



**Columbia Basin Conservation District**

**Meeting Minutes**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

**In Person and Teleconference**

**Attendance:**

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

**Staff** - Kristina Ribellia, Elliott DeLong (Recorder), Harold Crose, Dinah Rouleau, Deanna Elliott, Wade Haughton, Ronnie Sawyer

**Agencies** – Ryan Baye (WACD)

**Public** –None

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

**Public Input:** None

**Approval of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Monthly Board Meeting Minutes:** Correction – None

*Motion by J. Preston to accept June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as presented, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

**Approval of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 R. Lietz to accept the July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Financial report as presented, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries. Grant County checks #12030-12079 totaling \$236,295.83. Payroll checks #12037-12048 totaling \$22,046.01 and #12057-12071 totaling \$31,383.68 included in the above amount.*

**Agency Reports:**

**Washington Association Conservation Districts (WACD)** – Baye – WACD has developed an all-district resolution tracker to assist in looking at resolutions across the state. WACD is also working on a sustainable funding survey, Agricultural loan working group committee and a livestock committee. There is also an election public policy group that is assessing whether CDs should be on the public ballot. The independent community will be releasing a report by December 31, 2024. The annual meeting will be December 2-4<sup>th</sup> in Spokane at Northern Quest.

**Washington State Conservation Commission** - Baye – Mike Baden sends his apology for not being able to attend, he is currently in Okanagon assisting with a meeting there. Reminder that fiscal year ends July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**NRCS** – Ribellia – None



**Old Business:**

**Staffing Update – Ribellia** – CBCD currently has 15 employees (five part-time, ten full-time). The executive session was originally proposed to however, the session did not need to be needed.

**Building Update – Ribellia** – Stairs in the building have been completed. The focus going forward is likely to be the outside of the building as funding allows.

**Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) – Sawyer** – Federal Appropriation application of lanthanide bentonite clay has been completed as of Monday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 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. Two DOE Nonpoint grants are in various stages of operation, FY 24 is still not completely expected by DOE. The aquatic plant survey is set to be conducted by Aquatechnics for the entirety of the DOE contract.

**VSP Update – Elliott** – VSP's required monitoring plan has been submitted to the Commission on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Currently the plans focus on CARA (Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas) and is eligible to be edited and revised at any time going forward.

**OGWRP Update – Ribellia/Croze** – The first rounds of WaterSMART contracts ended in 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, to answer questions and concerns about the project.

**Mobile Drip Irrigation – Croze** – Bonneville Environmental Group provided a draft of the agreement for the partnership with for an estimated 1.5 million dollars. CBCD will be internally ranking to spread funds throughout the district without focusing on one project area. Internal conversation of draft review required to clarify before any decision is made to clarify vouchering and fund distribution to determine what portion of the project will be covered under cost share.

**Tillage Rates – Rouleau** – 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 on the annual Fiscal year rate offered by NRCS. Due to the time required the recommendation would be for the conservation district to adopt the NRCS rates

*Motion by J. Preston adopt the NRCs Tillage Rates Annually, seconded by R. Leitz, motion carries.*

**New Business:**

**James Baird Cost share Certification** – Rouleau – Jimmy Baird is looking to make from a handline to a solid set system for irrigation. Currently the cropping includes a cover crop with Buckwheat and will be used on other permanent crops. The cost share would be 30,000.00 total with a 50% cost share totaling 15,213.00.

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



**FFA Soil Judging – Rouleau** – CBCD has provided support for the State FFA soil judging program. Last November CBCD hosted the state final. The organizers were happy with the results and cooperation and would like to make CBCD a regular host. If approved by the board CBCD would provide 1-3 staff members and bathroom facilities for the program when it occurs in the Grant County Area. CBCD would also provide a site location for the event.

*Motion by R. Leitz to approve FFA hosting for soil judging, seconded by G. Burkholder, motion carries.*

**25-49-IM Addendum - DeLong** – The FY 25 Implementation grant is significantly larger than previous years resulting in bigger grant outcomes. Currently the Addendum is as follows: Outcome 1 – Cost share, Outcome 2 – Technical Assistance, Outcome 3 - Dairy Nutrient Planning, Outcome 4 - Dues/Insurance, Outcome 5 – Outreach, Outcome 6 -GOOD for a grant outcome total of \$204,991.00

*Motion by R. Leitz to approve the 25-49-IMP Addendum, seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.*

**Adjournment-** *Motion by R. Leitz to adjourn. Seconded by J. Preston, motion carries.* The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.



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Chair Approval

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Recorder Signature

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Date

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Date

**Summary of Motion:**

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