

**BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Board Meeting Minutes for January 19th, 2023**  
**Butte County Business Center, Arco, ID**

**Board Present:** Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham

**Staff Present:** Mindy Hawley, Stephanie Barnes, Sara Zollinger

**Guests Present:** Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, Steve Smith – Custer County Commissioner

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 12:00 p.m.

**Approve Minutes:** A motion was made by Walt Johnson to accept the December minutes as written. A second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Treasurer’s Report:** Todd Perkes provided the monthly treasurer’s report and checks to be approved and signed, including a \$50 donation to the State FFA and 4-H Land and Soil Evaluation Event and the \$60 annual IDEA dues. A motion was made by Todd, with a second from Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Partner Reports:**

**Butte SWCD Employees and Board:** Mindy Hawley gave an update the Envirothon planning meetings.

Stephanie Barnes gave an update on upcoming grant opportunities, the TA grant, and the Winter Meeting.

Sara Zollinger has been assisting with EQIP planning and mapping and conducting off-site GRP monitoring.

**NRCS:** Jesse Fullmer gave an update on NRCS activities. He provided an update on current pipeline project progress. He gave an update on the Craters of the Moon fencing project. The Classic CSP deadline is this month. Discussion was made on sharing the new NRCS administrative assistant position with the Salmon office. Discussion was made on the PL-566 funding for repairs to the Mackay dam.

**Steve Smith, Custer County Commissioner:** Steve Smith was present and gave a brief update on their activities. He mentioned they are seeing more cheatgrass invasion in their area and that drought conditions continue to be an issue.

**Old Business:**

**Annual Plan of Work:** A motion was made by Todd Perkes to sign the Annual Plan of Work and submit it to the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission. A second was

made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**New Business:**

**Letter of Intent to Counties:** Discussion was made on increasing our ask amounts to the counties. A motion was made by Todd Perkes to increase our Custer County ask to \$4,500. A second was made by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.** A motion was made to increase our Butte County ask to \$8,500 by Walt Johnson, second was made by Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Updated Personnel Policy:** Discussion was made on compensation time and overtime policies for the new personnel policy. The new policy will state that compensation time needs to be used in the calendar year that it is accrued or it will be forfeited. A maximum of 120 hours can be accumulated and will be given at 1 ½ hours to every hour worked over 40 for full-time employees and 24 hours for part-time employees. No overtime will be allowed unless prior approval is given. The TA employee will send their timesheet to Jesse Fullmer for approval before sending it in to the District. Stephanie will make the updates in the personnel policy and will put this item on the February agenda for approval.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next board meeting will be held February 16th at noon at the Butte County Business Center in Arco.

A motion was made at 2:16 p.m. by Todd Perkes to adjourn, a second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Board Meeting Minutes for February 16th, 2023**  
**Butte County Business Center, Arco, ID**

**Board Present:** Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford

**Staff Present:** Mindy Hawley, Stephanie Barnes, Sara Zollinger

**Guests Present:** Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, David Callister – UI Extension, Brian Reed – ISWCC, Kevin Whitcomb – Big Lost River Irrigation District, Larry Quist, Charles and Rachel Barnes, Mary Krummer - ICRMP

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 12:40 p.m.

**Approve Minutes:** Discussion was made on corrections to the January minutes. A motion was made by Walt Johnson to accept the January minutes with corrections. A second was made by Mark Telford. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Treasurer’s Report:** Todd Perkes provided the monthly treasurer’s report and checks to be approved and signed. A motion was made by Mark Telford, with a second from Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Mary Krummer with ICRMP was in attendance and gave the board an overview of coverage and answered questions.

**Partner Reports:**

**Butte SWCD Employees and Board:** Mindy Hawley gave an update on the Envirothon planning meetings and team status.

Stephanie Barnes announced that Mark and Paige Telford had been selected as winners for the regional Hugh Hammond Bennett award.

Sara Zollinger has been assisting with EQIP planning and mapping and conducting off-site GRP monitoring. She attended a soil health training. She shared that the Blaine SCD will be hosting a workshop on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was made on her remaining training needed for conservation planner status.

A motion was made to pay for half of the hotel expenses for Sara to attend a week-long conservation planner training in Caldwell by Mark Telford. A second was made by Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Randy Purser gave an update on his attendance at the Butte County Commissioners meeting in January. Walt Johnson gave an update on his attendance at the Custer County Commissioners meeting in February.

**NRCS:** Jesse Fullmer gave an update on NRCS activities. A pathway's student will be coming to the Arco office in April for the summer. He has been working with the irrigation district to install automatic ditch measurement devices.

**UI Extension:** David Callister gave an update on the trial plots and upcoming educational schools.

**ISWCC:** Brian Reed was present to update the District on Commission activities. He will be serving as our contact until new staff is hired.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

**Office Rent for 2023:** Discussion was made on the District's office rent. It was agreed to pay rent one month at a time instead of yearly.

**Butte County Weed Grants:** Discussion was made on the county's request to search for grants to help with the county weed department. Stephanie will follow-up with county commissioner Wes Collins for more information.

**TA Grant Renewal:** Discussion was made on the need for renewing the TA grant. A motion was made by Mark Telford to reapply for the NACD's technical assistance grant with a \$48,000 ask and \$12,000 match. A second was made by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Lost River Irrigation Pipeline Automated Headgate Fund Request:** Jesse Fullmer presented the board with a request to help fund the purchase of an automated headgate measurement device. The board tabled this until next month.

**RCPD Request from the Burnett Water Users:** Stephanie will work with the NRCS to draft a RCPD request to extend the length of their ditch-to-pipeline conversion project.

**2023 WQPA Applications:** Discussion was made on how the District will prioritize the application requests received from local landowners to submit for WQPA funding.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next board meeting will be held March 16th at noon at the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Arco.

A motion was made at 3:25 p.m. by Todd Perkes to adjourn, a second was made by Mark Telford. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

No meeting in March