

BENEWAH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 13, 2:00pm

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: USDA Service Center Plummer ID 83851 & Teleconference

Attendees:

USDA Service Center

Nick Elwell, BSWCD

Leann Daman, Supervisor

David Crabtree, Supervisor

Steve Cuvala, Supervisor

Tim Schaffer, Chair

Larry Cooke, Supervisor

Kaitlyn Parks, ISWCC

Lance Burton, NRCS

Sarah Garcia, Bonner SWCD

by Zoom:

Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC

Corey Bonson, NRCS

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chair Tim Schaffer.

NRCS

Lance Burton gave an update on NRCS, and personnel. NRCS is in the process of hiring, but Lance will be acting as the Team Lead for Team 2 until April 11th or position(s) are filled and NRCS is fully staffed. Sign-up deadline for EQIP was Oct. 3rd 2025, but due to the furlough, was extended until Jan 15, 2026. This deadline is for all programs. All states were given 5 geographic fund pools for EQIP, which means we will not have our own local group. Idaho leadership has decided to go with pools based on divisions, and combined Divisions 1 & 2. Statewide allocation will be the same amount as last year.

ISWCC

Kaitlyn Parks gave an update for ISWCC. The commission will be sending out updates on funding and projects after the Jan. 16th meeting. Kaitlyn also discussed the district's 5 year plan which is due March 31st.

BSWCD

Nick Elwell provided the review for the district and the 319 grants 2026 update. The Sheep creek culvert replacement was not selected for funding this year. Furthermore, the Riverside rehabilitation project is unlikely to be funded; however, no formal letter has been received to date. Currently the district has sold 17% of total tree seedlings for the PSP (7 orders 1860 trees). Nick is actively working on advertisement locally, and is attending the Family Foresters Workshop Jan. 23 which will be a good opportunity for PSP sales and the district. Sarah Garcia provided information on the PSP, the updated open Meeting law manual, and an overall update of work going on in division 1.

District Business

Leann Daman moved to approve the September meeting minutes and Larry Cooke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Leann Daman moved to approve the December Financial report and Dave Crabtree seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Leann Daman moved to approve Nick Elwell as an authorized signatory for the Columbia Bank account. Dave Crabtree second the motion. Motion carried.

Tim Schaffer moved to approve district funds transfer of \$60,000 to the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP). Dave Crabtree seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Annual match for the district came in at the same amount as last year.

Upcoming:

Next board meeting is February 10th, 2026 @2pm

Adjournment Item:

By common consensus the board adjourned the general meeting at 2:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Elwell, Benewah SWCD

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Recap of Motions:

- **Accept financial reports**
- **Approval of previous meeting minutes**
- **Approval of Nick Elwell as Columbia bank authorized user**
- **Approve \$60,000 district funds transfer to LGIP account (interest accruing)**