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**HIGH DESERT CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**November 9, 2021 4:00-6:00 pm**

***Zoom Meeting:*** <https://zoom.us/j/7856459574>

*Planting Seeds of Inspiration to Promote Conscious Stewardship of our Natural Resources*

**4:20 CALL TO ORDER - Suzanne Aikin,** Acting Interim Treasurer

Virtually **Present** by Zoom: Suzanne Aikin, Adam Kackstetter, Susan Thomas, Gretchen Rank, Joel Lee, Rocky Rockwell **Absent:** David Temple, Joe Lanier

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: none**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Motion to accept by Susan, seconded by Adam - **Passed**

**APPROVAL OF October MINUTES** Motion to accept by Susan, seconded by Adam - **Passed**

**Review of October Action Items:**

* David and Susan will do an initial sort of the office paperwork so documents are in one place and ready for the new DM.

This has not yet been accomplished due to Covid restrictions on entering the premises and it was further agreed that, in view of all the initial training and orientation the new DM is facing that this would not only be overwhelming but also not a priority at this point. Rocky Rockwell, the new DCT volunteered to inventory the shed in the meantime.

* Susan will update our Board member position description and take ads out in local papers for 3 weeks to recruit new Board Members- This has not been done yet, more details below in old business.

**Susan reported that she has been unable to find a supervisor position description and will work with Gretchen to find an appropriate one and continue to advertise both online and in print.**

* Susan will work on a newsletter to send out to our mailing list- January is a good time to get it out and it was decided that this will be best accomplished by the new DM and DCT’s. Susan is willing to assist.

**REPORTS**

**President** – David Temple Absent

* **Vice President** – Joe Lanier - Absent
* **Acting Interim Treasurer** – Suzanne Aikin reported that she had looked over all the financial documents furnished by Gretchen and had some questions related to the proposed 2022 Budget. She will arrange to meet with Gretchen between now and the next meeting to discuss these. The 2022 Draft budget must be approved at the December meeting. Suzanne further reported that she had checked on current Bank CD rates and was advised that they have not changed in the past year. She will also discuss the decision to reinvest in CD’s with Gretchen to determine if it is appropriate to tie up our funds at this time for such a small return.
* **Suzanne also reminded the Board of the need to have our Annual Meeting in conjunction with the regular BOS meeting on December 14th. She agreed to attend to the required notification on both the website and 2 postings in the County.**
* **Secretary**– Adam Kackstetter thanked all members of the hiring committees for their good work and special thanks to Joel Lee who assisted 2 of our landowners in getting very professional soil test results which had not been handled prior to Greg’s departure. Adam reported on having made contact with Greg in regards to the remaining nozzle exchange program reporting and so far has been unable to obtain any firm data to accomplish this. SWCD approved $1,214 of remaining funds to maintain and fix flow meters. Gretchen stated that we could get an extension on next year’s funding for the program if we so decide. There is no refunding of any monies as this money is reimbursable as utilized. DWCD may request a refund of their contribution of $5K towards Greg’s salary unless we can make a full accounting disclosure of the use of those funds. Adam volunteered to reach out to Greg once again to try to obtain more detailed information related to his work on this project to make an accurate report possible.
* **Members at large-** Susan Thomas – See above under Action Items Review

**STAFF REPORTS**

* **NRCS –** Joel Lee – Expressed appreciation of the hiring of the new DCT, Rocky Rockwell who, so far is proving to be a great asset to the NRCS office. He had no further updates at this time.

* **HDCD-** Gretchen Rank had provided a written report of her activities related to the hiring process, grants and all admin and financial reporting. **She highlighted her meetings and work with Summit Lake Irrigation to obtain PL-566 funding and admitted that this was a highly involved and lengthy process. Potentially there could be as much as $24 million to fix “everything” that was compromising this irrigation system. She is looking at the potential to create to sub watersheds which would double the amount of funding and is working with Cindy Wallace on finalizing the maps needed for such. She stressed the need for both the MCD and HDCD to collaborate on this project as the Summit Irrigation Company encompasses both districts geographically. Board members expressed support of this project going forward.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Approval to send our DM to the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference – Feb. 26, 2022

Gretchen was asked to report back next month on the cost of this as well as the availability of the new DM to attend. Suzanne questioned whether or not this would be relevant for our DCT to attend as well and she will advise on that as well at the December meeting. MCD would split the cost for the DM to attend if so decided.

Do we need a new computer for our new DM?

Discussion of the status of current computers indicate that this will most likely be needed and the possible

Sale Of the Mac could help with the funding. It was requested that Gretchen bring more information to the

Next Meeting with Adam suggesting that we pay 50% of the cost and MCD paying 50% and they would keep

Ownership of it for all software licensing purposes.

Would we like the new DM to have an e-mail account for HDCD or a shared one with MCD?

Following discussion a new separate e-mail will be set up for the new DM for HDCD and Gretchen will

Advise the board of this new address.

Is CSCB willing and able to help our Board retreat with MCD? Tabled due to Covid

Board member mileage and time tracking before year end.

Adam requested that all board members give him a time/mileage report for the entire year at the next

Board meeting.

Use of Linked N – Rocky Rockwell, the new DCT requested that the Board given consideration to the

Use of the professional media platform for promoting the District and it’s projects and activities.

Tabled until the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* Spending down our remaining $5,056 SWCD nozzle exchange grant this year. – See Above

Status of DCA Drought Resiliency Competitive Grant application – Gretchen reported that the grant was submitted on time and results are still pending.

* Supervisor Certification program: Members encouraged to complete

* Fundraiser ideas– HDCD would greatly benefit from a signature event to serve our community and raise awareness for the district. Can we re-Invent “Made in Montezuma”? We need to decide before March if we want to have a fall festival. - Tabled until COVID is less of a concern

**5:30 ADJOURN – Suzanne Aikin, Acting Interim Treasurer**

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| **NEXT WORKGROUP MEETING: Location: TBA** |  | **NEXT MEETING: December 14, 2021**  **by Zoom 4:00-6:00** |

**The Public was invited to attend this meeting.**