



MID-SNAKE RC&D

Resource, Conservation and Development

CARING. GROWING. PROTECTING.

Finalized Minutes

March 24, 2023 Quarterly Council Meeting

Twin Falls County West Building 275 Martin St (Conference Room B)

11:00 AM

Attendance:

Chairman: Heidi Tubbs - Snake River SWCD
Vice Chairman: Terry Kramer - Balanced Rock SWCD
Secretary/Treasurer: Doreen McMurray - East Cassia SWCD
Kali Sherrill - Twin Falls County Weed Dept
Sharon Hardy - Minidoka SWCD
Jason Parker - Tri-County Weed Dept
Ryan Berlin - BLM
Sarah Rohrbach - Southern Idaho Tourism
Roy Prescott - North Side SWCD
Bob Kunau - Cassia County Commissioner
Charlie Howell - Jerome County Commissioner

- I. **Mid-Snake RC&D Quarterly Meeting called to Order by:** Chairman Heidi Tubbs at 11:05 AM. Chairman began with introductions, starting with the new administrator Emily Goodnight and each person went around the table stating their name and who they represented.
- II. **The Minutes** from the previous meeting (December 16, 2022) were reviewed. Terry Kramer made the motion to approve the minutes. Roy Prescott seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- III. **The Financial Balance Sheet and Investment Portfolio Balance** were reviewed. Roy Prescott motioned to approve the Financial Balance Sheet. Terry Kramer seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- IV. **By-laws and dues** were reviewed. Doreen McMurray passed out a packet regarding 2023 membership (see attached). Discussion ensued regarding membership and voting. Only dues paying members are allowed to vote. The Mid-Snake RC&D Board of Directors will make case-by-case decisions if at-large and other council members must pay dues when they fall under a county umbrella. The Board of Directors will also decide on a case-by-case basis if these organizations would be allowed to vote.

Terry Kramer motioned to send out the request for \$50 dues for membership (after contact information is added to the membership form). Charlie Howell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Doreen will update the form and Emily will send it out to all current council members.

- V. **Social media update** was presented by Emily Goodnight regarding the FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/midsnakercd/>, instagram, and the new midsnakercd.org website. The council's goal is to use these social media platforms to help educate the public on responsible recreational awareness, fire safety, hunting safety, conservation of our natural resources, etc. Council members were requested to send post ideas to Emily. Council members were also encouraged to send a photo and brief spotlight of themselves for Emily to use on social media. It was recommended that we follow other social media pages that also support and promote these practices. Social media and the council's thoughts/suggestions continued.
- VI. **FireWise Program update** presented by Ryan Berlin (BLM). Gooding High School and Hagerman High School are growing FireWise plants this year. Plants will be available around May, and the plants will go to the FireWise Communities. Any left over plants are typically sold at the farmers' markets. Doreen McMurray asked if the council would be able to utilize some of the plants in the Demonstration Garden on Breckenridge, and Ryan said yes, that he would provide a list of the available plants. Ryan discussed the Hazardous Fuels Reduction site up in Sun Valley. They are wanting to do fuel breaks and wind breaks, as well as some abatement and construction around the poles of the Sun Valley Ski Lift. Sun Valley Fire Department will spearhead the project, and youth crews are going to do the shrub removal and wrap the poles in fire-resistant material. Funding is covered through BLM funds. The Sun Valley project is estimated to be approximately \$20,000. Ryan asked about payment and the invoices to come to the MSRCD. Doreen McMurray asked Ryan to review the terms of the MOU agreement between MSRCD and BLM: Entities who request funds from BLM will go to BLM, then MSRCD is responsible for doling out the funds provided by BLM. There are four years remaining on the current contract between MSRCD and BLM. Heidi Tubbs and Emily Goodnight will work together on the details of the contract.
- VII. **FireWise Demonstration Garden (on Breckenridge) update:** Heidi Tubbs presented the draft MOU from the CSI Foundation. The council expressed concern with the current wording, and is requesting edits before voting to approve. Some of the concerns included donations and grant moneys given to the firewise garden would go to to the foundation and not necessarily to the garden. There were also concerns regarding insurance requirements. Steve Paulson with Living Earth LLC (proposed contractor for the Demonstration Garden) wrote up two proposals for the council's consideration. The council voted to allot \$2,500 for cleanup and then maintenance not to exceed \$6,000. Terry Kramer motioned to approve both of the contracts. Sharon Hardy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VIII. CWMA Funding application from Kali Sherrill (Twin Falls County Weed Dept) and Jason Parker (Tri-County Weed Dept). The weed departments work together closely and try to educate the public regarding noxious weeds. (Some information is available on the Twin Falls County website under the departments tab and Weed Control tab.) They educate and give presentations, and have booklets printed to pass out to the public at multiple events throughout the year. These booklets are \$7 apiece to have printed. Twin Falls County Weed Dept and Tri-County Weed Dept each asked for \$500 to help fund the printing of these booklets. Roy Prescott motioned to approve both applications. Sharon Hardy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Council discussed having stickers with Mid-Snake RC&D logo on them made up that say MSRCDC sponsored those booklets. Terry Kramer motioned to approve the stickers. Bob Kunau seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IX. Committees: Doreen McMurray brought up committees and wanted to formally establish who is on which committees and managing those responsibilities. Terry Kramer and Heidi Tubbs were previously on the investment committee; Charlie Howell will be added.

The By-Laws need to be revised: Roy Prescott, Doreen McMurray, and Heidi Tubbs will make up the committee for By-Law Revision.

Other assignments included:

Researching national RC&D groups - Heidi Tubbs.

Gathering ideas about RC&Ds and the Idaho State RC&D organization - Terry Kramer and Emily Goodnight.

X. Roy Prescott made the motion to **adjourn the meeting**. Terry Kramer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Goodnight.