

**EAST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES – August 2022 BOARD MEETING
1361 E. 16th Street, Burley, Idaho
August 2, 2022**

Place: 1361 E. 16th Street, Burley, ID.
Date: August 2, 2022
Time: 1:00 PM
Presiding: Rob Cottle

Supervisors Present
Rob Cottle- Chairman
Steve Ward- Vice Chairman
Ken Woodworth- Treasurer

Employees and Agency Representatives:
Rachelle Osterhout- Admin
Carolyn Firth- ISWCC
Ricki Garden- ISWCC
Trec Reid- NRCS
Melanie Nebeker- TA 2021 Employee

Supervisors Not Present:
Mark Webb- Member
Hannah Sanders- Member

ACTION ITEMS

- I. **Called Meeting to Order:** Rob Cottle called meeting to order at 1:01 PM.
- II. **Changes to Agenda:** Steve Ward receiving 15-year pin. ISWCC Ricki Garden Associate Engineer
- III. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Steve Ward moved to approve May 2022. Ken Woodworth seconded. Motion Carried.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** Ken Woodworth read treasurer's report for May, June and July 2022. Ken Woodworth moved to approve Treasurer's Reports. Steve Ward seconded. Motion Carried.
- V. **Calendar of Events:**
 1. **RC&D:** August 26, 2022 @ 11 AM, Twin Falls City Council overflow room
 2. **Election Paperwork Deadline:** September 1, 2022 @ 5:00 PM
 3. **Next Board Meeting:** September 8, 2022 1PM
 4. **Division IV Meeting:** October 11, 2022 (Balanced Rock SCD hosting)
 5. **LWG:** November 9, 2022 10 AM to 1 PM
 6. **IASCD Conference:** November 15-17, 2022, Burley Idaho

VI. AGENCY REPORTS/ REQUESTS

1. **NRCS Update:** Trec Reed provided the NRCS update. EQUIP application deadline is October 5. CSP obligations are coming up. They had 3 applications this year. CIC (Conservation Incentive Contract) is new. Out of 3 applications they have 1 obligated and 1 preapproved. CRP evaluation are wrapping up for 2022. Out of 43 signups approximately 29 will be moving on. People with questions about requirements please contact Trec Reed. The board signed the Cons plans. LWG will be facilitated by Ashley Orme. The board agreed to hold the meeting at the 4H building in Minidoka County.
Covid update: Burley and Rupert Field Offices are operating at 100%. Right now, masks are not required. The levels have been fluctuating between low and medium. Districts are now able to hold meeting at the FO. Curtis would like to thank all SWCD's for their cooperation and wants to express his support and acknowledgement of the difficulties and inconveniences that COVID has caused. He is still calling for MOA's to be signed and would like to hear from districts that have concerns.
2. **ISWCC Update:** Carolyn Firth shared Delwyne Trefz update. District base and operations allocations were distributed in late July (the district received these). Financial and Match Reports are due August 16. Rachelle Osterhout has submitted them to Loretta Strickland. WQPA money has all been granted. West Cassia had 1 recipient, Minidoka had 2 and Blaine 1. Carolyn also said they will be working to secure funds for next year. She asked the boards to check in their district for potential projects. No new commissioners have been appointed, however the Governor's Office is close to filling folks to fill the vacancies. The Commission is hopeful this will happen before the August 18th meeting. Carolyn report

there are 2 new CRP contracts that she is working on. She will be reaching out to the board to sign them. There are no contracts expiring this year.

Carolyn Firth introduced Ricki Garden, she has been hired to be an engineer. Ricki asked if the boards have an engineering work to make sure they fill out a technical assistance request. She used the example the if someone is working on a project piping from a stream it requires permits and those could take up to 6 months. She can also help the NRCS with engineering, the district would have to submit a request.

3. **TA 2021 Update:** Melanie Nebeker updated the board about the work she has been assisting with. Equip is wrapping up. She had to extend the deadline of one high tunnel. Melanie is now qualified to certify high tunnels. Melanie has also been helping Trec Reed with CRP's. In June Melanie assisted Carolyn Firth with the Soil Your Undies project. They will be digging them up in August. Melanie has also been working with a client on a project for water, reseeding etc. FSA asked if the districts will have a booth setup at the Cassia County Fair? They would like to add information about livestock forage.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Laptop Update:** Rachelle Osterhout presented the ASUS Laptop overview information. Along with the laptop we will need to purchase Office Suite with publisher. The board reviewed the information and agreed to split the cost with West Cassia SWCD. Steve Ward made the motion to order the laptop with Office Suite. Ken Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
2. **Office Update:** Currently, the NRCS field office is open for Rachelle Osterhout to return. The NRCS is still monitoring COVID and they are still monitoring the numbers changing. If number increase to high levels they will restrict office staffing. The board discussed the current office Rachelle Osterhout is using at the county courthouse and the office at the field office. The board made the decision to leave the office at the courthouse.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Elections:** Rob Cottle and Steve Ward are up for re-election this year. Rachelle Osterhout provided them with their Special District Candidate Filing information. Candidates are required to get a minimum of 5 signatures from residents in their district, fill out the paperwork. The petitions will need to be certified by the county clerks office prior to them submitting the paperwork to the clerk of the political subdivision. The deadline is 5:00 PM September 1, 2022.
2. **Financial & Match Report:** Rachelle Osterhout submitted the report to Loretta Strickland.
3. **IASCD Dues:** Dues for IASCD FY 2023 is due. The amount is \$1800.00
4. **LSEE Donation:** Rachelle Osterhout presented the statement for the 2022 Land & Soil Evaluation Event. The suggested donation amount is \$ 50.00.
5. **IASCD Conference: (Information, Door Prize & Sponsorship)** Rachelle Osterhout shared flyers, door prize donation request (\$25 donation or item of equal value) and sponsorship information for the IASCD Conference.

The board discussed the IASCD dues, LSEE donation and IASCD Conference door prize and sponsorship information. Rachelle Osterhout is checking with Hannah Sanders to see if Butte Irrigation donated to the 2020 Conference that was cancelled due to COVID. Rachelle will email the board to continue the discussion about the Sponsorship.

Steve Ward made the motion to purchase a \$25 gift card for the door prize donation, approved IASCD dues and LSEE donation. Ken Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

6. **Tree Sale:** Rachelle Osterhout discussed with the boards the rising costs and shipping charges. The board would like to see estimates on both shipping and trees before setting prices.
7. **ISWCC Newsletter (East Cassia SWCD featured):** Rachelle Osterhout shared the newsletter from the ISWCC July 2022 Conservation the Idaho Way that they featured East Cassia SWCD.
8. **Other: Newsletter:** Rachelle Osterhout shared information for Doreen McMurray about the upcoming newsletter. She would like to add a section to feature the past year of the different activities the districts have participated in. If the board has any suggestions, she would like them to contact her. She is planning on the newsletter going to the printers by the end of August.

Adjourn: Steve Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:39 PM. Ken Woodworth seconded. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by Rachelle Osterhout