

MINI-CASSIA DIRECT SEED & COVER CROP PROJECT
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

Date: March 10, 2022 @ 12:00 noon

Location: Minidoka Fairgrounds
McGregor Building - 85 East Baseline Rd. Rupert

Committee Members in Attendance:

Richard Kunau (Chairman)
Brian Kossman (Vice-Chairman)
Ken Woodworth (Treasurer)
Dusty Wilkins (Member)
Brent Stoker (Member) (via Zoom)
Mark Webb (Member)

Others:

Rob Cottle (East Cassia)
Hannah Sanders (East Cassia)
Kyle Bowers (West Cassia)
Aaron Firth (Minidoka)

Admin in Attendance:

Sharon Hardy (Minidoka Admin)
Rachelle Osterhout (Cassia Admin)
Doreen McMurray (Cassia Admin)

- I. **Called to order** at 12:03 PM by Committee Chairman Richard Kunau.
- II. **Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes from the Previous Meeting (November 11, 2021) by Dusty Wilkins. Seconded by Mark Webb. Motion carried.
- III. **Treasurer's Report** reviewed in detail by Treasurer Ken Woodworth. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by Mark Webb and seconded by Dusty Wilkins. Motion passed.
- IV. **Budget** and the expenses so far for the current FY were reviewed. Committee members expressed some concern that the expected drill rental income may not meet amounts expected due to fuel costs and changes in economy.
- V. **Drill Repairs** – Repairs have been completed on both drills by Ag-Vantage. Total drill repairs and expenses for the FY22 so far are Cassia - \$7,958.69 and Minidoka - \$5,682.24.
- VI. **Workshop Review** – The 7th Soil Health Workshop was held on February 3, 2022. It was an excellent workshop and well attended despite covid challenges, competing meetings, and no pesticide credits being offered. The workshop was offered by Zoom as well as YouTube recordings which are posted on our website.
- VII. **Admin Hours** – Ken Woodworth made the motion to reimburse districts for the admin hours spent on Direct Seed activities. East Cassia \$779.63, West Cassia \$779.62, and Minidoka \$862.75. Dusty Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Future Goals:**
 - a. **Workshops** - Supervisors view the workshop as the legacy of the Direct Seed & Cover Crop Project. They feel that continuing a workshop can provide needed education to the community. They also feel that a workshop can be a positive face for the districts. They discussed ideas to reduce workshop expenses (recognizing that the drill income may not be able to support them in the future). Possible funding through WQPA money or Ag Education grants through EPA? They would like to change topics to water issues. Possible speaker ideas include Amalgamated Sugar Soil Scientists. They also discussed need to offer pesticide credits and charge for people to attend the event. They will discuss the workshop idea more at July's meeting.
 - b. **Drills** – The drills are requiring yearly expensive repairs. Committee discussed possibility of selling the drills. Decided to keep the drills and keep renting them. They will wait until after Spring planting to see how much use the drills get and evaluate at the July meeting.
 - c. **Other** – The Direct Seed Account will continue to reimburse districts for Admin hours.
- IX. **Supplies to Order:** Dusty Wilkins made a motion to purchase Epsom Printers for both offices with needed ink, stating that these printers are more economical. Mark Webb seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- X. Next meeting will be planned for July 2022 in conjunction with the Summer Picnics.
- XI. **Adjourn:** Mark Webb motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes submitted by: Doreen McMurray (East & West Cassia I & E Specialist), Sharon Hardy (Minidoka Admin), and Rachelle Osterhout (East & West Cassia Admin).