

BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes for December 11th, 2024
Golden West Cafe, Arco, Idaho

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

Staff Present: Mindy Hawley, Stephanie Barnes, Timothy Barnes

Guests Present: Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, David Callister – University of Idaho Extension, Brian Reed – Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 8:20 p.m.

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

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

Monthly Reports:

Butte SWCD Employees and Board:

Mindy Hawley reported she will be working with the local Envirothon team advisor to get a team together starting in January.

Stephanie Barnes discussed a potential new grant for weed management.

A motion was made by Mark Telford to pursue the grant. A second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Mark Telford, Hayden Isham, and Todd Perkes. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Timothy Barnes gave an update on engineering designs in progress. He stated that the pump testing apparatus that he has been using has been returned to another office. To fix the Arco pump testing apparatus, he will need to purchase approximately \$40 worth of materials.

A motion was made by Mark Telford to reimburse Tim the expense of repairing or replacing the pump testing apparatus. Todd Perkes seconded. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Mark Telford, Hayden Isham, and Todd Perkes. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Todd Perkes reported on his experience with trying to raise the credit limit on the Frontier Credit Union credit card. They were unable to raise the limit and could not fix the issue. Other issues were discussed including no copies of checks with the bank statements and the difficulty in reading the bank statements. Todd’s recommendation was to close the Frontier Credit Union account and move the District’s funds to one of the banks in Mackay.

A motion was made by Mark Telford open a bank account in Mackay and then close the Frontier Credit Union account. A second was made by Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Mark Telford, Hayden Isham, and Todd Perkes. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

NRCS: Jesse Fullmer gave an update on the Inflation Reduction Act funding. They hired two students to assist the office during Summer 2025. The Arco NRCS office has been approved for two engineering positions. The CSP sign-up is coming soon. Discussion was made on changes happening in the water management entity funding category.

UI Extension: David Callister provided dates for upcoming classes. January 17th will be a water management class in Arco from 10am-noon. A cereal class will be held at Ft. Hall in February. A gardening class will start in January.

ISWCC: Brian Reed provided copies of the latest newsletter. He gave an update on WQPA and the website they are building to better communicate the projects accomplished through WQPA with the legislators.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Administrative Assistant Position: Jarrie Schaefer has accepted the position and will start January 6th.

Board elections and appointment:

A motion was made to appoint Walt Johnson to the 4-year position running from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2029 by Todd Perkes. Mark Telford provided a second. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Mark Telford, Hayden Isham, and Todd Perkes. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Mark Telford made a motion was made to keep Randy Purser as Chairman, Walt Johnson as Vice-Chairman, and Todd Perkes as Treasurer for the 2025 calendar year. Hayden Isham seconded. Voting Aye: Randy Purser, Walt Johnson, Mark Telford, Hayden Isham, and Todd Perkes. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Next Meeting Date: The next board meeting will be held January 15th at 12:30 p.m. in the USDA Service Center in Arco.

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