



P O Box 95 Monument, OR 97864

## MEETING MINUTES

November 06, 2023

Monument Senior Center

### Monthly Board Meeting

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 4:56 PM by Jim Bahrenburg.

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

**Associate Directors in attendance** – None in attendance.

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

**GUEST LIST:** John Volle, Aaron Roth - NRCS.

### District Minutes:

**A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the minutes of the October 02, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Lisa Atkin. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

### AGENCY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS

NRCS: Aaron Roth reported that he has accepted a position with the State office of NRCS as the State Resource Inventory Coordinator. He said he is currently working in his old position and his new position until the new District Conservationist arrives next month. He reported that the new DC for Grant County is going to be Hanna Smith. Aaron provided additional staffing updates to the board and provided the board with information on forest and range land funding now available through EQIP IRA.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Comment provided

### DISTRICT BUSINESS

- District Manager Report: Erik Rook provided an update on current projects. A copy of the detailed report is available at the MSWCD office. Erik informed the board of the change in auditor associated with Barnett and Moro. Additionally, Erik spoke with the board about the shift in funding for Noxious Weed Control for Monument SWCD which will now come from USFS and the Warm Springs Tribe rather than grant funds from ODA. The board agreed with the direction the district was headed in regards to funding the weed program. Erik provided the board with the OACD ballot which allows the district to vote for three positions within OACD.

**A motion was made by Andy Watkins to give Erik Rook the authority to cast the vote for the Monument SWCD on the OACD Ballot. The motion was seconded by Jim Bahrenburg. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

2. Financial Report: Todd Hoodenpyl provided the Monthly Fiscal report along with supporting documents. Todd discussed with the board that the Bank of Eastern Oregon has now given him authority to make deposits at the local ATM machine. It was noted that Todd's bank card is still not authorized to withdraw cash and can be only used on credit card purchases or deposits. The board was then updated on interactions with Barnett and Moro in regards to the Audit/Review being conducted. **A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Lisa Atkin. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  
3. Project Report: Emily Schmidt provided the Board with an update on projects that staff have worked on throughout the last month.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Annual Meeting- Erik discussed the upcoming annual meeting for the year 2022-2023. A copy of resolution #11062023 was provided to the Board. **A motion was made by Andy Watkins to approve resolution #11062023 with a change to the date of the annual meeting to April 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Lisa Atkin. The motion passed by unanimous vote and resolution #11062023 was adopted.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Private Forest Accord Grant (ODFW)- Erik discussed that the district was working on applying for funding to pay for survey and planning work for projects on Cottonwood Creek through this grant.

John Day Basin Partnership Uplands Prioritization- Erik provided the board with an update on the work done with the JDBP Uplands Prioritization and provided the board with maps describing areas of priority. The work being done will be presented to the partnership which will be used to apply for additional grants.

Documentary "The West is Burning"- Erik recommend that the board watch the documentary "The West is Burning". The documentary is well put together discussing the past history of logging and environmental action and how the two parties are coming together to combat wildfires through the use of controlled burns and fuel reduction.

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:23 pm**

**MEETINGS:** Next MSWCD board meeting to be held at the Monument Senior Center on December 04, 2023 at 5pm.

Approved by:

Andy WS  
Chairman/Vice Chairman

12-4-2023  
Date

Earl Rook  
Recorded and submitted by

12-4-2023  
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

ODF: Oregon Department of Forestry

ODFW: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife