

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 September 28, 2023 by Bill Reid, Board Chair at 6:05

ATTENDED IN PERSON ATTENDED VIA ZOOM ABSENT

William Reid	James Gurley	Rhett Nelsen
Robert Webb	Marcy Sowa (6:24)	Gene Merrill (WC)
Katrina Poydack	Kevin O'Brien (WC)	Janice Denney (WC)
Robert Schmidt		Patricia Downing (WC)
Don Young (WC)		
Carol Crawford		
John Bellville- staff		
Arlyse DeLoyola- Staff		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by: Arlyse DeLoyola

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented for review.

- **A motion to accept the minutes for August was made by Bob Schmidt.**
- **The motion was seconded by Bob Webb.**
- **The motion passed without dissent.**

The financial reports were presented for review.

- **Bob Schmidt moved to accept the financial reports.**
- **Bob Webb seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed without dissent.**

OLD BUSINESS

Water Quality Monitoring Report:

- John reported that the team had finished up another week of sampling that went well. There were some high readings on White Creek.
- He will be removing the temperature monitors next week for the season.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for Annual Meeting:

Discussion was held regarding a date for the annual meeting. The consensus was that the regular meeting date of December 21st would be best.

- **Jim Gurley moved to accept a resolution to hold the Annual Meeting on December 21, 2023 at 6:00 pm.**
- **Bob Schmidt seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed without dissent.**

Budget committee meeting date:

Discussion was held regarding the annual budget committee meeting. A date of December 5, 2023 at 2:00 pm was set.

OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Districts) Conference:

John announced that the OACD annual conference would be held October 16-18 in Redmond and he had been advised that he should attend.

- **Bob Schmidt made a motion to send John to the conference, with the district paying costs.**
- **Bob Webb seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously.**

CONTINUING

David Ferguson of National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) addressed the board regarding the visits his team, John, and the Oregon Department of Forestry made to our Thompson Creek Tract this week. He will prepare a report for the board and he discussed next steps for the property, should John be successful in securing funding.

He also reported that his staff has experienced growth this year, adding two soil conservationists and an engineer, which allows more capacity for all uses, including forestry, cropland, and pasture. They have received and are seeking funding through Oregon Department of Forestry and NRCS that may allow for some capacity for the District, as the District has positioned itself as the central hub for the Illinois Valley for fuels reduction projects.

NRCS had stayed active in IVFROG and he has contracted over a dozen landowners in Takilma for thinning and piling of forested properties.

He is looking ahead to more work in the IV in the areas of prescribed grazing, no-till farming, and irrigation efficiency projects in the future.

Staff Reports:

John reported that he and Cheryl had placed “Burma-Shave” type signs at both ends of the valley advertising conservation-themed messages as well as the IVFROG website and deployed a number of ‘Thank You Firefighters’ banners throughout the valley.

He will be speaking to the Garden Club in October about mushroom cultivation as it relates to water conservation.

The Post-Fire Recovery Project is nearing the next phase - there are two landowners left to sign on.

It is requested that the board vote on properties to be included in the CWDG project. A map of the proposed properties will be available at the next meeting.

Cheryl’s report was in writing as she was not present.

Arlyse reviewed her report.

Partnering Agency reports:

Kevin O’Brien gave a report. The Watershed Council received word that the Passive Water Quality Monitoring Grant fell below the funding line and would not be funded. He will be meeting with the program manager to discuss the application.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be held on October 26, 2023 at 6:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

APPROVED MINUTES: William Reid

DATE: 8 Nov 2023