

EAST CASSIA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
April 2023
DRAFT MINUTES – April 4, 2023 BOARD MEETING

Place: 4-H Room Cassia County Courthouse
Date: April 4, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Presiding: Rob Cottle

Supervisors Present
Rob Cottle – Chairman
Ken Woodworth- Treasurer
Mark Webb- Member
Hannah Sanders- Member
Kurt Heward- Associate Member
Supervisors Not Present:
Steve Ward- Vice Chairman

Employees and Agency Representatives:
Rachelle Osterhout, Admin
David Mabey- NRCS
Carolyn Firth- ISWCC

ACTION ITEMS

- I. East Cassia Board Meeting called to Order by:** Chairman Rob Cottle at 1:07 PM.
- II. Changes to agenda:** No Changes
- III. Approve minutes of previous meeting:** Mark Webb moved to approve the minutes for the February 2023 meeting. Hannah Sanders seconded. Motion carried.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report:** Ken Woodworth presented the March 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Ken Woodworth made the motion to accept the March 2023 Treasurer’s Report and pay bills. Hannah Sanders seconded. Motion carried.
- V. Calendar of Events:**
 - 1. Next Board Meeting:** May 6, 2023- 1:00PM (Location TBD)
 - 2. District Budget Hearing Requests:** May 18, 2023
- VI. AGENCY REPORTS/ Requests**
 - 1. NRCS Update:** David Mabey updated the board about the Climate Smart Grant. NRCS will be associated with the funds and they are still in the planning process with how the funds will be distributed. David would like to get together with Mark Webb, Kathy Poulton and Dusty Wilkens to review Local Work Group questions and applications and discuss if the groups goals were met. David asked the board if they would be interested in having an informational presentation 2 to 3 times per year at a board meeting and possibly combining with Minidoka and West Cassia SWCD? The board agreed that this is something they would like. David shared a few suggestions: Erin Whorton would have a snow pack level/ water presentation and Maureen Pepper is a water quality specialist.
 - 2. ISWCC Update:** Carolyn Firth explained what the purpose of the District Hearing Request Meeting is. WQPA was awarded another 5 million dollars. Applications can be submitted May 1st through May 31st. Carolyn is working on the Chatburn project in Albion, Idaho and will be submitting a request for WQPA funding that East Cassia SWCD will be sponsoring.
- VII. OLD BUSINESS**
 - 1. No old business**
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS**
 - 1. Supervisor Training: Idaho Open Meeting Law-** Rachelle Osterhout shared the following Idaho Open Meeting Law information that was in the ISWCC March 2023 Commission Connector: Regularly scheduled meetings are fundamental to conducting conservation District business. Monthly board meetings serve several purposes including planning, determining board policy, identifying conservation needs, project review and approval, and approving district expenditures to name a few. These meetings are critical to fulfilling legal responsibilities, communicating conservation needs within the District, and taking District

action in the community. As a governing body of a public agency, a conservation District Board of Supervisors is required to comply with the Idaho Open Meeting Law. As stated by the Office of the Attorney General, "The Open Meeting Law codifies a simple, but fundamental, Idaho value: The public's business ought to be done in public." Rachele will be adding a copy of the Idaho Open Meeting Law Manual to the supervisor meeting packets that she is putting together.

2. **Donation to Idaho Envirothon & IDEA dues-** Hannah Sanders made the motion to pay \$50.00 to Idaho Envirothon and to increase IDEA dues from \$60.00 to \$100.00. Ken Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
3. **Venmo Accounts for Tree Sale & Drill:** Rachele Osterhout and Sharon Hardy looked into setting up Venmo accounts for the districts and discovered they will **not** work for the districts to use.
- 4.
5. **Drill Update:** Rachele Osterhout updated the board about the drill. Yearly maintenance is completed and Richard Kunau has picked it up. It will be stored at Kunau's shop again this year. Individuals have started scheduling to rent the drill. The Mini-Cassia Direct Seed & Cover Crop Committee are looking into purchasing an all-in-one-pass tillage tool to rent out called Turbo-Max. The board then had a discussion about the uses of this type of equipment.
6. **Tree Sale Update:** Rachele Osterhout shared that the tree sale is going well. The trees are almost sold out. We are tentatively planning the seedlings will be shipped out the week of April 17, 2023 and will be bagging April 24 or 25. Please remember to save newspapers for bagging trees.
7. **Awards Banquet:** West Cassia and Minidoka SWCD have agreed to have a joint banquet. Minidoka will be planning and hosting this year. Each district will be responsible to purchase the meals of those attending from their district. Rachele Osterhout informed the board members that there will be 2 banquets in this fiscal year. The board will discuss who to honor at the next board meeting.
8. **Other:**
 - **Discussion Board Member:** Mark Webb introduced Kurt Heward to the East Cassia SWCD board members. The board had discussion about what the requirements are to serve on a board. Rob Cottle sent a text message to Steve Ward about adding Kurt Heward as an Associate Member. Steve Ward was in favor of adding Kurt Heward.
Hannah Sanders made the motion to add Kurt Heward as an Associate Member to East Cassia Soil & Water Conservation District Board as an Associate Member. Ken Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion Carried

Adjourn: Mark Webb made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:56 PM. Ken Woodworth seconded. Motion Carried

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rachele Osterhout.