

BENEWAH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 9th

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: USDA Service Center Plummer ID 83851 & Teleconference

Attendees:

USDA Service Center

Nick Elwell, BSWCD

Leann Daman, Supervisor

Steve Cuvala, Supervisor

Tim Schaffer, Chair

Larry Cooke, Supervisor

Heather Pound, ISWCC

Corey Bonsen, NRCS

by Zoom:

Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC

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

NRCS

Corey Bonsen gave an update on NRCS, and personnel. The NRCS short staffing will continue until the hiring process is completed, hopefully soon. ReAnn Dubey will be the acting state conservationist until the position is filled. All EQIP/CSP applications were assessed and ranked May 15. Only 16 applications were pre-approved for the region. Team 2 submitted an additional funds request to national June 5th, in hope of funding a few more projects in the region. Obligation to the CSP Regenerative Ag Pilot is primary for the state and the funding will move down through the other EQIP/CSP programs from there. CDA office selected for Civil Rights national review in July. Benewah board members signed the NRCS Civil Rights partnership checklist, presented by Corey.

ISWCC

Heather Pound gave an update for ISWCC. Heather provided details on the IDWR/ISWCC merger. The working group has been assembled to develop the MOU for the merger.

Bill Lillibridge has started preparations for the St. Joe Riverside 319 grant after we received notification from DEQ that it was likely to be funded in July '26.

BSWCD

Nick Elwell provided the review for the district, district's budget, and the 319 grants 2026 update. The district received notification from Jade Clinkenbeard DEQ that the St. Joe Riverside 319 project is likely to be funded this July (still no MOU), and work will begin in the fall. Nick prepared the 404 permits for each of the landowners involved. In addition, the district has approved the support of reapplying for the FY '27 Sheep creek 319 grant. Nick summarized a meeting with the state AIS team that was held on May 28th. Key notes are selecting a proposed location for a boat check station, necessity of station in

Benewah County, and state funding limitations. The board supported continued efforts in developing a boat check station.

District Business

Tim Schaffer moved to approve the May meeting minutes and Leann Daman seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Leann Daman moved to approve the May Financial report and Steve Cuvala seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Upcoming:

County Commissioner meeting funds request June 22nd

Next board meeting is July 7th, 2026 @2pm

U of I Natural Resource Tour July 23-24

Adjournment Item:

By common consensus the board adjourned the general meeting at 2:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Elwell, Benewah SWCD

Approved: _____

Dated: _____

Recap of Motions:

- **Accept financial reports**
- **Approval of previous meeting minutes**