

**WEST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES – October 12, 2021 BOARD MEETING
Masonic Hall, Burley, Idaho**

Place: Masonic Hall
Date: October 12, 2021
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Presiding: Richard Kunau

Supervisors Present
Richard Kunau – Chairman
Brent Stoker- Member
Ken Black- Member

Employees and Agency Representatives:
Rachelle Osterhout, Admin
Melanie Nebeker, TA2020
Carolyn Firth- ISWCC

Supervisors Not Present:
Kathy Poulton - Treasurer
Jordan Searle- Vice- Chairman

ACTION ITEMS

- I. Meeting called to Order by:** Richard Kunau at 11:07 a.m.
- II. Changes to Agenda:**
- III. Minutes for previous meeting – July 13, 2021 Minutes –** Ken Black moved to approve Minutes of previous meeting. Brent Stoker seconded. Motion Carried.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report:** Rachelle Osterhout read treasurer’s report. Brent Stoker moved to approve Treasurer’s Report for August and September. Ken Black seconded. Motion Carried.

ACTION ITEMS

- V. Old Business –**
 - 1. District Handbook Update-** Rachelle Osterhout shared the section “Probationary Period for New Employees” that has been added to the Cotterell Boat Station Handbook.
 - 2. Audit-** Poulsen, Catmull and VanLeuven PA have agreed to conduct the audit. They have all of the information they have requested to conduct the audit.
- VI. AGENCY REPORTS/ REQUESTS**
 - 1. NRCS Update –** EQUIP deadline is November 5, 2021. David has been working on new CRP’s. Trec Reed has been hired. He is located at the Rupert office, however he does help over at the Burley office too. Covid update: Burley and Rupert are still operating at 50%. The Burley office is allowed 3 people working in the office. The Rupert office is allowed 2 people working in the office. Masks required when in the building or in government vehicles.
 - 2. ISWCC Update-** Loretta Strickland is our new Deputy Assistant. For the past 10 years Loretta has work for the Commission as a WQRC serving the Adams, Gem, Payette, Squaw Creek and Valley SWCD from her office in Emmett. At the September 16 meeting, Commissioners approved District match amounts recommended by SWC staff and the DAWG. East Cassia will be receiving \$8037.30. ISWCC has submitted their budget request to the state for FY 2023. The state limited agency total general fund requests to no more than a 3.1% increase over the funding approved for FY2022. In their budget they requested \$74,300 for Districts which, along with the lessor increases in the other expense categories, brought the total increase to just under the 3.1% cap. Jerry Trebesch, who served as an SWCC Commissioner from 2011 to June 2021 passed away in September after a three year battle with cancer. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds could potentially become available to fund conservation work. The SWCD may be able to fund projects focused on water conservation or Ag BMPs.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Admin Report:

- a. **TA 2020-** Melanie helped finish up CRP's and new sign ups. She helped dig up the underwear for the "Soil Your Undies" event. She has been completing online trainings, with a few days in the field to finish up the training. Rachelle and Melanie watched a webinar training on TA Grant Reporting. Melanie and Rachelle turned in the 3rd quarter report for the grant.
- b. **Cotterell Boat Station** – The boat station will be shutting down October 30, 2021. Boats checks have slowed way down. They will be winterizing the equipment to shut down for the season. When the new port of entry opens the boat station will stay at their current location.

2. Calendar of Events

- a. **Next Board meeting** – November 9, 2021 @ 11:00am. Location Masonic Lodge
- b. **LSEE Contest**– October 14, 2021 Contest (October 13, 2021 setup)
- c. **Speech Contest**– October 19, 2021 contest will be held in Minidoka County
- d. **Division IV Fall Meeting**- October 21, 2021 @ 2:00pm. Location Shoshone Community Center
- e. **RC&D Meeting**- October 29, 2021 @ 11:00am
- f. **IASCD Conference**- Cancelled
- g. **LWG Meeting**- November 15, 2021 9:00am to 12:00pm. Location McGregor Building, Rupert Idaho

3. Supervisor's Report:

- a. **Registration**- IASCD Conference Cancelled
- b. **Resolutions for State Conference**- Board members reviewed and discussed each of the resolutions that will be voted on.
- c. **IASCD Door Prizes And IDEA Raffle Tickets**- Conference cancelled
- d. **Cash for Poster Awards**-

The Meeting Adjourned at 1:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by Rachelle Osterhout