

BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes for March 21st, 2024
USDA Service Center, Arco, Idaho

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

Staff Present: Stephanie Barnes, Timothy Barnes, Mindy Hawley

Guests Present: David Callister – UI Extension

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 12:17 p.m.

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

Todd Perkes presented the treasurer’s report and checks to be signed. A motion was made by Todd Perkes to sign the checks and accept the treasurer’s report. A second was made by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Partner Reports:

Butte SWCD Employees and Board:

Stephanie gave an update on DEQ grant applications and presented support letters to sign. She updated the board on changes to the annual central registry submission. Discussion was made on drill rental advertisements.

Timothy has been attending trainings and working on energy calculations for energy smart applications. He is also working on engineering designs for NRCS applications.

Mindy gave an update on the upcoming stewardship week activities, poster contest, and the Natural Resource Camp. Discussion was made to keep the \$50 fee for campers this year with the District paying the remaining amount. She will be attending the upcoming division meeting and IASCD annual conference planning meeting.

UI Extension: David Callister gave an overview of recent trainings. They are hiring two AmeriCorps positions to help with 4-H activities. They have and will be conducting agriculture activities in the schools. Discussion was made on the trial plots in Howe.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Division VI Meeting Attendance: Discussion was made on meeting attendance. Walt Johnson, Mindy Hawley, Timothy Barnes, and an NRCS employee will be attending.

DEQ Grant Applications: Discussed during the employee reports.

IDFG Contract Request: The Idaho Department of Fish and Game requested that we hold the contract for their fencing projects with area landowners in the area to streamline the process. Discussion was made on workload and it was agreed we could hold the contract.

RCPP Updates: An update on the RCPP negotiation process was given. A motion was made by Mark Telford to sign the confidentiality agreement. A second was given by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Junior Board Creation: Discussion was made on fulfilling the inclusive board succession planning and workforce development requirement for the new technical assistance grant. The idea to create a junior board was discussed. A motion was made by Walt Johnson to establish a junior board and budget \$500 for their meetings and activities. A second was made by Mark Telford. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

District Donation Requests: Discussion was made on asking for donations this year. It was agreed to send out the usual letter and expand our mailing list to include pipe companies, grant recipients, and contractors.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date will be April 18th at noon in the Arco USDA office.

A motion was made by Todd Perkes with a second from Mark Telford to enter executive session at 1:26 p.m. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

A motion was made by Mark Telford with a second from Hayden Isham to leave executive session at 1:50 p.m. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

A motion was made by Walt Johnson to adjourn at 1:55 p.m., a second was made by Mark Telford. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, Mark Telford, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**