



Gunnison Conservation District
216 N Colorado St
Gunnison, CO 81230
970-707-3047
AGENDA – Regular Meeting

Date: June 17, 5:00 PM

Meeting to be held at *Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, 210 W Spencer, Ste A, Gunnison, CO 81230*

Call to Order

Dan Zadra

5:00 PM

Partner Updates

N.R.C.S
Colorado State Forest Service
CSU Extension
Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
U.G.R.W.C.D
Trout Unlimited
Crested Butte Land Trust

Dan Olson/Jamison Jeweks
Mike Tarantino/ Dylan Eimer
Hannah Kersting
Marcella Tarantino
Beverly Richards
Jesse Kruthaupt
Jon Mugglestone

Approval of Minutes

Board

Treasurer's Report

Jon Mugglestone, Dan Zadra

Financial Statements

Provided by Tonya Carr

Old Business

DCT Project Updates

Ben Prior

Signal Peak cheatgrass treatment update

DM Update

Tonya Carr

4th Grade Water Festival, LWG Survey Responses, UGRWCD Proposal,
NFWF Reimbursements
New VOIP Line
Direct Deposit

New Business

DCT Update

Ben Prior

NDME grant potential projects/partners, cheatgrass pull day, cheatgrass mapping

DM Update

Tonya Carr

Mill Creek permit, Quarter Taxes, Quarter Reimbursements- CSCB & NFWF, Watershed meeting date, and project highlights.

Upcoming Events

Watershed Meeting TBD

7th Grade Mill Creek

Next Meetings

GCD Board Meeting: July 15, 5:00 PM

Adjourn

Dan Zadra

Executive Session following the meeting to discuss personnel salary.

Gunnison Conservation District

216 North Colorado St, Gunnison, CO 81230

Board Meeting Summary

Call to Order: 5:00 PM

May 20, 2025

The Gunnison Conservation District held its regular board meeting, both in person and virtually, on May 20, 2025. Below is a summary of the key discussions, updates, and upcoming activities.

Board Members Present: Dan Zadra, Jesse Kruthaupt, John Rozman, Tommy Rozman, Jon Mugglestone, Jan Coury

Board Members Absent: Holly Conn

Employees Present: Tonya Carr, Ben Prior

Others Present: Land Link Program Representative Emma Lietz Bilecky, Dan Olson, Jamison Jewkes

Key Highlights:

Land Link Presentation:

Emma Bilecky from the Land Link program (Guidestone Colorado) presented their platform, which supports land access and transition for landowners and seekers.

- The online tool connects land seekers and landowners for lease, purchase, or apprenticeship opportunities.
- Program services include education workshops, one-on-one advising, and property assessments.
- The database currently includes approximately 25 statewide properties and encourages listings in the Gunnison area.
- Challenges such as affordability, housing, water rights, and financial preparedness were discussed.
- The board discussed outreach opportunities, including linking to the LandLink site and distributing brochures.

NRCS Update:

- Significant staffing losses (5–6 staff members) over the past month are impacting engineering capacity.
- Some EQIP funding pools were skipped due to a lack of engineering resources.
- New applications, especially for predator conflict projects, are underway.
- A USDA reorganization is expected soon and may further affect operations.

UGRWCD Update:

- The wet meadows field season has begun; cheatgrass work and volunteer events have started.

- Watershed Management Plan public release delayed until July or August.
- Airborne snow monitoring is ongoing; the hydrologic outlook for the region is poor.
- Working on a CWCB multi-project grant for agriculture.

Trout Unlimited:

- Collaborating with UGRWCD on ag infrastructure projects.
- Planning for the July 1 CWCB Water Plan grant cycle, with a focus on design and construction funding.
- Continuing efforts to advocate for B2E funding for watershed restoration.

CB Land Trust:

- Seasonal agricultural grazing and vegetable production are underway.
- Ongoing partnerships with agricultural families and Mountain Roots.

Approval of April Minutes

ACTION: Motion to approve by Jesse Kruthaupt

Seconded: Tommy Rozman

Approved: Unanimous

Approval of Treasurer's Report

ACTION: Motion to approve by John Rozman

Seconded: Jan Coury

Approved: Unanimous

Old Business:

- One CSP contract finalized.
- Five producers ranked for Predator Conflict EQIP funding.
- Previous NFWF grant final reimbursement is still pending.
- Q1 reimbursement for the 2025-2027 NFWF grant submitted.
- DCT funding secured through 2025, even if the Farm Bill lapses. CSCB will front costs.
- Annual Grant with UGRWCD discussed; includes:
 - Annual Spring Fire Mitigation Workshop
 - Targeted Conservation Proposal planning
 - Annual grant writing and budget support
 - Support for the annual meeting and the Local Work Group meeting.
 - The proposal will request \$10,000 and must be submitted by June 20.

New Business:

- Grant Proposals:
 1. CDPHE Rural Asbestos Grant (approx. \$39,000) to support greenhouse asbestos abatement in partnership with Western Colorado University.
 2. Natural Disaster Mitigation Enterprise Grant (up to \$850,000) to support wildfire and drought mitigation. A collaborative planning meeting is scheduled for June 10.
- The district will draft an agreement with Western to ensure access to and use of the greenhouse if the grant is awarded.
- DCT funding secured through 2025, even if the Farm Bill lapses. CSCB will front costs.

Annual Grant with UGRWCD discussed; includes:

- Annual Spring Fire Mitigation Workshop
- Targeted Conservation Proposal planning.
- Annual grant writing and budget support.
- Support for the annual meeting and the Local Work Group meeting.
- The proposal will request \$10,000 and must be submitted by June 20.
- Office phone service will transition to a dedicated GCD mobile phone (estimated monthly cost: \$40) due to relocation.

Administrative Items:

- Oath of Office documents for newly appointed or elected board members (Holly Conn, Jesse Kruthaupt, Tommy Rozman, John Mugglestone, Jan Coury) must be signed and submitted by June 5.

Upcoming Events:

- May 23: 4th Grade Water Festival (Upper Gunnison and GCD participating)
- May 31: Cheatgrass Awareness Workshop.
- June 10: Disaster Mitigation Grant planning meeting

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Next Meeting:

June 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM (Location TBD; alternating between Upper Gunnison and GCD offices)

Questions? Contact us at gunnisoncd2006@gmail.com