

**BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Board Meeting Minutes for March 17th, 2022**  
**Butte SWCD Office, 260 W. Grand Ave. Arco, ID**

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

**Staff Present:** Mindy Hawley, Samantha Spaulding

**Guests present:** David Callister-UI Extension

**Guests present via telephone:** Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, Lori Ringel-High Country, Matt Bringhurst-USFWS, and Delwyne Trefz-Commission

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Walt Johnson at 12:10 p.m.

**Treasurer's Report:** Todd Perkes provided the monthly treasurer's report and checks to be approved and signed. A motion was made by Hayden Isham to approve the treasurer's report and sign the checks, with a second from Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

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

**Monthly Reports:**

**Butte SWCD Employees and Board:** Mindy Hawley gave an update on upcoming events. Envirothon April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in Challis, Butte SWCD will be sending one team and Mindy and Samantha will attend as helpers. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Posters and Stewardship will be this Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, in Arco and Mackay. Be prepared to judge posters next meeting. March 23<sup>rd</sup> Mindy and Sam will help Custer with ag days in Mackay. March 31<sup>st</sup>, Mindy will help David with Ag days in the high school. Samantha Spaulding gave a report on her activities. She has been busy ranking applications for Jesse. She has been doing some online training. She attended the Burley division meeting. She will help with 6<sup>th</sup> grade posters and ag days.

A motion was made by Hayden Isham to send Mindy and Sam to help at the Idaho Envirothon in Challis. A second was made by Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**High Country RC&D:** Lori Ringel gave an update about doing over a million dollars' worth of grants. A lot of them are working on fire lines. Bannock and Teton county are starting a 5-year agreement with BLM. We still have \$4000 for our use; it needs used before September. It's for fire prevention for private land, it can not be used for federal.

**USFWS:** Matt updated us on our \$10,000 ish (He will look into exact \$) left in the Butte account. Him and Jesse talked about using it to make fences more friendly for wildlife migrations. Jesse will look into what project we can spend this on. David Price will be taking over Matt's position in the near future.

A motion was made by Hayden Isham to approve using available funds to make fences for wildlife more friendly. A second was made by Todd Perkes. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

**UI Extension:** David just finished up a pesticide training. 4-H school in Preston, Mud Lake and Blackfoot. Pasture School in I.F. Monday. Mackay ag Bowl on March 31<sup>st</sup>, Mindy will help if needed. There is still snow on his test plot fields, but once it melts he would like to use our no till drill to plant.

**Commission:** Delwyne talked about how the legislature passed an \$80,000 bill that will be distributed to districts for matches. 5 million will go towards water quality agriculture.

**NRCS:** Jesse Fullmer gave an update on NRCS activities. The local working group had too many funding groups so they need narrowed down from 8 to 5. Meaning some groups will be consolidated. Curtis Elke is on board to re-align priorities. # 1 being water quantity and # 2 being wildlife. NRCS is looking to hire an outside engineer for the big lost river. NRCS is hiring a soil conservationist (Lara's job) and a Forester, both will be based out of the Arco office. The snowpack for the Big Lost River watershed is currently at 100%.

A motion was made by Todd Perkes to approve the amend of the LWG priorities. A second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

#### **Old Business:**

**EICU Credit Card:** Todd Perkes is still working on Credit Card

**LGIP FUNDS MANAGEMENT:** Leave money where it is. .15% at credit union vs .1187% and changing all the time.

**Ag Books:** Will donate but we need to know how much it costs to get an ad for our no till drill in it?

**Red Books:** How much to get our name in the book?

#### **New Business:**

**Next Meeting Date:** The next board meeting will be held April 21st at noon at the new District office at 260 W. Grand Ave., Arco, ID.

A motion was made at 2:05 p.m. by Todd Perkes to adjourn, a second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes, and Hayden Isham. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**