

March 2021

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

98 B South 200 West Rupert Idaho 83350

208 436 4202

Meeting planned for the location of Doc's Pizza – due to no available electricity or WIFI, and emergency motion to change venue was made by Dusty with a second by Aaron to convene at the Drift Inn around the corner in Rupert.

March 11, 2021 1:15 p.m. at the Drift Inn – Rupert Idaho, those in attendance: Chairman Brian Kossman, Vice Chairman Dusty Wilkins, Treasurer Aaron Firth, Supervisor Reid Bowen, T.A. Melanie Nebaker, Co. Extension Jason Thomas, SWCC T.A. Carolyn Firth, Admin. Sharon Hardy (Wilmot), on zoom were SWCC Delwyn Telf, and NRCS David Maybe.

Minutes of the February 11, 2021 mtg were approved with a motion by Dusty a second by Aaron, motion carried.

Bills were presented with a motion to accept them by Aaron, and second by Dusty motion carried.

Business:

The 1–5-year plan was presented for final approval. Reid made a motion to accept it as presented and have Chairman Kossman sign it, Aaron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The summer Picnic Award event was discussed. We often have about 40 people from our district. We could award the Cooperator of the year, recognize the Commissioners and hear from the KYG (Know your Government) kids speak as their event was virtual this year. We did not sponsor any to travel and attend. We are looking at about the 8<sup>th</sup> of July for our event.

Drill update, Minidoka drill is ready to go- when it comes back it will be delivered to the Fairgrounds as its new home base.

Tree Sales, we are almost sold out of trees, sales have gone as usual with a few really large orders of 100 trees or more.

Div. IV Spring Meeting report. Brian stated it was a zoom meeting and seemed to work ok, there were not many there, and breaking into rooms was interesting as they talked with those in their room and then no update when all got back together on each discussion. That might have been helpful. But it was ok, in person is better.

Admin report: The PSA is running on Facebook, as of this meeting we have reached 1610 with 252 engaged and 3 likes. Mid-Snake RC&D will add it to their social media presentations. Sharon will notify the supervisors when the bank has the signature cards ready for hem to sign. Quick books wants us to buy their program – we now have an accountant to do payroll so there is no need for the update on quick books. Dinah Rainey found a nice NRCS flyer on the value and care of trees and with provide enough for each of the buyers in the tree sale. Sharon is working on the T.A. request for Carolyn's hours and asked for input as to how many hours anywhere they wanted them. The decision to request hours will be 40 for Deep Soil Testing, 40 for Abandoned well project, and 40 for the Div. IV Soil sampling project.

NRCS: David Said the office is to be at 25% staffing in the building, and that the project with MID. Is a water smart grant.

SWCC: Delwyn, presented the results of funding for the Districts, and asked for input as to how the District may see a better way for providing that, Reid made a motion that the breakdown for funding be at the \$30,000 and up category, which would provide better for the smaller Districts, while not taking so much from the bigger Districts. Aaron seconded the motion and the motion carried.

SWCC: Carolyn reported on the post-harvest deep sampling, and that she will have more information on the deep well project at the April Meeting.

TA2020 Melanie, reported that this year there were only 2 high Tunnels applied for and she is wrapping up old projects, and will be doing her own paperwork for the TA grant.

The board then left the Drift Inn and reconvened at the McGregor Building at the fairgrounds were Jason met with us and showed us the options for the office there. Reid made the motion we accept the generosity of the County Commissioners and the Fair Board and move our office, Aaron second that motion. Jason pointed out that the District would need to run a phone line and that if the internet starts to bog down with extra usage the District would need to pay the difference in the monthly cost for upgraded speed. All agreed. Dusty made a motion for Sharon to purchase a desk and Chair and office supplies as needed. Reid seconded and the motion carried.

There were no other Supervisor reports Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m. *Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Hardy (Wilmot)*