



P O Box 95 Monument, OR 97864

MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2022

Monument Senior Center

Monthly Board Meeting

Call to Order – Jim Bahrenburg called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Board of Directors in attendance – Brian Campbell via phone, Jim Bahrenburg, Jeff Thomas, and Andy Watkins (5:01pm).

Associate Directors in attendance – Carrie Jewel

Staff – Erik Rook (District Manager), Patrick Baxter (Technical Assistant), and BA Robbins (Office Manager) via phone.

Guests: Aaron Roth (NCRS) via phone, Alex Rice (Watershed Council) via phone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Jim Bahrenburg to approve the meeting minutes from 1/10/21 and was seconded by Jeff Thomas. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS

NCRS: Aaron reports that the Annual Local Workgroup Meeting will be held February 16th at 1-3pm via Zoom due to Covid; Partners will be presenting, and many topics will be discussed. EQIP stewardship signups opening on March 16th. Annual Contract reviews are in progress and they will be checking in with participants. Drought conditions haven't changed, but snow pack is down to 95%.

NFJDWC: Alex reports they are still working on the NFJDWC Strategic Action Plan. He will attend the NCRS Workgroup Meeting.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. District Manager Report: Erik reports that the Small Mouth Bass Monitoring fish array data was pulled successfully and looks good. The Cole Engle Habitat Implementation is still on track for July. The ODA Capacity quarterly report has been submitted. The CTWS capacity grant is funded for 69K and this funding covered the Cavender Wetland Delineation that was required as a provision of the DSL removal/fill permit.

The Engle Juniper grant for 492-acre juniper cut received a rating of 3 out of 7 and was recommended for funding. There was discussion on how the Engle project would be completed, the board's preference is a machine cut/pile/burn with root ball removal as well.

The Small Grant Team agreement for 2 years of funding of 100K has all been requested in just two months.

Erik expressed concerns over the amount of chemicals in storage that are available; one large order sold most of it. The prices are very high as forecasted. The board discussed ordering and storage strategies, including reaching out to frequent customer for possible preorders.

Jeff Thomas asked for an update on SIA's concerning AG Water Quality. The board discussed concerns over ODA's process, and prefer that MSWCD's involvement be primarily to be available to help landowners with any issues that are found and reiterated that the SWCD should not be involved in what area is delineated for an SIA.

2. Financial Report: BA provided the financial report along with supporting documentation. A motion to approve the report was made by Andy Watkins and seconded by Jeff Thomas. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

BA reports that some customers have long outstanding balances and those may need to be written off, and the customers put on a cash only basis. The final capacity payment from CTWS was received.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Meeting: A resolution was made to set the date of the Annual Meeting for March 7 2022 by Jeff Thomas and seconded by Andy Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

A resolution to have the Annual Meeting on March 7 2022 was made by Jeff Thomas and seconded by Andy Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Staffing Update – Project Manager: Erik shared some of the qualifications of the candidates so far. Jeff Thomas shared concerns over funding another full-time employee, and the board discussed and determined that funding is sufficient.

NEW BUSINESS

1. John Day Basin Partnership Uplands Prioritization – Kickoff and Update: Erik attended and provided a summary of the kick off meeting. Methodology will rely heavily on remote sensing and modeling. Landscape level prioritization will have to be coarser than the aquatic prioritization. The project is 2 years out, but will be good for MSWCD's area and area partners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:05pm

MEETINGS: Next MSWCD board meeting to be held at the Monument Senior Center on March 7, 2022 at 5pm.

Approved by:

Andy W.
Chairman/Vice Chairman

3-7-22

Date

Erin Peak
Recorded and submitted by

3-7-22

Date

Definitions

MSWCD: Monument Soil and Water Conservation District

NRCS : Natural Resources Conservation Service

NFJDWC: North Fork John Day Watershed Council

OWEB: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

ODA: Oregon Department of Agriculture

SIA:

AG: Agricultural

CTWS: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

