

Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2019

8:30 AM

Old Moro Elementary School

302 Scott St. Moro, OR 97039

SWCD Board Meeting

Board Present

Clint Moore

Jess Stutzman

Thad Eakin

Trevor Fields (phone)

Josh Hilderbrand (phone)

Others Present

Amanda Whitman, District Manager

Jacob Powell, Watershed Coordinator

Scott Susi, Conservation Tech

I. ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 8:31 by vice chairman, Jess Stutzman.

II. MINUTES

Thad moved to approve minutes from the December 11th board meeting. Clint seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Amanda let the Board know she added the newly elected Board members Oath of Office under New Business.

IV. GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

No guest or public comment

V. TREASURES REPORT

The financials/budget reports were reviewed. Amanda talked about some of the adjustments that will show next month from the audit. She went over a couple of the numbers that will be adjusted that the Board had questions about last month. Thad asked about the high Materials & Supplies dollar figure and Amanda let him know that was for the Wilbur Ellis bill for the NRCS EQIP herbicide application. She said that we should see payment for that this month. Clint moved to approve this months bills. Thad seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Watershed Council Updates – See Jacob’s report

a. Grant Updates – See Jacob’s report

i. Large Grants

1. All Monitoring Reports are up to date
2. Completion Reports – Report submitted for 217-6064
3. 218-046 – Working on fund request
4. 319, 114-18 DEQ – Updated quarterly report
5. 218-6003 – One landowner payment was made

ii. Small Grants

1. Monitoring – One monitoring report was submitted
2. Completion – Three completion reports were submitted
3. Fund Request – Three fund requests were submitted

B. Scott’s Updates (report attached) – Scott has been providing technical assistance for County Cost Share projects and has been organizing data on his computer.

- C. County Cost Share – There were 3 new grant applications. The first was a haul road on the John Day side. Thad said he thought there was a conflict for him voting on this project. After discussion on the conflict the rest of the Board said they didn't see a problem with him voting since there was low attendance by members. Clint moved to approve the grant. Jess seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The second grant was for a haul road on the Deschutes side. Thad moved to approve this grant and Clint seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Amanda talked about some potential spring developments that are located in the Pine Hollow Watershed in Wasco County. Scott was concerned that since they were in Wasco County then they wouldn't qualify for County Cost Share. Thad commented that it is in one of our Watershed Councils watersheds so that it would qualify. The rest of the Board agreed. This project consists of 7 spring developments, so Amanda said that it could qualify for an EQIP CIS for the Pine Hollow/Jackknife Watershed. She has already talked with NRCS staff and they are going to get her more information on that CIS. There was also talk about submitting an OWEB Large Grant. Thad asked if there were funding options other than the regular ones we use. Jacob will look into other funding options. The Board would like staff to give the landowner their options for these projects and if they were in a hurry to get one done then have them submit a County Cost Share application at the next meeting.

- D. ODA Capacity Grant – The next ODA quarterly report is due Jan. 15th and Amanda and Scott are working on this. Amanda also let the Board know that the Lower John Day LAC meeting is going to be February 28th, 2019 at the Extension Office in Moro.
- E. Office Personnel – Amanda gave the Board an update on the retirement meeting staff had last month. They have switched advisors and staff said that Kacie Levy, the new advisor, has been great to work with.
- F. Scholarship Fund – Amanda had a few questions that came up for the Board when she talked to Molly Belshe. Molly is with the Sherman County Scholarship Committee and they will be managing the SWCD's scholarship. She wanted to know if the Board wanted the scholarship to go to an AG specific degree, if there would be a certain age, GPA requirements, how much and if it would be renewable. The Board said they would open it up to all degrees but agriculture and trade degrees would be priority. They also want to give priority to high school seniors and would award up to \$5,000 depending on how many applicants. The applicant will have to maintain a GPA of 2.8 or higher and will be paid once that is met after the 1st semester. The scholarship will need to be applied for each year and will not be automatically renewed. Amanda will take this information back to Molly and see if she has any other questions or comments.
- G. Audit – Clint moved to approve the final audit. Thad seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- H. Annual Meeting – Thad moved to approve the resolution establishing the date of the Annual Meeting as Feb. 12th, 2019 starting at 6pm and to be held at the Wasco School Events Center. Clint seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Board decided on the dinner menu and that the speaker would start at 6:30pm. The staff will take care of the rest of the details.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Oath of Office – Amanda got Josh and Trevor on the phone since they were both unable to attend the meeting. Jess, Trevor and Josh, all recited their Oath of Office and were sworn in as newly elected Board members.
- B. Election of Officers – Thad moved to elect Jess as the Chair. Clint seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Jess moved to elect Clint as the Treasurer. Thad seconded and the

*Documents/attachments mentioned in minutes can be obtained by request

motion passed unanimously. Clint moved to keep Thad as Secretary and move Josh to Vice Chair. Thad seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. Connect – Amanda let the Board know the dates of this year’s Connect and the it will be \$250/ea for registration plus hotel and travel costs. Registration will go up after March 15th so Amanda will send in registration soon.

VIII. NRCS REPORT

No NRCS staff was present because they were at the Direct Seed Conference. Amanda let them know that Misty finished her time as acting DC and the acting DC now is DelRae Ferguson from the Condon office.

IX. AGENCY REPORTS

There were no agency reports and FSA was not in attendance because of the Government Shutdown.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Sign Timesheets – Timesheets were reviewed and signed by the Board
- B. Apparel – After the executive session the Board asked the staff to order some new sweatshirts and hats. They said if the staff needed more apparel then they could order that as well.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jess called for executive session at 9:59 am for ORS 192.660(2)(e) to discuss office storage/building options. The Board returned from executive session and the meeting was called back to order at 10:26 am. There were no motions or decisions made in regards to the executive session.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be February 12th at 8:30 am.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business of the board meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am.

Respectfully,

Thad Eakin, Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors February 12, 2019:

Jess Stutzman, Chair

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