



Grant Soil and Water Conservation District
Kenneth H. Delano Agricultural Service Center
721 S. Canyon Blvd. - John Day, OR 97845 - Phone (541) 575-0135

MINUTES OF GRANT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
October 5, 2023 Meeting

Attendance

Directors Attending:

Roger Ediger – Director
Pat Voigt - Chairman

Phil St. Clair – Director
Joanne Keerins - Director

Staff Attending:

Kyle Sullivan – District Manager
Matt Wenick – Grant Weed Control Coordinator

Visitors:

Amy Charette – OWEB Region 6 Program Representative
Aaron Roth – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Jason Brandt – Deputy Forest Supervisor, Malheur Forest

John Rowell – Grant County Commissioner
Amy Stiner – South Fork Watershed Council
Sally Christensen – Blue Mt. District Ranger –
Malheur Forest

ADMINISTRATION

1. Call Meeting to Order – Pat Voigt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes – **Phil moved to approve the September 7th, 2023 meeting minutes. Joanne gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**
3. Introduction of Visitors – Pat welcomed the visitors attending.
4. Public Input – There was no public input.

REPORTS

5. NRCS – Aaron announced he has accepted a new position, National Resource Inventory (NRI) Coordinator with NRCS. He expects NRCS to have a plan to fill his position, John Day District Conservationist, within the next month. Stephanie Rice is also leaving the John Day office. Natalie Wright began her employment at the John Day office last week. Aaron reported November 17th is the application deadline for EQIP applications. A forestry tour for landowners and contractors will be held October 17th.
6. FSA – A representative was unable to attend.
7. South Fork John Day Watershed Council – Amy reported the Council is wrapping up several monitoring projects on the Malheur Forest. Staff is working with the District on the replacement of four culverts.
8. Malheur Forest – Jason stated the Forest is providing outreach to the public as prescribed burning in many areas will begin soon. Treatment on the Magone Project has been completed for this year.
9. ODA – A representative was unable to attend.

OWEB – Amy reported she plans to attend several District meetings a year. OWEB will be including Evaluative Climate Criteria in its grant applications, starting with the Fall 2023 Open Solicitation Grant offering. OWEB technical review teams will consider applicants responses to climate-related questions as part of their evaluation.

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

10. Grant Weed Control – Matt reported aerial application of Rejuvra was completed on 35,847 acres in the first part of September. Plateau was included in the application as annual grasses were beginning to sprout due to the amount of moisture received.
11. District Programs – Kyle reported the Murderers Creek Fence tour was recently completed. The South Fork Watershed Council will be adding additional funding to the fence project. Kyle stated the District was recently notified it was awarded a FEMA grant, the Upper John Day Valley Aquifer Management grant. It will supplement funding received from OR Water Resources, to conduct an airborne electromagnetic survey of subsurface conditions in the John Day Valley. Kyle provided an update on the OR Dept. of Agriculture tour held in John Day.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

12. Cole Winegar: District Engineering Program Presentation – Cole’s presentation was moved to the November meeting.
13. Associate Board Member Recruitment – Discussion was held on the importance of recruiting Associate Directors for the District. Several names were suggested. Kyle stated he will contact them regarding their interest.
14. Other –
15. Other –
17. Other –


FINANCIAL BUSINESS

18. Financial Report/Financial Summary – Financial reports for the month of September 2023 were reviewed.
19. Approve Bills – **Phil moved to approve the bills and financial reports for the month of September 2023. Joanne gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**


The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.




Board Chair



Date



District Manager



Date