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**

12/5/2023 MINUTES

Board of Directors Staff & guests

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

Jim McElligott – Vice Chair, At-large Kevin Payne – District Manager

Colin McElligott – Zone 2 Corey Sweeney – County Weed Coordinator Duane Neiffer – At-Large

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

The minutes from the November 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.

Kevin gave a quick update to the board about our new prospective employee who came to Heppner to visit and that Drew Coe started working for the district the beginning of December.

**PARTNER REPORTS**: Kevin read through Jennifer Wilson’s report for NRCS. EQIP applications were due November 17th eligibility due by December 22nd applications will be ranked and preapproved by late March, they currently have 78 applications. CSP renewal 1 was funded and are taking sign ups for new applications through March 29th. No word on back filling Raeanne’s old position and Jay Gibbs will be retiring the end of December.

Corey Sweeney gave a report on his quarterly activities. He discussed increased budget requests for the weed department, new equipment needs and hiring Drew Coe as a new full-time employee starting in spring of 2024.

**DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE**: Kevin gave an update that Theresa DeBardelaben with ODA is updating our biennial review of our Willow Creek Ag Water Quality Management Plan and there will be some more agency folks reviewing the plan. Kevin is still working with Pine Gate Renewables on the solar mitigation plan and developing programs for landowners. Kevin gave an update on the new security system that the lease with USDA requires.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The board decided to hold the annual meeting on January 9th 2024 at the district office in Heppner. Colin made a motion to hold the annual meeting on January 9th, Duane seconded, and it passed with none opposed.

There were no public comments

The next meeting will be January 9th at 6pm in Heppner at the Ag Service Center building and available via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.