Amended:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recorder:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Morrow SWCD

Morrow County Weed Advisory Board

430 W Linden Way

PO Box 127

Heppner OR 97386

Phone: 541-676-5452

**www.morrowswcd.org**

6/6/2023 MINUTES

Board of Directors Staff & guests

Miff Devin – Chair, Zone 1 Jared Huddleston – Nat Res Project Manager

Jim McElligott – Vice Chair, At-large Corey Sweeney – County Weed Department

Colin McElligott – Zone 2 David Shiflett – Rowan Digital Infrastructure

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Miff Devin.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved by the board.

**STAFF REPORTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS**: Written staff reports were included in board packets along with the financial reports and were reviewed and approved by the board.

**PARTNER REPORTS**: Corey Sweeney gave an update on some of his recent activities. He conducted 720 miles of road side spraying this spring/summer. He established a Rejuvra test plot in south Morrow County and is working with Envue on monitoring the plot. Is developing spraying contracts with various Morrow County organizations like Lexington airport and the city of Boardman. He’s also in the process of acquiring a part time employee to help with the spraying workload this coming fall.

Jared read through Jennifer Wilson’s report for NRCS. CSP class collected 47 applications of those they deferred 12 of them and marked 1 ineligible, and all eligible applications have been ranked. IRA money will allow for more funding than in previous years. Staff will be working on CSP renewals this summer and selected applications will start January 1st. Received extra EQIP funds so they were able to fund 5 more woven wire fence contracts. Staff have been busy with CRP grasslands field visits.

**DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE**: David Shiflett who is director of development for Rowan Digital Infrastructure gave a presentation on a proposed data center project near the Carty reservoir. Rowan Digital is a data center infrastructure development company. David wanted to share they are in the process of working with the Morrow County Planning Department to change the current zoning from EFU to conditional general industrial. David has been meeting with various county stakeholders to share their proposal and get any feedback. He wanted to present to our district because they are asking if the district would be open to providing a letter of support for the zoning changes they are seeking. David said he will be sending a template support letter to Kevin and Miff to review.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Jared reported to the board that the FY 23/24 Budget request was tentatively approved by the county which had an increase of $5,000/year from previous years. Jared mentioned that his health insurance premium was being reduced by about $40 effective July 1st 2023 and was looking to add dental insurance. Adding dental insurance would be an additional $60/month. The board unanimously approved adding dental insurance for Jared.

There were no public comments

The next meeting will be Tuesday September 12th at 6pm in Heppner at the Ag Service Center building and available via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44pm.