

Ethics & Conservation Districts



Colorado Conservation Leadership
Program

April 13, 2008



Ethics & Conservation Districts

Examples from Participants

- n Not bashing “people” at board meetings
- n Fraternization
- n Board member selling products to their own district
- n Cost share funding to our favorite people
- n How to handle and when to abstain from decisions because of personal gain
- n Holding people to different standards (favored people)



Colorado Constitution

CRS Title 24-18-101 Code of Ethics



Colorado Constitution

Section 1. Purposes and findings. Statute text

(1) The people of the state of Colorado hereby find and declare that:

- (a) The conduct of public officers, members of the general assembly, local government officials, and government employees must hold the respect and confidence of the people;
- (b) They shall carry out their duties for the benefit of the people of the state;
- (c) They shall, therefore, avoid conduct that is in violation of their public trust or that creates a justifiable impression among members of the public that such trust is being violated;
- (d) Any effort to realize personal financial gain through public office other than compensation provided by law is a violation of that trust; and
- (e) To ensure propriety and to preserve public confidence, they must have the benefit of specific standards to guide their conduct, and of a penalty mechanism to enforce those standards.



Colorado Constitution

Section 7. Counties and municipalities. Statute text

- n Any county or municipality may adopt ordinances or charter provisions with respect to ethics matters that are more stringent than any of the provisions contained in this article. The requirements of this article shall not apply to home rule counties or home rule municipalities that have adopted charters, ordinances, or resolutions that address the matters covered by this article.



Colorado Constitution

Section 6. Penalty. Statute text

- n Any public officer, member of the general assembly, local government official or government employee who breaches the public trust for private gain and any person or entity inducing such breach shall be liable to the state or local jurisdiction for double the amount of the financial equivalent of any benefits obtained by such actions. The manner of recovery and additional penalties may be provided by law.



Ethics Policy

- n Example Code of Ethics
- n Example Conflict of Interest Policy



Ideas for Addressing

- n Group discussion of ideas for addressing unethical behavior



Board Works by Ledgerwood

Ray Ledgerwood

Owner

1260 SE Harvest Drive

Pullman, WA 99163

Telephone 509.332.2218

Cell 208.301.4728

Email rayledgerwood@msn.com