



P O Box 95 Monument, OR 97864

MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2023

Monument Senior Center

Monthly Board Meeting

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:0P PM by Jim Bahrenburg.

Board of Directors in attendance – Jim Bahrenburg, Lisa Atkin, Jeff Thomas, and Andy Watkins.

Associate Directors in attendance – None in attendance.

Staff – Erik Rook (District Manager), Todd Hoodenpyl (Office Manager), Emily Schmidt (Project Manager).

District Minutes:

A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the minutes of the August 07, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Lisa Atkin. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

GUEST LIST: NRCS Aaron Roth (via Phone), NFJDWC Alex Rice (via phone), OACD Andrea Kreiner, ODA Maria Snodgrass, OWEB Amy Charette, John Volle.

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS

ODA: Maria Snodgrass reported to The Board that ag water support grants are available with 650,000.00 budget towards projects. Maria also noted that 125,000.00 has been allocated for SIA projects. Maria said that ODA is close to being fully staffed and that ag water quality staff will be touring Grant County on October 02 through October 04.

OWEB: Amy Charette introduced herself to The Board and said that she is trying to travel to the local area meetings. Amy briefly spoke about the climate change criteria required for new OWEB grants.

NRCS: Arron Roth reported that they have hired Natalie Wright as a Soil Conservationist. Natalie is coming to NRCS from FSA in Pendleton. Aaron spoke briefly about finalizing the EQUIP contracts for the year and spoke about a landowner/contractor tour planned for October 17th.

NFJDWC: Alex Rice reported that they have completed their summer projects on the Bull Run Project. Alex said that NFJDWC has extended offers to two tech positions to assist with

projects. Additionally, Alex reported that the greenhouses are coming and should be at the office in the next two months.

OACD: Andrea Kreiner introduced herself to The Board as the new Executive Director. Andrea described a long history working with SWCDs. Andrea reminded the board of the OACD Annual Conference occurring on October 16-18. Andrea finished her comments by stating that her priority focus is on OACD member services.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Comment provided

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. District Manager Report: Erik Rook provided an update on current projects. A copy of the detailed report is available at the MSWCD office. Erik discussed the upcoming fall grant submissions of Technical Assistance Grant for Lower Cottonwood Instream Habitat and a Multi Landowner Forestry Restoration Project on Top Road. He also discussed the current ODA Capacity Grant and future grants with the CTWS.
2. Project Report: Emily Schmidt provided the Board with an update on projects that staff have worked on throughout the last two months.
3. Financial Report: Todd Hoodenpyl provided the Monthly Fiscal report along with supporting documents. Todd Discussed current billing and went through the budget-vs-actuals document indicating most of the unusual budget percentages were due to ODA Capacity spending. **A motion was made by Jeff Thomas to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Jim Bahrenburg. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

ODA SIA- Maria Snodgrass presented information in regards to Ag Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas. An in-depth discussion was had between Maria and The Board about Monument SWCDs level of involvement in the implementation of SIA's withing The District. It was widely agreed by The Board that the MSWCD will always be available to assist landowners should they need assistance in correcting a discrepancy or needing assistance in helping with grant funds.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:31 pm

MEETINGS: Next MSWCD board meeting to be held at the Monument Senior Center on October 02, 2023 at 5pm.

Approved by:

Andy W
Chairman/Vice Chairman

10-2-23
Date

Eric Pook
Recorded and submitted by

10-2-23
Date

Definitions

MSWCD: Monument Soil and Water Conservation District

NRCS : Natural Resources Conservation Service

NFJWC: 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

ODF: Oregon Department of Forestry

ODFW: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

