

**BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Board Meeting Minutes for August 22nd, 2023**  
**Moore Park, Moore, Idaho**

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

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

**Guests Present:** Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, David Callister – UI Extension

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 12:28 p.m.

**Approve Minutes:** A motion was made by Walt Johnson to approve the July minutes as written. A second was made by Mark Telford. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. 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 Todd Perkes with a second from Mark Telford to approve the report and sign the checks. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Partner Reports:**

**Butte SWCD Employees and Board:** Mindy Hawley gave an update on the upcoming Speech Contest and Natural Resources Tour. She worked with the NRCS to submit two RCPP applications.

Stephanie Barnes gave an update on grants.

**NRCS:** Jesse Fullmer gave an update on NRCS activities. The EQIP deadline is October 6<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Theobald accepted a position in Arizona and will be leaving soon. They should be flying the resource conservationist and two soil conservationist positions soon. The soil conservation technician job opening closed and he should see the applicant panel soon. Discussion was made on upcoming projects.

A motion was made to spend \$2,500.00 towards the engineering design needed for Travis and Paige McAfee's irrigation pipeline by Mark Telford, second by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

A motion was made by Walt Johnson to utilize the reserved USFWS funds to provide cost-share to help retrofit fences to wildlife friendly fences on the Stevensen and Babcock boundary in the pronghorn migration route. Mark Telford seconded. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**UI Extension:** David Callister said someone from his office would be available to help with the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Natural Resources Tour. He provided an update on the County Fair. They have youth activities planned now that school is back in session. Pesticide training classes are coming up. Discussion was made about topics for educational classes. Ideas were aftermath grazing, hemp economics, and weed management.

**Old Business:**

**WQPA Contracts:** The Water Quality Program for Agriculture contracts between the District and the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission and between the District and the four landowners participating in the 2023-2024 program were signed.

**New Business:**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour and Speech Contest:** Mindy will work with the schools to set a date for the tour and the speech contest will be held during the September board meeting.

**TA Grant Applications and Interviews:** The applicant pool was small, but it was decided to interview and then decide if the position should be re-advertised after we know if an additional year of funding will be received.

**District Boundary Signs:** Todd provided an update and had photos of the condition of the current boundary signs. He and Jesse Fullmer will coordinate a time to collect the existing signs for repainting.

**DEQ Grant:** A motion was made by Mark Telford to sign the DEQ Subaward agreement for the \$250,000 grant to extend the Blaine County Canal Company pipeline project. Walt Johnson seconded. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**Next Meeting Date:** The next board meeting will be held September 26<sup>th</sup> following the 6<sup>th</sup> grade natural resources tour at the American Legion building in Mackay.

A motion was made at 1:30 p.m. by Mark Telford to adjourn, a second was made by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Todd Perkes, Walt Johnson, and Mark Telford. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**