

JUNE 2020

**EAST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Draft Minutes for JUNE 2020 Board Meeting**  
**Masonic Lodge Burley June 16, 2020 at 11:00 am**

In Attendance: Chairman Mark Webb, Vice Chair Steve Ward, Hannah Sanders (by phone), Rob Cottle, Doreen McMurray, Melanie Nebeker, and Carolyn Firth. Meeting was held jointly with West Cassia SWCD Board. (Chair Richard Kunau, Vice Chair Jordan Searle, Treasurer Kathy Poulton, Brent Stoker, Ken Black, and Admin LaRae Warren.)

**ACTION ITEMS**

I. Meeting called to Order by Chairman Mark Webb at 11:10 am.

II. **Changes to Agenda:** Rob Cottle turned in his notarized documents qualifying him to serve as a District Supervisor. Steve Ward made a motion to appoint Rob Cottle to serve on the East Cassia Board of Supervisors (replacing Brook Holtman). Hannah Sanders seconded. Motion passed.

III. **Minutes & Treasurer's Report:** Hannah Sanders made a motion to approve Minutes of previous meeting. Rob Cottle seconded. Motion passed. Treasurer's Report was reviewed and discussed. Rob Cottle made motion to accept June treasurer report. Hannah Sanders seconded. Motion passed. Ken Woodworth will meet with LaRae in the office this week to sign Treasurer's report.

IV. **Awards Banquet.** With Covid19 restrictions, the Awards Banquet has been delayed and will be combined with the Summer Family Picnic to be held on July 14, 2020. East Cassia Awards will include: Cooperator of the Year George & Gwen Montgomery, Welcome to New Supervisors Hannah Sanders and Rob Cottle, 5 Year Service Pin to Brook Holtman, and combined with West Cassia, welcome to new District employee LaRae Warren and new District/NRCS employee Melanie Nebeker. Doreen is working to gather spotlights and awards.

V. **TA2019 NRCS Grant Salary:** LaRae Warren reviewed the NRCS Grant Salary for Melanie Nebeker's position. There are enough funds to cover the salary fully through November of 2020. It was approved by Ariel Rivers PhD NACD Rep who is over our region that we can start using TA2020 funds in December 2020 when TA2019 funding runs out.

VI. **Direct Seed Drill LOAN Procedures:** NRCS is approved to borrow the seed drill BUT- it must be properly checked out with a signed contract and insurance binder for the person hauling the drill and all records must be complete. Brent Stoker (West Cassia) made a motion for all papers to be in order or drill must be rented. Mark Webb seconded. Motion passed. Doreen will add this information to the Direct Seed Committee Agenda.

VII. **Scholarship:** Rob Cottle made a motion to award a \$500 scholarship to Riley Rigby. Steve Ward seconded. Motion passed.

VIII. **Office items:** QBooks has been updated and cost shared 1/2 East – 1/2 West. LaRae used online QB help and training to get things running. Purchased Paper and Ink for printer – 1/2 East – 1/2 West

## IX. Admin Reports:

**Boat Station:** Cotterel Report \$24,000 – Ready for funds – Coming soon per Nic with USDA

**Tree Sales Financial Report:** LaRae presented the final report for the 2020 Tree sale. The profits will be split equally between East Cassia, West Cassia and Minidoka. \$1732.39 Each District.

**Direct Seed Drill Rental Update:** 9 rentals for the Cassia Drill for 2020 as of June 12.

**TA2019 Report:** Melanie explained her duties and how her time has been spent. She related the challenges associated with the office closing and the covid19 restrictions. She has been working from home by Telework. HQIP – High Tunnels, emails, CD/Cart, HEL. Worked on CPA-52 and attended Minidoka SWCD board meetings. She also goes out with the NRCS employees when possible. Her time sheets were reviewed by both boards.

**IASCD Conference 2020 Preparations:** Division IV is hosting the Conference. Each district in Division IV is asked to provide a \$500 Sponsor as well as 2-3 door prizes valued at \$25+. Richard Kunau (as Division IV Chairman) is in charge of the Conference Planning Committee. Discussed the value of the Soil & Water Conservation Commission and support of Carolyn Firth's position. Districts need the services but want state commission personnel to work together - with cooperation. Richard Kunau is working on a Sub-Committee of Supervisors statewide to make decisions regarding the Commission.

## X. AGENCY REPORTS:

**1. NRCS Update:** David Mabey called in by phone stating the need for a mid-year LWG meeting.

**2. ISWCC Update:** Carolyn Firth discussed the ISWCC budget. Money allocations will be distributed in July, November, and spring of 2021. Capacity Building Funds will also be distributed (approx. \$1,000). Carolyn is working on the soil sampling project "Soil Your Undies". Melanie is helping with the sampling and is a great help on the project. Carolyn appreciates the support of the Districts. The Districts can give her suggestions on what can be done differently at any time.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 pm

*Respectfully Submitted by Doreen McMurray*

Note: *The Board may hold an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1) (A)(B)*