

**WEST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES –December 13, 2022 BOARD MEETING**

Place: Burley NRCS Office
Date: December 13, 2022
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Presiding: Richard Kunau

Supervisors Present

Richard Kunau – Chairman
Jordan Searle – Vice-Chairman
Brent Stoker - Member

Employees and Agency Representatives:

Doreen McMurray, I&E Specialist
Melanie Nebeker, TA2021
Steve Schuyler

Supervisors Not Present:

Ken Black – Member
Kathy Poulton –Treasurer
Kyle Bowers – Associate Member

ACTION ITEMS

- I. **Meeting called to Order by:** Richard Kunau at 11:07 a.m.
- II. **Changes to Agenda:** Move Steve Schuyler to the first item of business after minutes & treasurer’s report.
- III. **Minutes for previous meeting:** November 9, 2022 Minutes – Jordan Searle moved to approve Minutes of previous meeting. Brent Stoker seconded. Motion Carried.
- IV. **Treasurer’s Report:** The Board reviewed the financial transaction detail sheet. Brent Stoker moved to approve Treasurer’s Report. Jordan Searle seconded. Motion Carried.
- V. **Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting day is the same day as the Water & Soil Health Workshop. They will have a meeting after the workshop only if it is needed.

ACTION ITEMS

- VI. Guest Steve Schuyler explained the Soil Health Forum that has been held in Twin Falls County. The Forum is for people who are implementing soil health practices. It gives them an opportunity to learn more and share ideas together. They start with a short program and the landowners tell about the practices they are working on. They ask questions and learn from each other. The Forum complements our Soil Health Workshop. Courtney Cosdon, Soil Health Educator for NRCS and CSI is in charge of the Forum now. This year’s forum will be held on January 24 from 10:00-1:00 at the Farm Bureau Building on Kimberly Road. Steve requested that West Cassia make a donation of \$50 toward the lunch for the Forum. **Brent Stoker made a motion to pay \$50 (or \$100 if either East Cassia or Minidoka Districts do not donate) toward the Forum. Jordan Searle seconded the motion. Motion carried.** A check was provided to Steve Schuyler for \$50 (written to the Twin Falls SWCD).

VII. AGENCY REPORTS/ REQUESTS – There were no official Agency Reports given.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Admin Report:

- a. **NRCS** - Since David was absent, Melanie gave a brief update on NRCS activities: David participated in some employee interviews, several were hired but not one for the Burley office. They will do interviews again in a few months. She also noted that the lack of engineers is a problem and NRCS is hoping to hire some soon but none will be assigned to our office.
- b. **ISWCC** - Since Carolyn was absent (at a conservation assessment training), Melanie mentioned that Delwyne Trefz spoke very highly of IASCD Conference.
- c. **TA2021** - Melanie has been helping with eligibility signatures and working on the Chatburn and Clark projects. Melanie’s last day of employment will be approximately February 14th, 2023.

- d. **Cotterel Boat Station** – Betty Carlson gave a report on the Boat Station and hoping that their building will be moved over to the old port building when it is torn down. They will stay at the rest area and will not move to the new Port when it opens. They discussed the need to get the CCSD contract completed in a timelier manner. Nick will work on the contracts. The new season will open in February or March, as soon as the contracts are ready and signed. Board reviewed the email between Rachelle and Nick. The finances should be closed out soon. Betty noted that they closed for the season on October 31st and all previous employees want to return next year.

The board reviewed the minutes from January 2022 meeting where they presented a formula for providing Bonuses from the Boat Station Admin Fees. **Brent Stoker made a motion that Boat Station bonuses be 33% or 1/3 of the Admin Fees received to the district be split between Betty Carlson and to Rachelle Osterhout for their work with the Boat Station. The exact amount will be noted when the final ledger is closed out. Jordan Searle seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

2. Calendar of Events

- a. **Next Board meeting** – Tuesday January 10, 2022 to be held following the Soil Health Workshop – ONLY if it is needed.
- b. **Water & Soil Health Workshop** – January 10, 2023 at the Burley Event Center. The AV tech man from Boise has canceled and Doreen is looking for options to handle the audio and visual jobs at the workshop.

3. Supervisor's Report:

- a. **RC&D** – There is an RC&D meeting on Friday December 16th. They will discuss dissolution and possibilities to keep functioning. They will try to elect new officers. **Jordan Searle made the motion to allow Rachelle Osterhout or Doreen McMurray vote for the board at RC&D meetings when no Supervisor can be present. Brent Stoker seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

4. Employee Report:

- a. There will be an Employee Workshop to help train employees on “The Red Binder” which will help organize and maintain all needed details for running the district. The Workshop will be held on December 28.

The Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 pm with a motion from Brent Stoker and seconded by Jordan Searle.

Respectfully submitted by Doreen McMurray