

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order Thursday January 25, 2024, by Bill Reid, Chairman at 5:58 pm

LIVE ATTENDEES	ZOOM ATTENDEES	ABSENTEES
William Reid	Marcy Sowa	Gene Merrill (WC)
Rhett Nelsen	Kevin O'Brien (WC Staff)	Patty Downing (WC)
Bob Schmidt		
Bob Webb		
Katrina Poydack		
Jim Gurley		
Don Young (WC)		
Carol Crawford (WC)		
Janice Denney (WC)		
Cheryl Nelson (Staff)		
John Bellville (Staff)		
Arlyse DeLoyola (Staff)		
Beth Pietrzak, ODA		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes from the December meeting were presented to the Board for review.
 - **Rhett Nelsen made a motion to approve the minutes for December.**
 - **Bob Webb seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion carried without dissent.**

- **Financials:** The Financial Reports from December 2023 were presented to the Board for review.
 - **Jim Gurley made a motion to accept the financial reports.**
 - **Rhett Nelsen seconded that motion.**
 - **The motion carried without dissent.**

OLD BUSINESS

- **Budget Committee Report**
 - The budget committee met in early December and recommended a cost-of-living increase to employees. Discussion was held and the board were provided potential revenues vs. wage expenses and a report on the Consumer Price Index for 2023.
 - **Bob Webb made a motion to approve a 3.4% Cost-of-Living increase for employees.**
 - **Katrina Poydack seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion passed without dissent.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Beth Pietrzak presented a power point on the roles her organization plays in Oregon and specifically her Southern Oregon district. She emphasized the availability of Strategic Investment Area programs for both SWCDs and Watershed Councils as a means to provide valuable resources for the community. A question and answer session followed.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Community Wildfire Defense Grant Applications**
 - John provided score sheets, information, and maps on the properties whose owners responded to his mailing for fuels reduction available through the grant. Directors were asked to review the documents and rank the properties to assist with the selection and allow the most efficient and effective use of the funds. Board members asked to be given time to review the packets and John asked that they return them by next week.
- **Rogue Basin Region-Wide Initiative**
 - John announced that a meeting date would be set soon for April or May for the Local Advisory Committee on which two of our directors serve. Beth Pietrzak explained the role of the committee.

CONTINUING

- **Staff Reports:**

John presenting his report noting that the small grant team had approved one grant in the last meeting and that he would be applying for a grant to assist with a beaver dam removal in the next session.

Cheryl presented a power point review of the Illinois Valley Collective Mobilization for Fire and Fish grant which is nearing completion. She explained that the IV Fire Resiliency Oversight Group (IV FROG) will be continuing to meet monthly and is in the process of determining either a new fiscal sponsor or a 501c3 application to become a non-profit organization. She thanked the District for the opportunity to serve as the engagement coordinator for the past two years and for the enrichment opportunities she was afforded while serving. She then played a radio jingle that is planned for broadcast on the local station. She presented Chairman Reid with a Certificate of Appreciation for the District's support of IV FROG and its mission.

Arlyse had nothing to add to her written report.
- **Partnering Agency Reports:**
 - Kevin O'Brien spoke for the Illinois Valley Watershed Council, noting that their January meeting had been fruitful in that they had elected officers for the year, approved the By-Laws and a new Strategic Plan. He announced that the February meeting would be moved to the 15th due to scheduling conflicts.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be held on February 22 at 6:00 pm at the Illinois Valley SWCD Office and via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

APPROVED MINUTES:

W Reid

DATE: 2-22-2024