

MINUTES

Branson - Trinchera

Conservation District

Monday, June 8, 2026 @ 12:00pm

ANNUAL MEETING

Kim, CO School Commons

Meeting was called to order by Harold Unwin at 11:56am. Approximately 35 people were in attendance.

I. BUSINESS MEETING

A. Call meeting to order and roll call of attendance:

- Dale Yocam, President—arrived around 12:30pm
- Dick Loudon, Vice President—present
- Harold Unwin, Secretary/Treasurer—present
- Lori Green, Member—absent
- Will Ward, Member—present

B. Introduction of Guests & Welcome—Harold Unwin welcomed and introduced guests and the board members.

C. Suspend approval of Minutes & Treasurer's Report—no action taken

D. Prayer—Harold Unwin presented the prayer

E. LUNCHEON

F. Presentations

- Charlie Wait FFA Speech—Charlie spoke about Country of Origin Labeling or “COOL” for beef and po4k
- Water Witching (Electronic) with Ray Burtin—Ray gave a presentation about computerized water witching and finding the middle of a water channel with “geophysical magnetic survey” equipment (not able to tell depth). He has experience with over 200 wells in Trinidad and Walsenburg, and more in the San Luis Valley. Scans are \$600 and can be layered into Google Earth. 90% success rate in Oklahoma. The imaging allows for magnetic signatures of elements and can find good water. Corysfieldservice.com 720-517-2444
- Vapor Lok Rhombo (Shade/Aqua Balls) with Terrance Tschatschula—Terrance presented on his company's rhombos and gave out samples and showed slides and research. He answered many questions. The rhombos can withstand 130mph winds, and have a 25+year life span. The design causes them to “lock” together so they are more stable and counter balanced. The cost for a 20' tank is \$2875 delivered. For 18 tanks in bulk, he can do \$2500/tank. 10 rhombos = 1 square foot. Rhombos help with ice buildup and he is currently doing tests on temperatures with different colors. Helps reduce evaporative loss by 95% and prohibits algae build up. Harold Unwin will be doing a demonstration project and invited people to take a look. terrance@bluesky75.com or 303-246-0423

G. NEW BUSINESS

H. OLD BUSINESS

I. OTHER BUSINESS

- Financial Report—Harold Unwin went over the financials.

- Annual Report 2025 (slideshow)—Harold Unwin went over the annual report for 2025 and there was a slideshow on the TV during the event with the report.
 - Ramon Zamora, FSA—was unable to attend. Sammie Molinaro with NRCS noted that FSA has some drought related programs including the Livestock Forage Program.
 - NRCS/CSCB Local Working Group—This is district feedback for NRCS regarding conservation work. Sammie Molinaro with NRCS was present to take notes and Carissa Whittington out of Sterling, CO from CSCB was present to lead the discussion. Some concerns were lack of contractors, lack of funding, the “red tape” with paperwork and studies and competition with larger districts and only having rangeland prohibits qualifying for programs. In general, the members prefer mailed postcards, etc. as the best form of communication. One success mentioned was the Jackson’s work on water lines and grazing. Water development was the priority and everyone liked the electronic water scanning for wells as a practice to implement. Something to improve was NRCS fencing specs do not really work for the district. Sam Meldon, the new area representative for CSCB was also present along with Tammy Ridennoure who is the Vice President of the CSCB Board. Tammy addressed the state shortfall in funding for the CSCB Matching Grants. The narrative needs to speak to the board and is very competitive. Educational components are vital to complement projects.
 - Business from district members and guests—none
- J. **NEXT MEETING:** Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 7pm via Zoom
- K. **ADJOURNMENT @2:27pm**