

P O Box 95  
Monument, OR 97864

## MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2020

MSWCD Parking Lot meeting  
311 Wilson Street  
Monument, OR 97864

### **Monthly Board Meeting**

**Call to Order** – Jim Bahrenburg, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

**Board of Directors in attendance** – Jim Bahrenburg, Brian Campbell, Jeff Thomas, Andy Watkins and Troy Cox

**Staff** – BA Robbins (District Manager), Greg Hill (Project Manager)

**Guests:** Jay Gibbs NRCS Regional Conservationist and Aaron Roth, NRCS District Conservationist

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Troy Cox made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the 7/20/2020 monthly board meeting and was seconded by Brian Campbell. With no further discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

#### Northside Conservation Cooperative-

MSWCD staff discussed their “Northside Conservation Cooperative” proposal idea for the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Jay Gibbs described the “layer cake” analogy for how to structure the proposal and the board and outlined the partitioning of funding if awarded. MSWCD Staff and board discussed options for match requirements, estimated funding ask and emphasized the need to send out a landowner interest flyer before planning a set of activities. BA asked the board for a roll call vote on whether to move forward with the proposal, Jeff Thomas made a motion to approve development of the application and that motion was seconded by Troy Cox. BA asked the board for a roll call vote on the motion yea or nay. The roll call vote was as follows: Jeff Thomas, Troy Cox, Jim Bahrenburg, Andy Watkins and Brian Campbell, yea. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Aaron Roth also gave an update on the Conservation Stewardship program (CSP) and staffing changes in the John Day District office.

## **DISTRICT BUSINESS**

1. Project Manager Report:

Greg updated the board progress with all open MSWCD project activities, submitted completion reports and grant proposal submissions to OWEB.

2. Financial Report:

BA presented her District financial report to the board. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Andy Watkins and seconded by Brian Campbell. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **COVID-19**

BA informed the board that no real changes to the COVID-19 office protocol had changed since last board meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. SIA Update:

BA reviewed her statement on behalf of the MSWCD that she gave at the Grant SWCD work session. BA also read the MSWCD position statement on Voluntary conservation and SIA's that was put together by her and Greg. A motion to adopt the aforementioned MSWCD position statement on voluntary Conservation and SIA's was made by Jeff Thomas and seconded by Troy Cox. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. RCPP Grant Meeting Update

BA updated the Board on the outcomes from the last RCPP meeting with NRCS in July.

3. Elections: Validated Candidates

BA gave a review of the validated candidates list for the upcoming elections.

4. Range Drill

A motion to sell the range Drill was made by Jeff Thomas and seconded by Andy Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote. BA assured the board the funds received from the sale of the Range Drill will be reserved for the enhancement of the spray program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. OWEB and OSWB Funding Updates:

BA updated the board on the status of available funding and new timelines for grant proposals through OWEB and OSWB.

2. Small Grants- Resubmission

BA informed the board of the ED falls irrigation efficiency grant being resubmitted and denied. The request was outside the small grant program parameters.

3. Spray Program- Updates

BA informed the board that the MSWCD spray service and grant spraying was going well with new employee Larry Stevens.

4. Vehicle Maintenance

Larry Stevens has been assigned the task of vehicle inspection and minimal maintenance. He is doing a good job of keeping all vehicles running as well as reporting any safety issues that need attention.

**OPEN FOR DISCUSSION**

The board and staff had a brief discussion on an irrigation efficiency and water rights concern from a previous MSWCD led project involving three local landowners on lower Cottonwood Creek.


**MEETING ADJOURNED**


7:10 pm


**MEETINGS:**

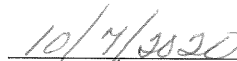
Next MSWCD board meeting to be held on October 5, 202 at 5 pm in the Monument Senior Center.

Approved by:

  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

  
Date

  
Recorded and submitted by

  
Date