



Grant County Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022 – 7:00 PM

In Person and Teleconference – Phase 3

Attendance:

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

Staff - Kristina Ribellia, Elliott DeLong (Recorder), Harold Crose,

Agencies –None

Call to Order and Introductions:

D. Stadelman called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Public Input:

No public input.

Approval of May 10th, 2022 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes:

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept the May 10th, 2022 minutes as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Approval of June 14th, 2022 Monthly Financial Reports:

Presented by E. DeLong – Reviewed monies owed or owing and current grants through June 2022. Financial topics included; burn permits, funds received, grant funding, DOE, WSCC, EPA and NACD grant, cost share allocations, pass-through money, implementation grant, livestock funding, NRCS, RCPP, and DOE Burn Applications.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the June 14th, 2022 Financial report as presented, seconded by R. Leitz motion carries. Grant County checks #10777-10824 totaling \$72,053.66. Payroll checks #10780-10788 totaling \$15,358.00 and #10804-10815 totaling \$28,490.20 included in the above amount.

Agency Reports:

NRCS– Ribellia – Update: Local Working Group data feedback was sent to Nick Vira and Keith Griswold Fiscal Year 23 and state leadership team members are working on revised statewide ranking questions for fund pools. The ranking process should be simplified going forward. The second application period for WaterSMART closes June 13th. Currently there are 5 applications for this second round of funding with approximately \$625,000 in the fund pool remaining. National submitted proposals are due July 1 to the state office. Updates are as follows:



Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) – Crose – The Moses Lake Carp Classic was successful despite less-than-ideal weather conditions. The 2022 tournament had a turnout of 38 boats (largest to date) and removed 3,000 lbs. of carp from the lake. Aside from the tournament the Watershed council continues to function. The USBR WaterSMART grant provide funding to address the formation of the council in a more formal manner. The Conservation District continues to provide financial and administrative support. The watershed council will likely continue to be a significant focus to the conservation district efforts going forward.

VSP – Crose – The Adams County VSP update was completed June 6th, 2022. Plans in both counties continue to be delivered. Focus within Grant County will move to the Crab Creek Corridor while Adams County will move to focus on the Cow Creek Corridor. Plans will increase a connection between VSP and Cost share to improve the implementation of conservation practices. Additionally, GCCD can now offer the possibility of VSP plans presented in Spanish, the first of which was presented in May 2022.

OGWRP Update–Ribellia/ Crose – The RCPP proposal continues to progress. An all OGWRP meeting is scheduled for June, 21, 2022 to discuss the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District (ECBID) scope of work. ECBID is also looking to contract GCCD for Project management of the NRCS programs in the OGWRP. The conservation district will provide the support similar to the PIFR process GCCD contracted Farmer Conservation Alliance. Contracting, project schedule and completion as well as timeline management will fall to the conservation district to manage. ECBID is looking to the conservation district once the agreement is developed.

Motion by G. Burkholder to provide K. Ribellia authority to inter into an interlocal agreement with ECBID more project management in the OGWRP, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Staffing Salary Update – Ribellia – Moved to July 2022 Board Meeting

New Business:

NACD UAC Grant Agreement – Ribellia – The National Association of Conservation District's Urban Agriculture grant was awarded in April and the official documentation has been received and reviewed. The agreement is affective for 1 year from the date of signature for a total of \$50,000.00. This UAC grant will be used to develop the Heritage Garden program, a xeriscaping program to improve water conservation within the county. Once signed the agreement will go into effect and funds will be released.

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept the NACD UAC Grant as presented to GCCD, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Heritage Garden Interlocal Agreement - Ribellia – The Heritage Garden Program has been operated by the Benton Conservation District and had significant success in their service area. The training would be conducted by Heather Wendt from Benton Conservation District. To facilitate the program, an interlocal agreement for training, materials and licensing has been developed. The agreement would cover all the above including \$885.00 to cover training wages for the Benton Conservation District Staff.



Craghead Cost Share Approval -DeLong – Cost share for James Craghead to Sprinkled (KPODS), Forage planting and buried outlets totaling a minimum of \$24,000.00. Engineers stamped the buried piping on the outlet and everything was installed and planted within the required timeframe. Forage is starting to come up now and should be improving as time goes on. The project totaled more than \$24,000.00, exceeding the requirements for the 50% cost share.

Motion by R. Leitz to approve the Craghead Cost share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Trout Lake Cost Share Approval -DeLong – Cost share for Trout Lake Farms in Ephrata. Originally approved for \$20,000.00, the cost share covered a wind break and pollinator habitat. Two rows of junipers were planted as a windbreak and native pollinators were planted as pollinator habitat. Signage showing the conservation districts participation will be installed but was postponed due to the name change issues that the district is undergoing. The project totaled \$16,341.00 and did not exceed the full cost share amount resulting in only \$8,170.89 in cost share.

Motion by R. Leitz to approve the Trout Lake Farms Cost share as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Grant Orchard Dairy Plan Approval -DeLong – Update to a previous dairy plan that was looked over by Lyle Stoltman. The plan is updated and allows for more cows than are currently at the dairy. Currently there are 10 milkers, 6 dry cows, 7 heifers and 2 calves. All solids from the dairy are going to nearby ranch and liquids are limited (less than 50 gallons per day) are collected to a septic system. The dairy also included the soil test for the application of solids.

Motion by G. Burkholder to approve the update to the Grant Orchard Dairy Plan, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Bar E Dairy Plan Approval -DeLong – Bar E dairy's plan was updated with the assistance of Lyle Stoltman. Bar E dairy is Located of Rd 4 and I SW, well outside of any town, making the changes fairly easy. The plan was updated to cover 5,000 milking cows, up from the previous 3,000 milking cows. Contract already exist for 1,000 plus acres for liquids management with Desert Acre Farms, which has a direct pipeline from the lagoon making the additional liquid handling less of a concern. Most water is recycled and used in the flushing system for the building. Plan will be submitted to the Washington State Department of Agriculture by June 30, 2022.

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept updated Bar E Dairy plan, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Juergens Cost Share Approval -DeLong – Cost share for Donald Juergen's is a re allocation of funds that was previous turned down through 22-49-NRI. The cost share would update the waste separator to better manage the nutrients coming into the lagoon. Currently the project already cleared cultural resources review. The cost of the equipment far exceeds \$50,000.00 and the reallocated NRI funds will included the original \$9,000 plus the \$15,749.00 additional supplement provided by WSCC. The total of the provided cost share would be \$24,749.00 and completion date would be 6/30/2023 with the closure of the 22-49-NRI Grant.



Chair Approval

Recorder Signature

Date

Date

Summary of Motions:

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept the May 10th, 2022 minutes as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to accept the June 14th, 2022 Financial report as presented, seconded by R. Leitz motion carries. Grant County checks #10777-10824 totaling \$72,053.66. Payroll checks #10780-10788 totaling \$15,358.00 and #10804-10815 totaling \$28,490.20 included in the above amount.

Motion by R. Leitz by to increase the fund to cover the complete legal review of the Interlocal agreement to \$3,000.00, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Motion by G. Burkholder to provide K. Ribellia authority to inter into an interlocal agreement with ECBID more project management in the OGWRP, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept the NACD UAC Grant as presented to GCCD, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz by to accept interlocal agreement as presented for the Heritage Garden Program provided by the Benton Conservation District, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston approve contract Artmill Designs for completion of an updated conservation district logo, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by R. Leitz to approve the Dwain Forrester Cost share as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.

Motion by J. Preston to approve the Meyer Cost share as presented, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.