

## **LEWIS SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**

April 2, 2024

USDA Service Center, Nezperce, ID 83543

Jonathan Rosenau called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

### **SUPERVISORS PRESENT:**

Jonathan Rosenau, Greg Branson, Conner McLeod, Drew Leitch

### **SUPERVISORS ABSENT:**

Tyler Nelson

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Janette Mendenhall, LSCD; Eileen Rowan, ISWCC; Klæe O'Brien, U of I; Alex Arnold, NRCS

### **MINUTES:**

Drew Leitch moved; Conner McLeod seconded to approve the minutes of the March meeting. M/C

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Drew Leitch moved; Conner McLeod seconded to approve the financial report for March. M/C

Drew Leitch moved; Conner McLeod seconded to approve the following bills. M/C

### **BILLS:**

*Taxes – See Financial Report*

*Payroll – See Financial Report*

*Century Link - \$88.99 - Internet – District*

*QuickBooks Online - \$70.00 – District*

*CJ Mosman & Son - \$3472.00 – BC-05 Cost Share Payment – District*

*Janette Mendenhall - \$20.23 – Posterboards for Poster Contests – District*

*Janette Mendenhall - \$25.19 – Amazon #114-6152576-0973053 Cyan Printer Ink – District*

*Janette Mendenhall - \$57.20 – Walmart.com #2000116-98459090 HIC Supplies – District*

*Janette Mendenhall - \$91.54 – Amazon #114-0070555-1959420 HIC Supplies – District*

*Janette Mendenhall - \$19.20 – Amazon #114-2666305-0468250 Magenta Printer Ink - District*

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **COMMISSION UPDATES:**

Eileen Rowan gave the commission updates.

WQPA did get approved.

There will be some cost share payments to be signed today.

#### **GRANTS:**

Eileen Rowan gave grant updates. DEQ §319 Big Canyon Implementations Grant Cost Share payment #6 for BC-05 came in.

WQPA will be 65% cost share. Eileen asked if we wanted to make the State Agriculture Grant cost share 65% also so that starting in July, all the cost shares would be the same. Drew asked if dropping to 65% would decrease participation. Eileen felt that it would not change participation. Jonathan Rosenau felt it would simplify the process. Everyone would get the same.

Greg Branson moved; Drew Leitch seconded to make cost share 65% across all grants. M/C

Neil Wassmuth wants to add a one-mile access road to access his cows in the summer. Because it is such a long road, he would like to have a dirt road instead of gravel, since it would be for summer use only. Eileen wanted to make sure the board agreed with it. It is a practice on the cost list. She felt that it needed to be discussed. He needs a good road to be able to go down to check on things. Drew said he felt that the roads didn't need to be gravel. They just needed to be maintained roads. They would be good for fire access as well.

Eileen summarized the breakdown of the projects and suggested how she would divide it between State Ag and WQPA.

When §319 comes open, Eileen wants to do the Russel Ridge Culverts. She asked Greg Branson which end he wanted to start from. Greg asked about how much time they would have to put them in. Eileen said it would start in 2025 and they would have two years to get them in. It would be 65% cost-share. The §319 could be used as match on the LHTAC Grant.

Eileen asked if the board was interested in doing a CIG for Uhlorn and weed sensing. Eileen suggested the state application and not the national if the board wanted to be involved. This would use a drone and spray only where the weeds are. There wouldn't be much admin money.

#### **CROP TOUR:**

Klae O'Brien gave the Crop Tour updates. They are doing the normal crop tour this summer, but they're going to add another one. The University of Idaho Extension Office will be doing a winter canola tour at the end of May 23<sup>rd</sup> in partnership with the Pacific Northwest Canola Association.

Jonathan and Greg discussed some field trials they are planning to do.

Greg asked Klae if there were any updates to the Climate Smart Grant. She said there is a new power point, but nothing is ready yet.

Alex Arnold said you can't use the Climate Smart Grant on stuff you already did.

#### **I & E:**

Janette Mendenhall gave the I & E updates.

Hatchery in the Classroom – Janette picked up steelhead eggs from Dworshak representative and delivered them to the Nezperce and Highland classrooms on March 21<sup>st</sup>. St John Bosco had a mishap with their tank, so their eggs were divided between the two Highland classes and Nezperce. They all hatched yesterday morning.

She attended the NRCS town hall meeting in Orofino. About 20 people attended.

Janette went to Highland and Kamiah classes and gave presentations, passed out materials, and explained the rules for the Noxious Weed Poster Contest. She will be giving the Nezperce presentation this week on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day will be Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Instructors have all responded and will be available. The "Take Me Fishing" trailer will not be there, but IDFG plans to have fishing poles and gear setup.

The IASCD Poster Contest will take place during Stewardship Week, April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 5<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "May the Forest Be With You Always". The contest will be for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Highland and Nezperce Elementary.

Janette asked if the district would be interested in sending students to Natural Resources Camp.

Greg Branson moved; Drew Leitch seconded that the LSCD sponsor three students to go to U of I Natural Resource Camp in Ketchum, ID June 17-22, 2024. M/C

**DC REPORT:**

Alex Arnold gave the DC Report.

Curtis Elke is no longer the Idaho State Conservationist. He is now in the Midwest. The state Engineer, Bruce Sandoval is filling in for him.

They just got their first round of funding. They are going through contracts right now. So far, they are funded for only 40%. They put in a request to the state office for more funding.

Jared Everson is on detail until June.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 8:00 am.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Drew Leitch moved; Conner McLeod seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 a.m. M/C

**PREPARED AND SUBMITTED:**

Janette Mendenhall