

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

November 11 2021 Board Meeting

Building McGregor 85 East Baseline Road Rupert Idaho

Tri District meeting: those in attendance were:

Richard Kunau, Brent Stoker, Jordan Searle of West Cassia SWCD, Doreen McMurray I&E Specialist

Brent Stoker, Ken Woodworth Rob Cottle, Steve Ward of East Cassia SWCD, Rachelle Osterhout Admin

Brian Kossman, Dusty Wilkins, Aaron Firth of Minidoka SWCD Sharon Hardy Admin

Melanie Nebeker TA2020, David Mabey NRCS Carolyn Firth ISWC – via zoom

Brian Kossman Chairman of Minidoka SWCD conducted the meeting by calling to order at 1:02 p.m. starting with agency reports.

NRCS David Mabey, stated that Maureen Pepper did not join by zoom as planned so he updated stating that the Water Quality specialist wants to reach out to the LWG (local work group). They are working to identify water shed areas. The EQIP deadline was last Friday November 5th. Numbers of application are down a little. David discussed the Local Work Group and its purpose, who attends and the funding. He stated the expectation for the Districts to participate and manage the event. The facilitator will be paid by NRCS but other expenses fall to the Districts. The LWG priorities have been very closely followed the past 2 years. David stated that NRCS is making shots and masks mandated or no job but has put that off until January 4th of 2022

ISWCC update – Carolyn Firth joined the meeting via Zoom and stated that match funding allocations have been processed and are on their way. Even though IASCD Conference has been canceled, ISWCC will still have their listening session on November 18th. Meeting details will be available soon and will be available in person or by zoom. Chuck Pentzer retired; Rob Sharpnack is the acting CRP manager. About ½ of the CRP contracts have been re-enrolled and there are some new ones they are working on.

TA2020 – Melanie Nebeker reported that the quarterly grant reporting has been completed and submitted. She listed the projects she has been working on for NRCS which include new CRP sign-ups, a few high tunnel sign-ups, and a lot of training (some in field training, a lot of online training). Melanie stated that she works in the office as little as possible as she has problems wearing face masks.

Boat Inspection Station Update – Betty Carlson was unable to attend, Doreen presented the information. The Boat Station closed at the end of October. Final details will be provided to West Cassia Board Meeting in December. Twin Falls County will no longer be managing the Boat Station at Rogerson which is near Jackpot. The possibility of running that station may come available if one of the District are interested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Steve Ward Vice Chairman of East Cassia called for Executive session as pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(A)(B) Everyone was excused except voting soil district board members of Minidoka, East and West Cassia Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Session began at 2:15 p.m. and was exited at 2:50 p.m. the tenor of the meeting was the discussion of the TA grant and supervision. A motion was made by Richard Kunau – West Cassia Chairman that the 3 Districts will continue with the TA Grant through the end of calendar year 2022 (which is the end of the grant) They will re-evaluate the progress in May of 2022. Rob Cottle – East Cassia supervisor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by individual roll call vote: Rob Cottle – yes, Dusty Wilkins -yes Jordan Searle -yes, Aaron Firth -yes, Richard Kunau -yes, Brian Kossman – yes, Brent Stoker – yes, Steve Ward – yes, Ken Woodworth -yes.

Board then separated into individual groups for their District board meetings.

Chairman Brian Kossman called the Minidoka SWCD board meeting to order at 2:58 those in attendance were Brian Kossman, Dusty Wilkins, Aaron Firth and Sharon Hardy

Minutes for the July meeting (no meeting held in August September or October) were reviewed with a motion by Dusty Wilkins and second by Aaron Firth to approve the minutes as presented. All approved

Aaron presented the financial statement with a request by Admin Sharon to include the Bill for Idaho Workers Comp that arrived yesterday. Dusty made the motion to approve the bills and include the Idaho Workers Comp bill, Aaron seconded the motion, all approved

Sharon reported that the poster contest was finished that our District 1st place winner also won 1st place in Division and a picture of that poster will be submitted for state competition. There were 720 posters delivered – one school choose not to participate. (we got those posters back) The Speech contest was held October 19th in the Library at Minico and worked well. Land Judging was October 14th we had 16 schools and two of them had 2 teams. It was cold as usual.

Performance report for 2021 was presented and reviewed with a motion to have Brain sign being made by Dusty, with a 2nd by Aaron. The motion carried.

State Conference was cancelled and will be scheduled as part of the Legislative days in January, with most likely a business meeting during that time.

LSO report is due, the date has changed to December 1st, and we have to have a board member present when the report is submitted... Sharon will be gone until the 2nd So Dusty and Aaron will stay after this meeting and get it done.

RC&D annual meeting is scheduled for December 3rd in Twin Falls and the ballot for officers needing to be cast to represent the District. The supervisors had Brian complete the ballot and sign it for Sharon to email it in. Sharon will attend the meeting.

Review of the budget, it was approved as presented by motion from Dusty and a second by Aaron motion carried.

Reminder LWG meeting is Monday 15 November at 9:00 a.m. here in the McGregor Building.

Tree winner from the County fair was Angela Perez she is excited to have won.

Supervisor reports: Brian stated that some of the CRP projects were being rejected due to not having the correct seed mix. FSA may need a letter of support for the project ore-do application. Dusty made a motion that we support FSA in this revision and if need be provide a letter of support. Aaron 2nd that motion. All approved.

Admin reported that the drill is needing to be taken to Ag Vantage that she will send an email of repairs that we know about over before the drill goes in. Dusty volunteered to take the drill over next week.

Admin – Sharon will be taking some vacation time in November and will be gone the 22nd through the 1st of December. And in December the 10th for a grandsons wedding and to be with family December 24-28th.

There being no more business Brian adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Hardy Admin