

Meeting Minutes

Swearing in of newly elected Zone Directors was performed by Commissioner Ron Smith prior to the meeting.

Meeting Called to Order Thursday January 23, 2025, by Bob Webb, Chairman at 6:03 pm.

LIVE ATTENDEES

ZOOM ATTENDEES

ABSENTEES

Bob Webb	Kevin O'Brien, IVWC	Gene Merrill (IVWC)
Rhett Nelsen	Bradley Stokes, NRCS	Carol Crawford (IVWC)
Katherine Mechling		Patty Downing (IVWC)
Katrina Poydack		W Joerger (IVWC)
Janice Denney		
Zachary Robinson		
Matthew Robinson		
Ron Smith, JoCo Commissioner		
Lydia Robinson, guest		
John Bellville, Staff		
Arlyse DeLoyola, Staff		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes of the December meeting were presented to the Board for review.
 - Rhett Nelsen made a motion to approve the minutes for December.
 - Katrina Poydack seconded the motion.
 - The motion carried unanimously.
- **Financials:** The Financial Reports from December 2024 were presented to the Board for review.
 - Rhett Nelsen made a motion to accept the financial reports.
 - Kathy Mechling seconded that motion.
 - The motion carried without dissent.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Scheduling of 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting**
The meeting was discussed and set for February 11th at 2:00pm in the office.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Contract Administration Policy**
John presented the proposed policy to the board, explaining that SWCD's can make their own policies. He said this would allow the District more flexibility in contracting.
 - Katrina Poydack moved to approve the proposed Contracting Policy.
 - Rhett Nelsen seconded the motion
 - The motion passed unanimously.

- **Memorandum of Understanding with Trout Unlimited**

John presented a draft MOU with Trout Unlimited for partnering on projects.

- **Rhett Nelsen made a motion to approve the MOU**
- **Janice Denney seconded the motion.**
- **Discussion was held.**
- **The motion passed: Directors Denney, Mechling, Poydack, Nelsen, and Webb voting yea, Director M, Robinson Nay, and Director Z Robinson Abstaining.**

- **Bio-Char Kiln Rental and Workshops**

- Discussion was held regarding Bio-Char Kiln Workshops. Janice will hold one at her farm this spring. Also discussed liability waivers and tagging the kilns with “property of IVSWCD”

- **OWRD Flume/Weir Technical Assistance Opportunity**

John informed the board that he was contacted by Oregon Water Resources to assist landowners who may be interested in their assistance program.

- **Janice Denney made a motion to approve the District assisting OWRD and Landowners with designing weirs for their SIG/POD Program.**
- **Rhett Nelsen Seconded the motion**
- **The motion passed without dissent.**

Additions to new business:

- **Water Forum**

Janice Denney expressed interest in organizing a Water Forum for our area which would be a public event with speakers. John explained that it would fit nicely into the SIA grant requirements for outreach, and that money is already in place to fund an event of this type.

- **A motion was made by Kathy Mechling to approve the workshop and allow Janice to plan it.**
- **Rhet Nelsen seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed without dissent.**

- **Public Outreach**

- Janice announced that the newly remodeled Library has a nice space for public use that will hold up to 75 people. They have a booking calendar available and there is no charge for public use.

- **Seedling transport**

- John announced he has 27,000 seedlings to transport to cold storage for project use. He has priced rental trucks at around \$1000 for the trip. Bob Webb has a truck and is willing to make the trip for \$100 less than the going rate. Discussion was held.
- **Kathy Mechling made a motion to approve reimbursing Bob Webb \$100 less than market rate to haul the seedlings from the nursery to storage.**
- **Matthew Robinson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed with Directors Denney, Mechling, Poydack, Nelsen, M Robinson, and Z Robinson voting yea, and Bob Webb abstaining.**

CONTINUING

- **Partnering Agency Reports:**

Bradley Stokes of Natural Resource Conservation Services was introduced via ZOOM. He is planning a Local Working Group meeting for February 26th at 10:00 at the Redwood RCC campus.

Kevin O'Brien of IV Watershed Council welcomed the new directors and thanked them for their dedication to serving the valley. He mentioned that the Watershed Council is planning a tree planting event at the Page Creek Project this spring. He is working on two restoration projects- one with the Forest Service at Horse Creek and the other the continuation of the Crooks Creek Project, which is still pending funding.

Public Comment:

Gordon Lyford spoke about Bio-Char and irrigation efficiency.

- **Staff Reports:**

John reviewed his report. We are still awaiting the final signatures on the SIA grant. There is a meeting tomorrow on monitoring. We continue to assist Two Rivers on administrative tasks.

John would like the District to move toward a strategic plan. He applied for grants for both districts for website development and improvements from Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Arlyse passed out Customer Information Forms from Umpqua Bank. All board members except Katrina Poydack are to be made signers according to policy, so with the influx of new directors, new signature cards are needed. All directors returned their forms before leaving to be submitted.

NEXT MEETING

The Annual Meeting is to be held on February 27th at 6:00 pm at the Illinois Valley SWCD Office and via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.

APPROVED MINUTES:



DATE:

3.12.25