

**WEST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES -September 10, 2024 BOARD MEETING**

Place: NRCS Office, Burley, Idaho
Date: September 10, 2024
Time: 11:00 am
Presiding: Richard Kunau

Supervisors Present
Richard Kunau – Chairman
Ken Black - Treasurer
Chad Searle- Member

Employees, Guests, and Agency Representatives:
Rachelle Osterhout, Admin
Betty Carlson, Cotterell Boat Station Manager
David Mabey, NRCS
Carolyn Firth, ISWCC

Supervisors Not Present
Jordan Searle – Vice-Chairman

- I. Meeting called to Order by:** Chairman Richard Kunau at 11:29 AM
- II. Changes to Agenda:** No changes
- III. Minutes for previous meeting:** August 2024 Minutes – Ken Black moved to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. Chad Searle seconded. Motion Passed.
- IV. Treasurer's Report:** Ken Black moved to approve August 2024 Treasurer's Report as written. Chad Searle seconded. Motion Passed.
- V. Calendar of Events:**
- 1. Next Board Meeting:** November 6, 2024: 9:00 am- McGregor Building (prior to LWG meeting)
 - 2. Mid-Snake RC&D Meeting:** September 20, 2024: Tubbs Berry Farm
 - 3. Land Judging:** October 8-9, 2024: Ken Black and Richard Kunau will be available to help
 - 4. Conservation Class #3:** October 15, 2024: Cassia County Fairgrounds- Art Building
 - 5. Speech Contest:** October 22, 2024: Minidoka hosting
 - 6. Division IV Meeting:** October 30, 2024: East Cassia SWCD hosting
 - 7. Local Work Group Meeting:** November 6, 2024: Minidoka Fairgrounds, David will facilitate
 - 8. IASCD Conference:** November 12-14, 2024: Idaho Falls, Idaho
 - 9. Legislative Luncheon:** December 17, 2024: Minidoka hosting
- VI. Agency Reports**
- 1. Cotterell Boat Station:** Betty Carlson shared they will be getting a new building this year. Water craft inspections are starting to slow down. They have been performing more hot washes this season. The Idaho State Police have been busy assisting at the station this season (She has not seen any County Police). ISDA will be sending an amendment to the MOU to extend the season to November 30, 2024. Betty informed the board about an employee that did not show up to work on September 5, 2024. She attempted to contact the individual and the emergency contacts on file and was not successful. She sent a text to the individual confirming she has attempted to call. Ken Black made a motion to terminate employee. Chad Searle seconded the motion. Motion Passed
 - 2. ISWCC:** Carolyn Firth shared Delwyne Trefz monthly update. Their Fiscal Year 2026 budget has been submitted. He thanked the Districts' for turning in the Financial & Match reports. DAWG met on Monday to review the reports. Performance Reports are due December 20, 2024. Carolyn also visited the board about WQPA and encouraged them to visit with our legislatures at the Legislative Luncheon in December.
 - 3. NRCS:** David Mabey received a new list of applications for the administrative assistant position, Dinah Rainey will be the acting team-lead in Gooding for the next 6 weeks or until the position is filled. John will be working in the Rupert office while Dinah is away on assignment. Local Work Group will be November 6, 2024 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in Rupert, Idaho. David would like to set up a meeting to review the process with Chad Searle, Hannah Sanders and Dusty Wilkins. David will also present a summary of what has been accomplished this past year. The new Pheasants Forever employee started 2 weeks ago.

September 2024

Her name is Ellie Berken. She moved here from Tennessee where she is finishing up her masters' degree from the University of Tennessee.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Review Scholarship Application:** The West Cassia Board reviewed the updated scholarship application. Chad Searle made the motion to accept the changes to the scholarship application, adding a map and the boundary description. Ken Black seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
2. **Land & Soil Evaluation Event:** Rachelle Osterhout updated the board about gathering donations for the 2024 contest. The contact for the University of Idaho has changed. Doreen and Rachelle provided additional information to the University with the funding request.
3. **Other:**
 - **Division IV Fall Meeting Update:** Rachelle Osterhout shared election information for Division IV. East Cassia SWCD will be hosting and the meeting will be at Wick's Steakhouse in Declo, Idaho. Lt. Governor Scott Bedke will be the guest speaker and will be discussing water issues.

Adjourn: The Meeting Adjourned at 12:52 PM with a motion from Ken Black. Chad Searle seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by Rachelle Osterhout.