



P O Box 95 Monument, OR 97864

MEETING MINUTES

August 1, 2022

Monument Senior Center

Monthly Board Meeting

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:00 by Jim Bahrenburg.

Board of Directors in attendance – Jim Bahrenburg, Andy Watkins, Lisa Atkin, Brian Campbell (via phone), Jeff Thomas (via phone).

Associate Directors in attendance – Carrie Jewell and Judy Cavender

Staff – Erik Rook (District Manager), BA Robbins (Office Manager)

District Minutes: A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Lisa Atkin. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

District Annual Workplan: A motion was made by Jeff Thomas to approve the Annual Workplan with two corrections. The motion was seconded by Andy Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The corrected document is available at the office for the board chairman's signature after 1:00 on Tuesday 8/2/22.

GUEST LITST: Arron Roth, NRCS and Maria Snodgress, ODA

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS

ODA: Maria Snodgress reported the hiring of 3 Ag Water Quality Specialists and an SIA Specialist. The ODA Ag Water Quality program has received additional funding to support the existing program. The North Fork and Middle Fork Ag Water Quality (LAC) area will be conducting a full review of the area plan this year with the meeting planned for February or early March. BA asked for a list of the current members in advance of needing to fill any vacancies that may exist. Maria will send the list to Erik.

NRCS: Arron Roth reported that a new Forestry Specialist position has been added in the John Day area. The individual will work out of the Oregon Department of Forestry office to efficiently implement area NRCS forestry related programs. NRCS is finalizing the CSP contracts for this year. The CRP Grass Lands program has begun receiving applications with the per acre cost share increasing from \$5.00 per acre to \$11.00-\$12.00 per acre. The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) program has begun to be rolled out by the State of Oregon. Aaron explained some of the program details as well as some of the difficulties being experienced with

the new program. A link to the website is available from Erik at the MSWCD office. Aaron also reported the helicopter spray program using Rejuvra has begun, with oversight my Matt Wenick

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. District Manager Report: A full update was given of all current projects. Erik will evaluate and prioritize projects for the fall grant submission. All potential projects will be brought before the board for review prior to development. A copy of the detailed report is available at the MSWCD office. Staffing was discussed, the position for the Office Manager has been re-evaluated, a new job description nearly complete. The position will be posted in August. BA has given a hard date of 1/30/23 as her exit date.
2. Financial Report: BA provided the Monthly Fiscal report along with supporting documents. A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Jim Bahrenburg. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

District Manager Evaluation: Follow up on the annual process. Verbal input was given, all written evaluations are kept in the employee HR file.

Facilities Administration: It was agreed to create a facilities committee and give Erik the authority to investigate and pursue potential opportunities for properties expansion. He will work with the committee, then bring to the board any serious options for board approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Title II Funding: An expansion of our existing partnership with the Malheur National Forest and Grant Weed Control to include the Umatilla National Forest. The SWCD will focus on federal Forest Service areas that are within the district and have the ability to treat private property for landowners that are adjacent to forest service boundaries. Project submission will be August 15th, 2022.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:15 pm

MEETINGS: Next MSWCD board meeting to be held at the Monument Senior Center on September 11th, 2022 at 5pm.

Approved by:

Chairman/Vice Chairman

Date

Recorded and submitted by

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: Strategic Implementation Area

AG: Agricultural

CTWS: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

BLM: Bureau of Land Management