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**

3/7/2023 MINUTES

Board of Directors Staff & guests

Miff Devin – Chair, Zone 1 Kevin Payne - District Manager

Jim McElligott – Vice Chair, At-large Trent Gianella – CREP Tech

Duane Neiffer – At Large Jared Huddleston – Nat Res Project Manager

Colin McElligott – Zone 2 Roy Drago – County Commissioner

Brian Doherty – Treasurer, Zone 3 Corey Sweeney – Weed Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Miff Devin.

The minutes from the February 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 by the board.

**PARTNER REPORTS**: Kevin presented an update from NRCS for Jennifer Wilson. CSP sign up ends March 31st, staff are currently working on contracting EQIP 2023 contracts a majority of which are woven wire fence removal/replacement and several livestock water projects. Soil health trailer will be back in Heppner this spring. There might be a presentation of the soil health trailer at our June district board meeting. Local Work Group meeting went well with 38 total participants, 21 of which were local landowners.

Corey Sweeny gave an update as the Weed Coordinator for the county. He is looking for a part time employee to assist with road side spraying this summer/fall. He met with the county planning department to work on code enforcements. He mentioned one of his upcoming projects is to tackle the yellow star thistle issues near all the windmill roads. There is a roadside vegetation management plan that he is developing. He attended an ODA field day in Union County. He’s met with ODFW, NRCS, and the Morrow SWCD on native grass projects. Major highlights include working on the 3–5-year plan and budgeting for a new employee.

**DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE**: Kevin had a call with representatives from Streamline to onboard with the new district website. Kevin mentioned we got a signed grant agreement for the Oregon State Fire Marshall’s project and received the money. The district posted the janitorial contract to replace Janet’s service. Kevin brought up an increase in monthly expense for our pest control services.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Spray Days is proposed 5/15 in Boardman, 5/17 in Irrigon, and 5/19 in Heppner. Kevin sent fiscal year 2023/2024 budget information to Brian, Miff, and the county. Our district is asking for an additional $5,000 from the county for a total of $60,000.

The next meeting will be April 4th at the Heppner office and via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.