

**EAST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES – October 2023 BOARD MEETING**

Place: Burley NRCS Field Office
Date: October 3, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Presiding: Steve Ward

Supervisors Present
Rob Cottle – Chairman
Mark Webb – Associate Supervisor
Steve Ward - Vice Chairman
Kurt Heward – Member

Employees and Agency Representatives:
Doreen McMurray, I&E Specialist
David Mabey, NRCS Team Lead
Carolyn Firth, ISWCC

Supervisors Not Present:
Ken Woodworth - Treasurer
Hannah Sanders - Member

ACTION ITEMS

- I. **Meeting called to Order by:** Vice-Chairman Steve Ward at 1:17pm
- II. **Changes to Agenda:** Discuss registered letter and a check from Franklin SWCD
- III. **Minutes for previous meeting –September 5, 2023 Minutes –** Rob Cottle moved to approve Minutes of previous meeting. Kurt Heward seconded. Motion Carried.
- IV. **Treasurer’s Report:** The Transaction Detail sheet was reviewed. Rob Cottle moved to approve the treasurer’s report for September. Kurt Heward seconded. Motion Carried. Chairman Rob Cottle reviewed all of the financial reports and bills and signed payroll files for August and September.
- V. The board reviewed and discussed upcoming **Calendar Items:**
 1. **Next Board Meeting** will be before the LWG at 9:00 on November 14, 2023 in Rupert.
 2. **LSEE** was discussed. Kurt will deliver the backhoe on Oct 10th. Mark will dig the pits on Oct 11th. Steve will try to assist with contest set up on Oct 11th. The Land & Soil Evaluation Event will be on Thursday, October 12th. Following the soils test, students will participate in a Careers Fair where students will learn about possible natural resource careers and what education they will need to pursue these careers. A Dutch Oven lunch will be served followed by the awards.
 3. **Speech Contest** on October 17, 2023 in Commissioner Chambers. 6pm. Rob & Steve will help judge.
 4. Fall **Division IV meeting** was discussed. It will be held in Fairfield on Wednesday, October 25th. Rachelle and Doreen plan to attend. Supervisors are not able to attend.
 5. The Board supports the admin attending the **Grant Writing Workshop** in Boise on October 26th. Admin will apply for IDEA scholarship support to help cover some of the costs. Rachelle & Doreen will leave from Fairfield the night before and drive to Boise for the workshop on Thursday, October 26th.
 6. **IASCD Conference** was discussed. Registration forms were passed out. No commitments to attend, but all were interested and encouraged each other to try to attend. Rob Cottle made a motion to provide a \$25 door prize for Conference. Kurt Heward seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 7. The value and purpose of the **Local Work Group** was discussed. Rob Cottle is the East Cassia Supervisor appointed to attend, but all are welcome and encouraged to attend. LWG meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at the Rupert Fairgrounds.
 8. **Performance Report** was presented. Supervisors were encouraged to review the report sent by email and submit suggestions and changes via return email. The report is due to the Commission by December 20, 2023.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 1. **Posters** will be set up in the NRCS office for judging on Friday, October 20 through Tues, Oct 24. Doreen will text when the posters are ready to be judged.
 2. **TREE SALE** – With the tree sale being moved to the Cassia County Fairgrounds for 2024, Megan Heward will no longer be assisting with the project. Kurt Heward made the motion to purchase a \$50 gift card to

Texas Roadhouse for Megan as a thank you for all of her years and work with the tree sale. Rob Cottle seconded the motion. Motion carried. The board discussed the logistics of bagging trees at the fairground and want vehicles to be able to drive up to the building to pick up the trees. They also want good signs for people picking up trees. Rob Cottle made the motion to purchase a vinyl banner for the tree sale. Kurt Heward seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Mark Webb explained the **Registered Letter from Franklin SWCD** and the history behind the legal issues Franklin District has been dealing with. A check for \$535.17 was included with the registered letter. Kurt Heward made the motion to return the check to Franklin SWCD. Rob Cottle seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. A possible **new project** was introduced by Steve Ward to purchase a **Pivot Track Filler** and a trailer to transport and store it on. Farmers could rent the piece of equipment from East Cassia SWCD.
5. Steve said that nothing has happened yet on the **Almo Pipeline Project** but will work on getting the irrigation mapping through the irrigation districts. (similar to the Raft River Recharge project) The project should qualify for funding assistance if it ties into flood mitigation issues.
6. The supervisors had questions on what **ICRMP insurance** covers. They would like more information.

VII. AGENCY REPORTS

1. NRCS UPDATE:

- EQIP signup deadline Oct. 6
- This includes general EQIP, IRA, CEMA
- Dave will be interviewing to fill 1 position all day on Thursday and Friday. As of right now, now applicants had selected Burley/Rupert as a preferred choice. Hoping that some good applicants can be found and encouraged to consider our area.
- Working with Doreen to get a mini Career Day at the Soil Judging contest. Will have a planner and an engineer present for presentation.
- Question: Any news on the Almo pipeline project?

2. ISWCC UPDATE:

(See attached page)

The Meeting Adjourned at 2:50 pm.
Respectfully submitted by Doreen McMurray

October 2023 ISWCC Info

ISWCC Staffing Update

Corri Parsely has been hired to fill the Administrative Assistant position vacated by Crystal. Corri comes to us from the Idaho Department of Insurance with experience and skills in many administrative tasks, including Luma, transcription, grant writing, and training and mentoring. Corri's first day will be Monday, October 16th.

Vacant Field Staff Positions

The job announcements for our vacant Natural Resources Conservationist positions in Divisions 3 (previously held by Joe Peterson) and 4 (which Dustin Diaz will vacate Oct. 6th) have closed. Applicant interviews will be conducted over the next couple of weeks, and we hope to have people hired to fill these positions by early November.

IASCD Division Meetings

Here is the schedule for Fall Division meetings. The Commission will not hold a Board meeting this month as Commissioners will be attending Division meetings. If you have information related to cells with missing info, please send it to me!

FALL 2023 DIVISION MEETING SCHEDULE

DIVISION	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	RSVP TO	RSVP BY	COST/PERSON	ISWCC ATTENDEES
1	19-Oct	?	?	Ree Brannon, 208.987.4011, anna.brannon@id.nacdn.net	?	\$30	Erik Olson, Jenna Ditzel, Bill Lillibridge, Melonie Ziegler
2	11-Oct	1:00 PM	Nez Perce SWCD Office, 27880 Chambers Rd, Culdesac	Lynn Rasmussen, 208.843.2931, LynnR@co.nezperce.id.us	?	\$0	Mitch Silvers, Bill Lillibridge, Eileen Rowan, Delwyne Trefz
3	10-Oct	10:00 AM	Cool Water Events, 3160 Cool Water Lane (off Plaza Rd), Emmett	Leanne Buck, 208.963.4693, Leanne.buck@id.nacdn.net	2-Oct	\$20	Joan Cloonan, Meghan Brooksher, Loretta Strickland, Melonie Zielger, Delwyne Trefz
4	25-Oct	2:00 PM	Fairfield	Megan 208.270.4891 camasscd@yahoo.com	18-Oct	?	Karen Sharpnack, Rob Sharpnack, Blake Hollingsworth, Carolyn Firth, Delwyne Trefz
5	19-Oct	4:30 PM	Idaho Dept of Fish & Game, 1345 Barton Rd, Pocatello	Kerry Christiansen, 208.690.3525, cbswcd@ida.net	11-Oct	\$20	Wendy Pratt, George Hitz, Brent Ure, Delwyne Trefz
6	18-Oct	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Bonneville Co Ext Bldg 1542 E 73rd S, Idaho Falls	Joyce Smith, 208.522.6250 x3101, Joyce.Smith@id.nacdn.net	?	\$15	Richard Savage, Brian Reed, Loretta Strickland

IASCD Annual Conference

The Conference is scheduled for Nov. 7-9 at the Riverside Hotel in Garden City. There will be a joint IASCD/ISWCC Listening Session from 4:00 – 5:00 PM Tuesday, November 7th. This is an excellent chance for district supervisors and staff to tell ISWCC Commissioners and IASCD Directors how we're doing and suggest ways we can do better. Please encourage Districts to attend the listening session.