

Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2023

8:30 AM

OSU Extension Office

66365 Lone Rock Rd, Moro, OR 97039

Board Present

Jess Stutzman

Nick von Borstel

Trevor Fields (Phone)

Clint Moore (Phone)

Josh Hilderbrand (Phone)

Others Present

Amanda Whitman, District Manager

Joan Bird, Sherman County Commissioner

Kara Lanthorn, FSA

Damon Brosnan, NRCS

I. ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 8:33 am by chairman, Jess Stutzman.

II. REVIEW/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Amanda added ODA Board Training under Other

III. OATH OF OFFICE

Three board members took their oath of office. Trevor Fields for Zone 2, Josh Hilderbrand for At Large 2, and Jess Stutzman for Zone 1.

IV. OFFICER ELECTIONS

Officers were elected. Clint moved to retain Jess as Chair and Josh as Vice Chair. Nick seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Clint moved to appoint Nick as the Secretary. Josh seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Jess moved to retain Clint as Treasurer and Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. MINUTES

Clint moved to approve minutes for the December 13th board meeting and December 28th special meeting. Josh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Joan let us know she was meeting with someone from Representative Cliff Bentz's office on the building situation.

VII. PRESENTATION OF AUDIT

The final copy of the audit was presented and approved.

VIII. TREASURES REPORT

Financials were reviewed. Bills were presented. Josh moved to approve the bills as presented and Trevor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. STAFF UPDATES

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

- A. District Manager – See attached.
 - a. Grant Updates – Working on funds request for four large grants. Submitted progress report for SIA.
 - b. Annual Meeting – Gave an update on annual meeting details. Board helped decide on menu.
 - c. LGIP Account – Needing a couple more signatures then will send in paperwork.
- B. County Cost Share
- C. Applications – There was a re-submit for CCS #16-63 which was for a cross fence. The landowner was unable to get a contractor out before the deadline. Nick moved to approve the project again. Clint seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. Office Personnel
 - a. Watershed Coordinator position – Amanda has conducted an interview for the 1 applicant. The Board would like to have a second interview. Amanda will schedule
 - b. Building/Office Update – Some ideas for bigger office space were tossed around. Will look into a couple more options that were suggested and update at the next meeting.
- E. Policy Review
 - a. Audit Approval – During the audit it was brought to the Boards attention that there is no policy (that we know of) stating that the audit must be approved by the Board prior to submitting to the state. They would like to have that in a policy. Amanda will work on this.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Budget – We received more money for SIP because of the Golden Hills wind tower project. Amanda went over the different options budget wise for the money. For now we are not going to use it and carry it over to next year in our ending fund balance. If we decide to use it we will have to do a supplemental budget.
 - a. Appoint budget officer – Nick moved to appoint Amanda as the budget officer. Clint seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. SDAO Annual Meeting – Amanda gave details on the annual meeting.

XI. AGENCY REPORTS

- A. NRCS – Damon Brosnan who is the Basin Team Leader was there to give an update and meet the Board. He talked about the IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) which is going to put more money into programs such as CSP and EQIP. He wants us all to start thinking about on the ground projects to fund and went over some examples. They are in the process of hiring a Soil Conservation Technician for Sherman County. An offer has been given and the new hire will hopefully start within a month.
- B. FSA – Kara gave an update. The ARC/PLC election/enrollment deadline is March 15th. They have not heard when the CRP sign-up will be. There is no CRP grazing since we are no longer in a drought. You can sign-up to graze at a cost starting March 1st. That is during nesting season so you will be at ½ the capacity. ERP Phase 2 and the 2022

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Pandemic Assist program sign-ups start January 23rd. You will have to bring in your tax info and fill out a worksheet. You have to show at least a 15% loss from a baseline year (2018/2019). Signup ends June 2nd.

C. OSU Extension – Jacob is at the Direct Seed Conference but he sent Amanda dates of different trainings to provide.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

There is an ODA Director Training coming up. Amanda sent out registration details to the Board via email.


XIII. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is February 14th at 8:30 am.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

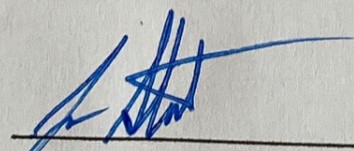
With no further business of the board meeting was adjourned at 10:13 am.

Respectfully,



Nick von Borstel, Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors February 14, 2023:



Jess Stutzman, Chair