

**WEST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DRAFT MINUTES –August 13, 2024 BOARD MEETING**

Place: NRCS Office, Burley, Idaho
Date: August 13, 2024
Time: 11:00 am
Presiding: Richard Kunau

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

Employees, Guests, and Agency Representatives:
Rachelle Osterhout, Admin
David Mabey, NRCS
Carolyn Firth, ISWCC

Supervisors Not Present

- I. Meeting called to Order by:** Chairman Richard Kunau at 11:09 AM
- II. Changes to Agenda:** No changes
- III. Minutes for previous meeting:** June 2024 Minutes – Ken Black moved to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. Jordan Searle seconded. Motion Carried.
- IV. Treasurer’s Report:** the board reviewed the June & July Treasurers Report (transaction detail). Ken Black moved to approve Treasurer’s Report as written. Chad Searle seconded. Motion Carried.
- V. Calendar of Events:**
1. **Next Cassia County Fair:** August 10-17, 2024 Display set up in the Art Building
Jordan Searle made a motion for Ken Black to purchase a 4-H or FFA animal at the 2024 Cassia County Fair. Chad Searle seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
 2. **Next Board Meeting:** September 10, 2024: NRCS Office
 3. **Mid-Snake RC&D Meeting:** September 20, 2024: Tubbs Berry Farm
 4. **Land Judging:** October 8-9, 2024: Help with setup & contest
 5. **Conservation Class #3:** October 15, 2024: Cassia County Fairgrounds- Art Building
 6. **Speech Contest:** October 22, 2024: Minidoka hosting
 7. **Division IV Meeting:** October 30, 2024: East Cassia SWCD hosting
 8. **Local Work Group Meeting:** November 6, 2024: Minidoka Fairgrounds, David will facilitate
 9. **Republican Central Committee Meeting:** November 7, 2024 @ 7:00 PM: Lt. Gov Scott Bedke speaking
 10. **IASCD Conference:** November 12-14, 2024: Idaho Falls, Idaho
 11. **Legislative Luncheon:** December 17, 2024: Minidoka hosting (see details below)
- VI. Agency Reports**
1. **Cotterell Boat Station:** Rachelle Osterhout shared Betty Carlson’s update: The state will be installing a new building this year at the Cotterell Station. She had an employee resign due to finding a new job. Betty has a new employee hired. The 2024 season will extend through to November 30, 2024, we are waiting for the revised MOU. The state installed a water hydrant by the boat check station. Betty was wondering if West Cassia has heard anything about Cassia County Cops? Jordan Searle has not been updated on their status with signing their MOU.
 2. **ISWCC:** Carolyn Firth shared Delwyne Trefz monthly update. Commission staff are completing FY2024 year-end reports and FY 2026 budget. West Cassia had one WQPA project funded. The Commission has a new WQPA video available on their website. She also encouraged the Supervisors to talk to their local Legislatures about the importance of WQPA. If West Cassia has any possible projects please contact Carolyn.
 3. **NRCS:** David Mabey updated the board on applications. They were able to fund 18 contracts with \$1.95 million. NRCS has posted or are posting new jobs for the following positions: administrative assistant, senior planner (Burley) and jr. planner (Rupert).
David discussed with the board a possible reservoir near Conner Creek.

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David would like to meet with the LWG committee to discuss the projects that were funded.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Elections:** Election papers were handed out to the following board members: Richard Kunau, Ken Black and Jordan Searle. Board members will collect 5 to 10 signatures and take the form to the Cassia County Voting office for verification. *Forms are due August 30, 2024*

1. **IASCD Conference:** Conference will be in Idaho Falls Idaho. Board members received the agenda and information about the Women's Auxiliary. Rachelle Osterhout will be emailing registration packets as soon as its available. She will follow up with a phone call/ text to confirm who will be attending. Rachelle Osterhout presented the IASCD dues invoice for \$1,800.00. It is in the FY25 budget. Rachelle will send the payment.
West Cassia will be presenting an update on The Idaho State Land and Soil Evaluation Event. Richard Kunau will we attending conference and will be available to present the information. (Chad Searle will present if he attends)

2. **Legislative Luncheon:** Staci Tripp, Doreen McMurray, Sharon Hardy and Rachelle Osterhout discussed organizing a Legislative Luncheon for District 27. Each District will take turns hosting. Minidoka has volunteered to host the first luncheon on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. They will make all of the arrangements. Each district will collect and report their own RSVP list. They will also pay for their own meals and 1/3 of the meal cost for the elected officials. West Cassia would like to invite Carolyn Firth, ISWCC employee and David Mabey, NRCS employee to attend and will split the cost with East Cassia. Elected officials include: Senator Kelly Anthon, Rep. Doug Pickett, Rep. Clay Handy and Lt. Governor Scott Bedke.

3. **LSO Update:** FY 2024 report is due by December 1, 2024. Rachelle Osterhout will be submitting documents to Poulsen CPA for audit.

Adjourn: The Meeting Adjourned at 12:31 PM with a motion from Chad Searle. Jordan Searle seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by Rachelle Osterhout.