1/2028.

November Meeting: Our November business meeting was rescheduled from 11/11 to 11/4.

CACD Annual Meeting: We haven't received information yet from the CACD about several activities including their annual meeting. It's scheduled for November 10-12 in Colorado Springs.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Laurie: Rose/Envirothon reached out by email; the DM should draft a schedule and be proactive in working with her for next year's Envirothon contest.

Wendy: Teller County Commissioners reached an agreement with Quantum Tech (solar) in Divide; they will vacate in 90 days. A camp in Teller County which is difficult to access (through Teller County) is being reviewed (access questions and impacts also seen in Douglas County). The Colorado Ag Stewardship Tax credit applications are due in November. The DM will share planning and application workshops and news with the Board.

Greg: Teller County will have a final reading tomorrow for a short-term rental (STR) ordinance. A lot of people are expected to show up with speaker time limited to three minutes each. The county's move to a service center in Divide was discussed, including impacts on our meeting location.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: At about 11:56am, Greg moved to enter executive session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f) for discussion of a personnel matter involving modification of new District Manager contract language, Rebecca seconded; a majority voted in favor and Laurie, Wendy, Rebecca, Greg,

approved

and the DM entered executive session. Greg made a recording of the session. At about 1:23pm, Supervisors and the DM exited executive session.

Motion: Greg moved to enter into a contract with the District Manager (DM) as a 1099 contractor, compensated on a monthly basis for $30 per hour of actual hours worked, anticipating about 18-20 weekly hours, with 50% of mileage reimbursed at the federal rate for travel to the office for standard business activities *and* modification of the following on the proposed contract: 1) expenses such as hotels, meals, and mileage, incurred for pre-approved, non-standard business activities, events, meetings, and site visits will be compensated except for those professional development activities which remain the responsibility of the contractor, 2) compensated activities will include consideration of pro rata rates where the DM is representing more than one DIstrict, and 3) through the end of the year, expiring on December 31, 2026. Wendy seconded; a majority voted in favor and the motion was approved. The contract will be electronically updated and shared with the Board before the next business meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at about 2:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next business meeting is scheduled Wednesday, October 14, 2026.

approved