



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday June 15th at noon
Zoom and USDA Service Center 1 SW Nye Ave Ste 130
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Call to Order – 12:01 pm

- 1) **Introductions/Roll Call:** Colin Hemphill, Chair. Tim Spratling, Vice Chair. Tom Straughan, Sec/Treas. Andrea Mann, Aaron Madison, Berk Davis. NRCS – Nate James. Staff- Kyle Waggoner.
- 2) **Presentations: NRCS** – Nate gave an update on NRCS activities. The local office currently just wrapped up CSP, and the competition is close with many applicants within 1/10th of a point of each other. The IRA funding has really bolstered much of NRCS's activities this year, and EQIP has doubled as a result. The Stockwater CIS has taken-off, and with cultural resources being outsourced, the cultural component is finally getting caught up. Berk asked Nate if landowners are excited about all these funding opportunities, and Nate said that they are hiring liaisons (like one with the Wheat League) to help spread the word on the various programs that have received an influx of funding from the IRA dollars. Nate mentioned that he and Kyle are planning to sit down and see what niche Umatilla SWCD would fit in with providing drone services to NRCS. They will be meeting with Herb Winters of Gilliam SWCD to see about potentially joining the CBASS entity that is already working with NRCS. Nate continued with NRCS updates and mentioned that 99% of the CRP enrollments they just finished up are reenrollments. Kyle and Nate are working on a potential RCPP for annual grasses in the future; still to be determined. Tim asked about if in the future NRCS will be considering taking a look at multiple progressive technologies and going away from the one size fits all approach. Nate responded that they are working on building flexibility, and pointed back to the liaison with the Oregon Wheat League as an example.
- 3) **Administration:**
 - a. June Treasurer's Report – Attached. No discussion. Andrea motioned to approve, Tim 2nd. Unanimous.
 - b. June Meeting Minutes – Attached. No discussion. Aaron motioned to approve, Andrea 2nd. Unanimous.
- 4) **Operations:**
 - a. Weed Collab Proposal Final Review – Attached. Kyle presented the final draft of the Weed Collab proposal to the Board. Kyle gave the Board a brief reminder on how the District arrived at the current proposal, refreshing the Board's memory on the OWEB grant that was used to hire the consultant that performed the work sessions that provided the content for the proposal. Berk wanted to make sure that the District stayed away from aerial application as the liability was too great; Kyle responded that he would tweak the language to reflect that. Kyle invited a few Board members to attend his meeting with the commissioners to review the proposal. Andrea and Tim said they may be able to make it. No further discussion. Kyle will be meeting with the commissioners tomorrow and will keep the Board updated.
 - b. Water Control District Proposal – Attached. Kyle presented a proposal he put together that was requested of the District following a Countywide Water Control

District Meeting that Kyle called together earlier in the month (minutes attached). Andrea commented that she really liked the idea of the District providing staff time to this new Collaborative, and Kyle responded that he was thrilled to continue to find opportunities outside of grants as he and the Board discussed. No further discussion. Kyle will take this proposal to the Collaborative and report back.

- c. 23-24 Project Chart – Attached. Kyle presented the standard project chart that maps the District’s activities fiscal year to fiscal year. No discussion.
- d. Annual Meeting - The Board set the Annual Meeting via Resolution (attached). Tom mentioned it would be neat to see a workshop or demo day for the annual meeting. Kyle responded that he will work on putting something together for that day.
- e. Project Updates – Attached. Kyle Presented the Grant and Contracts chart the cover the myriad of projects the District is working on. Tim commented that it was neat to see the District have more contract projects than grant projects, and Kyle responded in the affirmative that it was more beneficial to the District to assist other organizations in getting large, regional grants where the District has a paid role for time on the project rather than administering the grant project itself. Kyle continued explaining that most of the District’s work in the near future will be on the Guidebook, the two proposals, and Helix and Echo grants as listed on the chart.

5) **Adjourn 1:49pm- Tim moved, Aaron 2nd. Unanimous.**

Next Meeting – August 15th, 12pm USDA Service Center and Zoom

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