



P O Box 95
Monument, OR 97864

MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2021

Conference Call

Monthly Board Meeting

Call to Order – Jim Bahrenburg called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

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

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

Guests: Aaron Roth- NRCS District Conservationist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the meeting minutes from 1/25/2021 and seconded by Brian Campbell. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Aaron Roth updated the board on NRCS review of civil rights and cooperative work agreements with SWCD and timelines for evaluations and approval. Aaron also informed the board of Feb. 16-18 dates for Local working Group meetings, deadline for Conservation Stewardship Program sign up (3/26/2021) and EQIP RCPP application deadlines 4/16. Additional information on covid-19 protocol postings around the NRCS John Day office and interest in potential outreach opportunities was also provided.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Project Manager Report: Greg gave his report on the status of current open projects, recent and upcoming site visits, development of upcoming projects and the status of the RCPP application.
2. District Manager report- BA asked if the board wanted to fill out her DM evaluation. The board agreed to fill out the evaluation and drop it off at the MSWCD office for Jim B. to pick up.
3. Financial Report: BA gave the financial report. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Troy Cox and seconded by Andy Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
4. Monument Vegetation Management: BA updated the board on the status of the Malheur National Forest contract renewal and Larry Stevens returning to work on 2/16/2020.

5. IT/COVID: No changes to report

OLD BUSINESS

1. ODA-SIA-AgWQ: BA informed the board that the SIA meeting with ODA has been postponed due to the COVID status in Grant county going from low to moderate. The ODA meeting is postponed until the fall. The MSWCD will maintain its position on SIA involvement but will limit the time invested until the fall. A discussion was had regarding the complaint process that ODA follows.
2. Equipment- Trailer repairs are on-going, no new tires on the side x side until later in February.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Meeting: BA updated the board on the 3/1 annual meeting date and that an announcement was pending. BA also updated the board on her meeting with the Bio-west Ag. Representative and planning an outdoor product information presentation. The tentative date is 3/10/2021 at the Cochran Creek Ranch. A flyer will be sent out to announce this presentation as the landowner engagement seminar. The board agreed that an RSVP would be a good idea.
2. Associate Directors, General Discussion: Andy W. suggested an additional person. BA will put together a list of names and email them to the board for review.

OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

BA discuss4ed the new E. Oregon Forest management webinars and asked if the board would be interested signing up for any of the class options. BA will send the class info to all board members. BA also discussed the upcoming staff schedule and planned time off.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:47 pm

MEETINGS:

Next MSWCD board meeting to be held on March 1, 2021 at 5 pm, this is the Annual Meeting.

Approved by:


Chairman/Vice Chairman

3/1/21
Date


Recorded and submitted by

3/1/21
Date