



## Columbia Basin Conservation District

### Meeting Minutes

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 1:00 PM

In Person and Teleconference

#### Attendance:

**Supervisors** – Dave Stadelman (Chair), Dan Roseburg, Glenn Burkholder, John Preston, Richard Leitz

**Staff** - Kristina Ribellia, Elliott DeLong (Recorder), Harold Crose, Britton Baker, Dinah Gadberry, Deanna Elliott

**Agencies** – None

**Call to Order and Introductions:** D. Stadelman called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

**Public Input:** No public input.

**Approval of January 10th, 2023, Monthly Board Meeting Minutes:** Correction – January 2023 not 2022

*Motion by G. Burkholder to accept the January 10th, 2023, as presented, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**Approval of January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Special Session Board Meeting Minutes:** Correction - January 2023 not 2022

*Motion by R. Leitz to accept the January 27th, 2023, as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

#### **Approval of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Monthly Financial Reports:**

Presented by E. DeLong – Reviewed monies owed or owing and current grants through July, including fiscal year 23. Financial topics include burn permits, funds received, grant funding, DOE, WSCC, EPA and NACD grant, cost share allocations, pass-through money, implementation grants, VSP, SFF, livestock funding, NRCS, VSP Supplemental funds, and DOE Burn Applications.

*Motion by R. Leitz to accept the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Financial report as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries. Grant County checks #11156- 11209 totaling \$ 204,591.90. Payroll checks #11159-11168 totaling \$18,733.34 and #1184-11196 totaling \$24,692.84 included in the above amount.*

#### **Agency Reports:**

**Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC)**– None

**NRCS**– Ribellia – None

#### **Old Business:**

**Staffing Update- Ribellia** – K. Ribellia would like to schedule a 1-year review for March 2023.



**Building Update – Ribellia** – Grant County Fire District declined the offer from the five acres at assessed Value. While communication has not stopped it is likely that headway will be minimal until D. Roseburg returns from Arizona in March. The Avidex contract was resolved in January with a complete payment for services. The partial reimbursement from GCFD 5 will be discussed at a later date, likely in March.

Progress has been made on the 903 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave property. The offer was accepted by the OIC of Washington Board and the earnest money has been submitted through the Real estate agent. The initial inspection is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Concerns about lead paint, asbestos and Radon will be addressed during the initial inspection as requested the CBCD board.

**Elections – Ribellia**– J. Preston was the only registered ballot member and will run unopposed for the Election in March. Election ballots need to be postmarked no later than March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, to be viable. The appointed position of D. Roseburg is also up from appointment in April 2023.

**Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) –Crose** – Federal appropriation plan is on hold until NRCS receives more information, effectively holding funding. The current focus is turning to determining how the USBR feeder route through Crab Creek will affect the water quality of Moses Lake and the impact on the in-lake treatment. Otherwise, DOE grants continue to be a significant source of lake management funding going forward.

**VSP Update– Crose/ Baker**– Meeting with the working groups continue to be a significant part of VSP in both counties. Gran and Adams working groups are getting refreshed particularly after the last few years. Grant VSP working Group Meets Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> virtually and Adams VSP will be meeting March 16, virtually as well. Grant count continues to see plans develop; however, more focus is going to be placed on those plans in both counties within the OGWRP area. This shift will help satisfy some of the deliverables requirements of the PL-566 and OGWRP funding. Staff continues to work on reports and trainings.

**OGWRP Update–Ribellia/ Crose** – The PL-566 agreement with East Columbia Basin Irrigation District (ECBID) has seen significant progress. Farmer Conservation Alliance has been contracted to complete the necessary documents for the watershed plan (GAAP, NEPA etc.) under contract with CBCD. Additional funding will become more readily available. Office of the Columbia River will be providing funds and there is a possibility to apply for Climate Smart funding, however the application process outstrips what resources CBCD has at the moment. This shows a need to hire a firm to assist CBCD staff on an as-needed basis for Grant application. Currently, through the Sustainable Water Coalition and other interaction has provided a possible source for assistance through Landow and Associates. They have the expertise to provide assistance and could fulfill the needs CBCD could have with this grant writing process.

*Motion by G. Burkholder to approve a contract of \$9,900.00 with Landow & Associates for an as-needed assistance contract for Climate Smart funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**Legislative Days** – Ribellia – R. Leitz, J. Preston, D. Stadelman and K. Ribellia attended legislative days in Olympia in early February to meet with representative that represent grant county. There was an increase in the number of representatives due to redistricting that occurred but the meeting took place with as many representatives as possible. Topic focused on support for the OGWRP and funding, as well as the possibility to find support for future development of the East High Canal and other aspects of the Columbia Basin Project. All aspects of the funding will need to include legislative support in order to make sure that there is a possibility to actually secure funding.

**New Business:**



**Sustainable Watershed Coalition** – Ribellia – Prior to Covid 19, CBCD had been an integral part of the Sustainable Water Coalition. CBCD helped steer the coalition and provided support as a member. The Watershed Coalition covers Adams, Grant and Lincoln Counties and focuses primarily on the municipal providers. The coalition ties into a number of the same concepts as CBCD works on regularly. Previously CBCD had a position on the Steering Committee, which has been essentially changed into a board. CBCD has a position on that board, and due to the previous involvement, continuing to maintain a board position would be advantageous going forward.

*Motion by J. Preston to allow K. Ribellia to act as a member of the Sustainable Watershed Coalition Board, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**CBCD Story Map** – Elliott/ Ribellia – The development of a CBCD story map to provide the history and importance of the conservation district has been produced by D. Elliott. The Story map will be available on the CBCD website to help inform the public of the importance and development of the district over time. D. Elliott has developed the story map using archival material from a number of sources to try to illustrate the development and evolution of the Conservation district throughout history. The Story Map is in the final stages of development and would benefit from any additional information that the board may be able to provide.

**S. Butcher Cost Share Approval** – Gadberry – This project was approved by the CBCD board previously and is an irrigation conversion from Rill to Pivot. The cost is slightly higher after the project estimates were included. The new estimate would require a \$7,185.00 increase to the current cost share. The project will still need to be completed no later than June 30, 2023.

*Motion by R. Leitz to accept the Cost share increase for S. Butcher as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

**J. Cedargreen NRI Share Approval** – Gadberry – This project would use the funds previously allocated to Juergens Dairy. Juergen's will be unable to complete their project within the timeframe requires. J. Cedargreen operate in the Quincy area and is in the process of converting to micro irrigation and orchard planting. Currently there is an unlined irrigation pond being used which loses 150 gallons per minute. Reallocating the Juergen's fund and increasing the total by \$11,000.00 would provide a 50% cost share to install a liner to prevent irrigation water loss and additional seepage. The total project would be \$72,541.00 and CBCD 50% share would cover \$36,270.50 of the total cost.

*Motion by J. Preston to accept the NRI cost share from J. Cedargreen, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

**D. Hintz Cost Share Approval** – Gadberry – D. Hintz is looking to purchase a Manure spreader for use on 5,000 organic acres of annual crop. The spreader will be part of the new NRI funding made available by the WSCC and unlike other time is eligible for use on equipment. The spreader will be a 30 ft variety and have a total cost of \$196,000.00. CBCD would be providing a 50% cost share on the equipment totaling \$98,000.00. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by R. Leitz to accept the D. Hintz Cost Share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, D. Roseburg votes against, motion carries.*

**Ramirez SFF Cost Share Approval** – Gadberry – The cost share is in Royal city. Similar to the Hintz cost share, these funds would go to a manure spreader however, because the equipment is for an orchard, the equipment is less expensive. The spreader would cost \$32,955.00 and CBCD would cost share 50%. CBCD



would be handling &16,477.50 and receive an additional \$4,000.00 for technical assistance. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by G. Burkholder to accept the Ramirez SFF Cost Share as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.*

**Reffett SFF Cost Share Approval – Gadberry** – Reffett would be using SFF for a smaller No Till planter that is not new but heavily modified to include row clearers and closing wheels. The planter also meets the requirement for reduced tillage capability. Due to the modifications, the planter would cost \$61,006.00 and CBCD would be receiving \$30,503.00 and an additional \$7,625.75 in technical assistance. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by R. Leitz to accept the Reffett SFF Cost Share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

**Gilbert SFF Cost Share Approval – Gadberry** – Country Morning Farms is looking to use SFF to improve precision ag and purchase a no-till drill. The precision ag system will be applied to two of the tractors used by the producer and will increase the acreage under till. The no-till drill is a 12-row drill. The combination of drill and precision Ag equipment would total \$200,000.00 dollars and CBCD would be responsible for 50%, totaling \$100,000.00. The project is pending the allocation of SFF funds from Olympia. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by J. Preston to accept the Gilbert SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, D. Roseburg votes against, motion carries.*

**Friehe SFF Cost Share Approval – Gadberry** – P. Friehe would use SFF funds for purchase of No till Drill. The drill is similar in size to that proposed in other costs shares(12-row) and would cost approximately \$107,000.00. Concerns about the costs of funding excessively high-cost shares may have a negative impact on the districts cost share policy. If the cost share is approved the cost share would be 50% and total \$58,868.00. The project is pending the allocation of SFF funds from Olympia. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by D. Roseburg to accept the Friehe SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**Goodrich SFF Cost Share Approval – Gadberry** – E. Goodrich has partners in the past and is looking for additional cost share to improve the reduced tillage on the property under tillage. The SFF funds would be allocated to purchase a turbo chisel for planting. The implementation would likely be on the purchase list for the producer regardless of the cost share. The total equipment cost is \$71,900.00. CBCD would be responsible for 50% and cover \$35,950.00. The project is pending the allocation of SFF funds from Olympia. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June 30, 2023.

*Motion by J. Preston to accept the Goodrich SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**Butcher SFF Cost Share Approval – Gadberry** – S. Butcher has received cost share from CBCD before and is looking to utilize SFF funds to improve existing precision ag. Currently the funds would allow for a single precision ag suite to be applied to the equipment currently in use. The cost of the suite is \$23,733.00 and CBCD would be handling a 50% cost share totaling \$10,866.00. The project is pending the allocation of SFF funds from Olympia. The equipment will need to be purchased no later than the end of fiscal year on June



30, 2023. These cost share will more than likely be the last funding request brought to the CBCD due to timeline constraints with cultural resources and the end of fiscal year in four months.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the Butcher SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

**Adjournment-** Motion by G. Burkholder to adjourn. Seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM.



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Chair Approval

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Recorder Signature

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Date

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Date

**Summary of Motions:**

Motion by G. Burkholder to accept the January 10th, 2023, as presented, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to accept the January 27th, 2023, as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to accept the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Financial report as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries. Grant County checks #11156- 11209 totaling \$ 204,591.90. Payroll checks #11159-11168 totaling \$18,733.34 and #1184-11196 totaling \$24,692.84 included in the above amount.

Motion by G. Burkholder to approve a contract of \$9,900.00 with Landow & Associates for an as-needed assistance contract for Climate Smart funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to allow K. Ribellia to act as a member of the Sustainable Watershed Coalition Board, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to accept the Cost share increase for S. Butcher as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the NRI cost share from J. Cedargreen, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to accept the D. Hintz Cost Share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, D. Roseburg votes against, motion carries.

Motion by G. Burkholder to accept the Ramirez SFF Cost Share as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to accept the Reffett SFF Cost Share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the Gilbert SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, D. Roseburg votes against, motion carries.

Motion by D. Roseburg to accept the Friehe SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the Goodrich SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.



Motion by J. Preston to accept the Butcher SFF Cost Share as presented pending allocation of funding, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

**Adjournment-** Motion by G. Burkholder to adjourn. Seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM.