Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Regular Monthly Meeting

331 E Cottage Park Drive Suite 1B, Cave Junction, OR 97523/ZOOM

 **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order April 28, 2022 by Bill Reid, Board Chair at 6:01 p.m.

ATTENDED IN PERSON ATTENDED VIA ZOOM ABSENT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| William Reed | Jim Gurley | Katrina Poydack |
| Carol Crawford  | Patty Downing (WC) | Gene Merrill (WC) |
| Janice Denny (WC) |  | Arlyse DeLoyola (Staff) |
| Don Young (WC) |  |  |
| Bob Webb |  |  |
| Rhett Nelsen |  |  |
| Bob Schmidt |  |  |
| Joy McEwen (WC) |  |  |
| Kevin O’Brien (WC) |  |  |
| Cheryl Nelson (staff) |  |  |
|  | PUBLIC: Fred Mittleton |  |

**SCRIBE**

Notes were taken by Cheryl Nelson

**Minutes:** The minutes from the March meeting were presented to the Board for review.

* Bob Webb made a motion to approve the minutes from March
* Rhett Nelson seconded the motion.
* The motion was carried without dissent.

**Financials:** The financial Reports from March 1-31, 2022, were presented to the Board for review.

* Bob Webb made a motion to accept the Financial Reports.
* Jim Gurley seconded the motion.
* The motion carried without dissent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Update on Conservation Program Mgr. Position:**

Kevin read candidate’s letter aloud, explained that Andrew’s reason for not accepting the employment offer had not been due to moving expenses (an advance was offered). Arlyse and Kevin revisited the job announcement and made some enhancements before submitting it to IV News/GP Courier/Medford Mail Trib., Oregonian, Conservation Job Board, OREGON LIVE and MAC List. Board member recommended High Country Times Classifieds and Universities. Recommend not waiting until Arlyse’s return-to-work date to post to other sources.

**White Ditch:**

Scott Fein asked for an invite to our next Board Meeting and is looking to cooperate on future projects. Landowner meeting is still a little way out, Kevin to follow through with Dan Adkins. Bill Reid added that it’d be worthwhile to express to the water rights users that unless gravel push-up dam problem sites are addressed, State of Oregon is likely to begin shutting down entire systems that use gravel push up dams.

**Volunteer Agreement**:

Kevin not seeing a real need to revise what we use currently. Community Organizer volunteer role still being pinned down. Public Records Request from Chris Hall submitted 4/20 for any/all emails containing ‘Chris” or “Cannabis” or “Hall” – requested soliciting Kelley Services at a cost of approximately $185.

**Water Quality Monitoring:**

Not equipped to make the deadline for the WQM (Water Quality Monitoring) grant and outlook is to apply for 2023 funding. Bill Joerger and Kevin had the required OWEB (Oregon Water Enhancement Board) Effectiveness monitoring pre-submission appointment with Ken Fetcho. Despite having no funding match, Bill (donor) collected during the last push of rain from three sample locations and Arlyse prepared a payment for his services from the WQM donation fund he initiated.

**NEW BUSINESS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Increase Impact of Cannabis Report:**

Bill requested that the Office Manager send links to the District’s Cannabis Report to any and all local/state and federal legislators as soon as possible to emphasize the impact of the District’s Town Halls and subsequent Cannabis Report. Reference made to Oregon House Bill 4061 Effective June 3rd, 2022 making it unlawful in some cases to haul water to certain grow sites.

**Thompson Creek Carbon Capture**: Tracey was in pursuit of this – it is non-qualifying.

**Small Farm Activity:** Arlyse and Janice interested in codifying. The law is clear, one well can irrigate .5 acre. Farmer’s Market differs from larger scale farm.

**CONTINUING**

**Staff Reports:**

**Kevin** had field trip today on Crooks Creek Project with the private partnering landowners and the members of the BLM’s Interdisciplinary Team for the required NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process. Kevin is working on applying for the required regulatory permits and then will be drafting and going out with a Request for Proposals for the project. Contract work will begin – $88K Total project budget, $10K of which is to the District through a Good Neighbor Authority Agreement between OWEB and BLM (Bureau of Land Management) for the project.

Biennial Review report is now due into ODA (Oregon Department of Agriculture) and will be completed shortly.

Report also due into NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) Fisheries for the RBP Rogue Basin Partnership) portion of White Ditch TA project funding.

Kevin gave another presentation to students enrolled in OSU Extension Service’s Land Steward Program.

**Cheryl** shared budget line items included in marketing/media consultation grant request to Network for Landscape Conservation. Offered Board two-sided print out of TELE (Tools for Effective Landowner Engagement) and now has two Board members enrolled for upcoming training.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Fred Mittleman – 7400 block of Rockydale Rd. reports of heavy logging work at night – he’s called BLM – said river is getting stripped of shade and is having an impact on property he owns. Referral to the Sasquatch Woods People, a watchdog organization.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is to be held on May 26, 2022 at 7:30pm (following IVWC meeting)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_