

Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2023

8:30 AM

OSU Extension Office

66365 Lone Rock Rd, Moro, OR 97039

Board Present

Jess Stutzman
Nick von Borstel
Clint Moore
Trevor Fields
Josh Hilderbrand

Others Present

Amanda Whitman, District Manager
Marylou Martin, Office Assistant
Joan Bird, Sherman County Commissioner
Misty Strayhorn, NRCS
Maria Snodgrass, ODA (Phone)

I. ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 8:31 am by chairman, Jess Stutzman.

II. REVIEW/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

III. MINUTES

Clint moved to approve minutes for the March 14th board meeting. Josh seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

IV. GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

No guest/public comment

V. TREASURERS REPORT

Financials were not available. They will usually be a month behind. Bills were presented.
Nick moved to approve the bills as presented and Clint seconded. Motion passed
unanimously.

VI. STAFF UPDATES

A. District Manager – See attached.

a. Grant Updates –

i. SIA – There is a pause on monitoring and outreach to limited and low categories until January, 2024. Keeping on track with potential violations. Three compliance opportunities, ODA will send each a letter at end of May. SWCD will review and Amanda will commit to one site visit with each land owner.

b. Tree Sale--Amanda and Marylou are going to pick up the trees tomorrow, hopefully all in one trip. There are a lot of shrubs and 50 free bunch grasses. The tree sale pick-up will be Friday at the fairgrounds.

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

- c. Building Update--There is a fence set up on the property. The bi-weekly meeting was canceled, but a written update is expected.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel

- a. The Watershed Coordinator position is still vacant.
 - i. An opportunity for an internship was discussed, a few hours a week to begin with.

B. County Cost Share –

- a. Can we add some kind of base/shale to the haul roads when needed? NRCS has specs for different options if someone has their own rock/shale. Currently, the deadline to complete the haul road is one year. Can that deadline be extended to 2 years? Also, there was discussion about making a money amount cap for 5 years instead of the limit of 3 grants in a 5 year period. Amanda will draft some options and revisions to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- b. Applications—2 new applications
 - i. Cross fence 540'. Clint moved to approve and Nick seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. Haul Road washed out 640'. Nick moved to approve and Trevor seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Policy Review

- a. Amanda presented updates on policy. Clint moved to approve fiscal policy through 3.2 pending any lawyer additions/changes. Trevor seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

D. FY 23-24 Budget

- a. Budget Committee meeting is April 27 at 5:00pm. All documents will be sent to members a week prior to the meeting.

E. Scholarship Review

- a. 5 students were approved for SWCD Scholarships. The available amount is \$7500, so each student will receive \$1500.

VIII. AGENCY REPORTS

IX.

- A. ODA – Maria gave updates on the revised MOA with DEQ to meet TMDL's and water quality work. DEQ has new TMDL process, the John Day River temperature is slated to be re-done starting in 2027 or 2028. Also, Maria reported that several staffing positions are vacant.
- B. NRCS– Misty reported the State is hiring a tech to write up a long-range plan for Sherman County. Also, Becky is going to several upcoming trainings. Misty will be giving a civil rights talk at next month's meeting. Ron Alvarado is retiring in August and Jason Jeans no longer works with NRCS. New Funding/EQIP for WASCB's and

imaging upgrades. Nick asked about EQIP 25 apps, funding will come next year:
\$800k. 2 funded in last sign-up.

- C. FSA – not present
- D. OSU Extension—not present

X. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XI. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is May 9th at 8:30 am.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

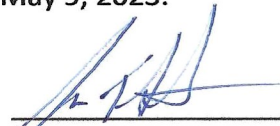
With no further business of the board meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

Respectfully,



Nick von Borstel, Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors May 9, 2023:



Jess Stutzman, Chair