



Columbia Basin
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Columbia Basin Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

June 11th, 2024 – 7:00 PM

In Person and Teleconference

Attendance:

Supervisors – Dave Stadelman (Chair), John Preston, Glenn Burkholder

Staff - Kristina Ribellia, Elliott DeLong (Recorder), Harold Crose, Dinah Rouleau, Audrey Rhodes, Griffin Hansen

Agencies – None

Public –None

Call to Order and Introductions: D. Stadelman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Public Input: None

Approval of May 14th, 2024, Monthly Board Meeting Minutes: Correction – None

Motion by J. Preston to accept May 14th, 2024, as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Approval of June 11th, 2024, Monthly Financial Reports:

Presented by E. DeLong – Reviewed current grants through fiscal year 24. Financial topics include burn permits, funds received, grant funding, DOE, WSCC, EPA and NACD grant, cost share allocations, fiscal year 24 implementation grants, VSP, SFF, NRI, LT, NRCS, VSP Supplemental funds, and DOE Burn Applications. Additional information on the building funds was included.

Motion by G. Burkholder to accept the June 11th, 2024, Financial report as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries. Grant County checks #11982 – 12029 totaling \$141,328.62. Payroll checks #11982-11991 totaling \$19,747.95 and #11998-12011 totaling \$35,161.76 included in the above amount.

Agency Reports:

Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) – None

NRCS – None

Old Business:

Staffing Update – Ribellia – CBCD currently has 14 employees (four part-time, ten full-time). Our newest hire is A. Rhodes, who will be filling the RCPP Grants and Management position. A. Rhodes started June 3rd, 2024, and will be full time in the fall of 2024.

Building Update – Ribellia – None

Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) – Ribellia – Federal Appropriation application of lanthanide bentonite clay has been completed as of Monday June 10th, 2024. The treatment was completed on time and the results will be observed through the summer. The treatment of incoming water from Rocky ford Creek will continue through the summer of 2024.



VSP Update – DeLong – VSP monitoring plan will be presented at the Quarterly VSP meeting. The Grant VSP meeting will be held at the CBCD office from 10 AM-12 PM on Thursday June 20th, 2024. A zoom link will be provided for any member who may not be able to attend in person.

OGWRP Update – Ribellia/Crose – The tour with the NRCs undersecretary on June 6th was a success. Attendance was good and the undersecretary was supportive of the project. The first rounds of WaterSMART contracts are set for end of June. PL-566 holds great promise for additional funding beyond NRCS and WaterSMART. Planning and Implementation has progressed, and water is expected on ground for the 2025 irrigation season. Concern over alternate funding is an issue but as is the number of acres under contract. Currently the ECBID has a significant number of acres under contract, and that may be an issue in future. ECBID will be hosting a public meeting on July 2nd, 2024, to answer questions and concerns about the project.

Mobile Drip Irrigation – Crose – Bonneville Environmental Group provided a draft of the agreement for the partnership with for an estimated 1.5 million dollars. CBCD is looking at the possibility of internal ranking to spread funds throughout the district no focusing on one project area. Internal conversation of draft review required to clarify before any decision is made to clarify vouchering and Fund distribution.

Royal Farms Tour – Rouleau – The regenerative Ag tour is still set for June 14th. The tour is \$100.00 per person and will tour Cloud view Farms and Royal Dairy to include two speakers, tours and lunch.

SFF Cost Share Update–Rouleau – All previously approved SFF plans have been cancelled at a state level. Funding changed from Operation to Capital budget and a reallocation will be required for those funds to be made available.

New Business:

Mensonides Cost share Certification – Rouleau – R. Mensonides flew on cover crop. Currently the fields are in crop, but the cover crop covered 95 acres just outside Moses Lake. The total cost of the cover crop application totaled \$6,630 and was from multiple vendors to satisfy the requirement of the cost share. The project exceeded the required \$6,630.00 however, CBCD would provide \$3,315 for the completed cost share.

Motion by G. Burkholder to approve the Mensonides Cost share Certification as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Jelmborg Cost Share Certification – Rouleau – George Jelmborg was an NRI cost share for the removal of Russian Olives and a replant with beneficial plants. The project was completed under budget due to Jelmborg using a majority of his own stock to replace the Russian Olive Trees. The original cost share was significantly more but the CBCD board approved a cost share up to 7,500. Currently the cost share was completed for 7354.72 and 50% totals \$3,370.00.

Motion by J. Preston to approve the Jelmborg Cost share Certification as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Goodrich Cost share Approval - Rouleau – E. Goodrich was approved for a VSP cost share. However, due to the CPDS system, what was approved and what was proposed did not exactly match what WSCC approved. Currently WSCC only approved the irrigation installment to cover the corners. The request is to provide Goodrich with 3,528.50 from the returned RNRI funds for George Jelmborg to cover the cost of the planting. The total from the WSCC cannot exceed \$100,000.00 so the VSP cost share will be reduced by



3,528.50. to meet those requirements. Additionally, the requirement from the CD would be a minimum of 10 years in habitat for the project.

Motion by G. Burkholder to approve the Goodrich NRI cost Share, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Internal SFF Ranking – Rouleau - CBCD has received roughly 20% of the SFF cost share funds when they are awarded. While the state ranks the total cost share, having a internal system to make sure that the funds are properly awarded and spread out as an internal ranking setup to justify the districts priorities should the need arise. The system would be WSDA and DOE compliant and act more as a tiebreaker for then the funds are limited, and multiple projects are needed to be considered. The ranking would be relatively simple and only impact what is sent up as a priority to the commission, but the state would still have the final say.

Motion by J. Preston to approve an internal SFF rank system, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Tillage Rate – Rouleau - There is a consideration of the implementation of a tillage rate for farmer who have the equipment to do wither no-till or reduced tillage in the county. Currently NRCS offers a fiscal year rate for both practices, and it sees some use every year. The consideration would either be to adopt its own rate or ideally default to the annual Fiscal year rate offered by NRCS. No decision needs to be made now; however, it will be on the agenda for July.

Adjournment- Motion by G. burkholder to adjourn. Seconded by J. Preston, motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.



Chair Approval

Recorder Signature

Date

Date

Summary of Motion:

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