Time to put the spotlight on some issues for your information.

First is the lawsuit filed by the Cures in US District Court against the Secretary of Agriculture and administrator of FSA. The complaint is 12 pages in length and I am reserving comment until later except to say the Cures want the target zone reinstated back into Republican River CREP program which we were successful in eliminating recently. That was a battle that took over two years, several thousand dollars in expense, hundreds of miles in travel and a trip to Washington. That was a big win and we must win this lawsuit also.

The RRWCD spend thousands of your dollars to help the Cures get the target zone. Just a note of information. If the target zone were adopted into the CREP program this allows the Cures to sell their water and get into CREP. That is 15 million dollars into their bank account. Anyone outside of the target zone would not be allowed to do that. Everyone who has entered into the CREP as of now has to cap their well permanently and turn the permit back to the state.

Why should the Cures have a special privilege when no one else gets that benefit? They can't and this nonsense needs to stop.

I asked Mr. Coryell recently if the RRWCC was going to help get the target zone reestablished into the CREP. It took him a while to answer but he said no. I'm watching your actions closely, Mr. Coryell.

I have received a copy of the answers to the Cure complaint. The two US attorneys have given 53 specific answers to the complaint and four defenses. One of the defenses where the defendants reserve the right to plead were applicable any state or federal statutes. Colorado has a statute that is clear. To get in the well shut down CREP, a producer has to shut down the well permanently, turn the permit back to the state. One cannot use the water for a pipeline and the RRWCD get the permit. That language is clear, Mr. Coryell.

The next issue is the result of a June 5, 2012 meeting of RRWCD. The purpose of the meeting was how to get the Cure land seeded back to grass since the target zone was removed from the CREP amendment. There are two USDA programs to assist the Cures to establish grass on the

land of 8,600 acres, dryland CREP and Equip. The minutes read as follows: “If the Cures are not able to get into the CREP the RRWCD is obligated to pay one half of the estimated cost to revegetate those acres.” On page six of the water lease it does read the RRWCD might be obligated to pay those costs.

Contacting some custom contractors who drill grass, using a five seed mix, the cost would be 50 thousand dollars for seed, twenty for drilling. Eight thousand six hundred acres times seventy dollars comes to six hundred thousand dollars. RRWCD‘s one-half is three hundred thousand dollars of your hard earned money. Cures pay three hundred thousand.

The tax collected by producers is to be used for compact compliance only, not to plant grass on millionaires land.

The minutes state in June 2012 there was no money in EQUIP. In 2012 there was thirty-two million dollars for EQUIP. I have had a recent meeting with the program manager in Denver on funds for EQUIP. I got a different story than the RRWCD on EQUIP. Cures know what they have to do to get their land seeded. They don’t know when. That is up to Kansas and the Sand Hills water district approving the pipeline.

Why the RRWCD would agree to pay one-half of the cost to seed that land is beyond comprehension. Unbelievable. I am drawing a line in the sand. If the RRWCD intends to spend one dollar on the seeding of that land you will be legally challenged. Count on that.

This is my article and no one offered any comments to me.

Milton Mekelburg

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