

# Tri-District **PROJECT** Committee

## DRAFT MINUTES

**Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 @ 11:30 am**  
Burley USDA Service Center / 1361 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Burley

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Richard Kunau at 11:34 am.  
In Attendance:  
*Committee Members: Richard Kunau, Luke Stevenson, Ken Woodworth, Hannah Sanders, Dusty Wilkins, and Jordan Searle.*  
*Admin: Sharon Hardy, Rachelle Osterhout, and Doreen McMurray.*
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting dated July 12, 2023 were reviewed by committee. Dusty Wilkins motioned to accept the minutes as written. Ken Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. The Tri-District PROJECT Committee Budget and the financial activities related to the Moisture Monitoring Project were reviewed and discussed. A few adjustments were suggested and made. Hannah Sanders motioned to approve the amended budget (which includes the Moisture Monitoring Project funds). Luke Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. Committee Members were asked to take updates from these Tri-District Project Committee meetings to their respective Soil District Boards.
5. Signers on the Tri-District Project Committee account includes Richard Kunau, Dusty Wilkins, Luke Stevenson, and Ken Woodworth. Ken Woodworth make the motion to update signature cards with DL Evans bank as needed to reflect these signers and that a copy of these minutes be sent to the bank. Dusty Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.
6. The Committee reviewed the bills.
  - a) Dusty Wilkins motioned to raise the Admin reimbursement amount to \$20 per hour. This reimbursement goes to the 3 districts for admin work completed for the Tri-District Project Committee and Tri-District activities. Luke Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Hannah Sanders motioned to reimburse East Cassia \$650, West Cassia \$650, and Minidoka \$1,020. Dusty Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
  - b) Ken Woodworth motioned to pay the VISA bill which contained charges for refreshments for the Moisture Monitoring Project Grower Forum. Hannah Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - c) Jordan Searle motioned to pay Ag-Vantage for repairs on the direct seed drills: Cassia drill \$2,182. Minidoka drill \$2,917. Dusty Wilkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - d) Dusty Wilkins made the motion to pay for the Room Rental for the next Tri-District Project Committee Meeting combined with the Annual Awards Banquet to be held in June 2024 (approximately \$500). Jordan Searle seconded the motion. Motion carried.
7. Direct Seed Drills were discussed including repairs, longevity, and acres worked. Acres for 2024 were Cassia drill 1,258.1 and Minidoka drill 1,020.5. Total acres for each drill since the beginning of the project are Cassia drill 12,512.8 and Minidoka drill 12,379.7 acres. Both drills are in fairly comparable condition. Dusty Wilkins presented a quote for a new drill from John Deere 15 ft drill at \$88,500.00 to replace one of the current drills. After discussion, the committee decided to keep renting the current drills and table the possibility of a new drill until next year.

8. The Moisture Monitoring Project was discussed. 3 Grower Forums were held to educate and train growers about the project and the technology website used to collect the data from the monitors. Growers then received the monitors and one antenna. Lunch was served at the first forum only.
9. Office supplies were reviewed including the need for new display boards. Dusty Wilkins motioned to purchase needed supplies along with new display boards. Luke Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
10. Social Media platforms were discussed. Committee members were asked to “like” and “share” posts. There is \$200 in the budget for advertising. This can be used toward boosting social media posts as needed to help advertise Tri-District Projects.
11. All 3 Soil & Water Conservation Districts will be represented under the Tri-Districts with the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce. They will provide advertising and visibility for the district programs. Jordan Searle motioned to pay \$350 for a year membership. Luke Stevenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
12. Admin presented a new project idea “Community Conservation” to include community education and classes offered 3-4 times a year with each one focusing on a different topic. Audience to be reached will be both urban and rural landowners. Possible topics will include pollinators, summer gardening, windbreaks and trees, caring for seedlings, creative landscaping designs, pest-trapping, and more... Admin will prepare upcoming class information, handouts and pollinator seed packets to be provided with the seedling tree sale pick-ups. Budget for this project currently is \$2,000 for 2024.

Jordan Searle motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:12. Hannah Sanders seconded the motion. Lunch was served.

Respectfully submitted by Doreen McMurray and Sharon Hardy