

BUTTE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes for April 21st, 2022
Butte SWCD Office, Arco, ID

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

Staff Present: Mindy Hawley, Samantha Spaulding

Guests Present: David Callister – UI Extension

Zoom Attendance: Stephanie Barnes – Butte SWCD, Jesse Fullmer – NRCS, George Hitz - ISWCC

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Randy Purser at 12:03 p.m.

Approve Minutes: A motion was made by Hayden Isham to accept the March minutes as written. A second was made by Walt Johnson. 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. A motion was made by Walt Johnson to approve the treasurer’s report and sign the checks, including the IDEA dues and donations to the UI Redbook and the 4-H Market Animal Association. A second was made by Hayden Isham. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**

Monthly Reports:

Butte SWCD Employees and Board: Mindy Hawley gave an update on the upcoming Envirothon competition. The poster contest will be judged during the meeting and winners chosen. Stephanie Barnes updated the board on the engineering funds held by the IASCD. Jesse Fullmer will try contacting Benjamin Kelly at IASCD to see if those funds can be released.

NRCS: Jesse Fullmer updated the board on NRCS program contract loads. Discussion was made on the Farm Service Agency workload and writing a letter to the state FSA office suggesting more staff be added. The NRCS is still waiting on a budget from the national office. Jesse has requested more funding to cover projects in the District. The Resource Conservationist position has been posted and he should be seeing the applicant information soon.

UI Extension: David Callister updated the board on several youth agricultural related activities held recently in Arco and Mackay. A forage school will be coming up. He is looking into holding a soil moisture meter educational class.

ISWCC: George Hitz updated the board on the WQPA funding recently passed by the legislature. He provided eligibility details and sent the application form to the District.

Old Business:

4-H Ad Book Donation: A \$75 donation to the 4-H Market Animal Association was approved with the treasurer's report.

Redbook Sponsorship: A \$100 sponsorship donation to the UI Redbook was approved with the treasurer's report.

New Business:

Grant Updates: Stephanie updated the board on the NACD TA grant. The third year of the grant has been concluded and final reports were submitted. Year four of the grant has now started. A \$250 grant from Project Learning Tree/Idaho Forest Products Commission to do an Arbor Day activity in May and also during the 6th grade natural resources tour. A grant for \$2,500 was submitted to Project Neighborly on behalf of the Arco Farmer's Market for equipment, we should know if funding was received in May. Stephanie is working with the NRCS to submit a grant from the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation for funding to help pay for a fish screen for the Blaine County Canal Company's pipeline project, it is due in June.

IDEA Dues: The \$60 annual Idaho District Employees Association dues were approved with the treasurer's report.

Natural Resource Camp Scholarships: Mindy will visit Arco and Mackay 7th graders the first week in May and will advertise UI's Natural Resources Camp. Interested students will pay \$50 and the SWCD will pay the remaining amount for them to attend the camp.

Quickbooks Update: Stephanie informed the board that support for the current version of quickbooks will end in May. No action was taken.

Next Meeting Date: The next board meeting will be held May 19th at noon at the Butte SWCD office in Arco.

A motion was made at 1:32 p.m. by Hayden Isham to adjourn, a second was made by Walt Johnson. Voting Aye: Walt Johnson, Todd Perkes Hayden Isham, and Randy Purser. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Approved.**