**Pomeroy Conservation District** June 10, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Pomeroy Conservation District was called to order by Mike Hastings at 8:12 a.m. Supervisor’s present were Mike Hastings, Seth Claassen, Luke Ledgerwood and Scott Williams. Lance Frederick, Briana Kimble, and Mitch Ruchert were also present.

The minutes of the May 13, 2025 meeting were read.

**Scott moved and Luke seconded to approve the May 13, 2025 minutes. Motion carried.**

The treasurer’s report was reviewed.

**Scott moved with Seth seconding to approve the May 14 thru June 10, 2025** **treasurer’s report and pay the vouchered bills** **12876 through 12896, including, 8 EFT and 16 deposits for a total of $87,857.57. Motion carried.**

**NRCS REPORT**: Mitch Ruchert reported that the IRA funds to be released for this year are now being held with considerations of timelines. He shared there is talk about the funds from this year being wrapped up into the Farm Bill and this being a positive move. At this point he says they are done with CSP and EQIP contracts. Tracy asked Mitch to share that for FY 26 being a large amount of funding, that the fund pools may be moving to Act Now- a first come first serve basis. Continue lack of information on the Farm Bill. Grazing pools-proposed to the local work group for noxious weed and pest management funding pools.

**CREP:**

None at this time.

**COMMISSION:** District Digest (see attached)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*IM Cost Share-Blachly*-Lance said Lee got his invoices turned in, equipment purchased and we vouchered for and that this cost share application process is now completed.

*DOE-* Lance spoke with Jeanne (DOE) and shared about a grant for off watering for cattle. He also learned that Chad Akins with DOE is planning to send letters out to local producers, who have already received letters in the past, and Lance asked that the Pomeroy CD be removed from the letter as a contact for help. The board spoke about various angles on this topic and the letters to be sent out.

**NEW BUSINESS shared by Lance**

*Seth & Beau Re-Election Letters -* Letters were shared with the board and congratulations were given.

*Master Contract* – A contract we review and address annually for the Commission that keeps us in compliance.

**Seth moved and Scott seconded to approve the master contract agreement. Motion Carried**.

*RCO Grant Agreement* – Alpowa/Pals continuation to phase 4. 6.2 acres for salmon and habitat on Sam Ledgerwood’s.

**Seth moved and Luke seconded to approve the RCO grant agreement. Motion Carried.**

*Jesse Tennant IEGP* – Jesse has been working with Mitch (NRCS) on irrigation. Lance shared that in the past we have done a match to help producers to work in conjunction with NRCS. Irrigation Efficiency Grant Program- Lance said we have not put in for this grant in the past. Discussion with the board about Jesse’s project (leasing Tom Beale’s place) and a quote for project needs were shared. NRCS is doing the cultural resources portion of the project. Comparable project would be the pods at the Deadman. Discussion about the cost share rates for IEGP occurred among the board members along with details about the project needs.

**Luke moved and Seth seconded to approve applying for Jesse Tennant’s IEGP at 75% cost share rate. Motion carried.**

*Justin Warren**IM CS***-** As it stands with our IM grant, Gary Wold is finishing up his project that is about $8,456 and a remaining balance of about $20,000 to be expended by June. Justin Warren mentioned a need for guidance precision equipment and presented a quote to Lance who shared it with the board members.

**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve Justin Warren’s Guidance Precision cost share application. Motion carried.**

*Scott Wolf-Gary Slaybaugh –* Scott continues with conventional farming and is looking for a no till drill for seeding. Gary Slaybaugh is also looking into a guidance system. Lance mentioned that these needs could be applied for with the Sustainable Farms and Fields grant. Luke asked what the rules are if someone purchases the guidance equipment through a grant and turns around and sells the implement? Lance read the contract agreement that is signed by the producer and that, that is against the contract agreement. Much discussion amongst the board about this matter occurred.

*Addendums/CS rates/OH rates/Policy* – Annual approval and discussion for all grants is evaluated by the board and determined whether there are any needed changes. Currently NRI is 75% up to $10,000 and 25% OH. IM is 75% up to $15,000 over $15,000 up to 50% CS. PE 25% OH, Sustainable farms and fields 50% and CREP. Each producer is allowed up to $100,000 in a FY.

**Scott moved and Luke seconded to approve all regular operating grants with 25% OH for IM, NRI, PE, CREP and to keep the cost share rates for these grants the same as last year. Motion Carried.**

**Luke moved and Seth seconded to approve the Sustainable Farms and Fields at 50% cost share rate. Motion carried.**

*Weather Stations* **–** Steve Cannon and David Klaveano both have interest in a weather station at their place. The current price for a new station is about $558 on sale from $695.

**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve buying weather stations to expend the IM grant. Motion Carried.**

*Mazda Tires/Quotes* **–** Lance shared the need for new tires on the Mazda. Quotes were presented to the board from VanAusdle Tire, Perfection Tire and Les Schwab. Discussion about getting a quote in the future from our local 4 Star tire was mentioned.

**Scott moved and Luke seconded to approve the $784.97 tire quote that included a discount with VanAusdle Tire. Motion carried.**

*Office Supplies* – Need for a new office vacuum. Board members looked at options presented from Costco, Home Depot and Staples. Board members agreed on getting a new one to replace the old one with IM funding.

*Bills through summer* –

**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve to pay bills over the summer months of July and August. Motion Carried.**

**Grader Report by Lance:**

Lance said Jay has been busy grading doing terrace removal. He is currently working on terraces for Chris Wolf.

**Engineering:**

Gary asked about a Starlink purchase with working remotely. The board declined paying for Starlink with discussion about it possibly being used outside of work and not wanting another monthly expense for the district.

**OTHER Business:** VSP CS-sending back about $15,000 with not everyone using as much as they originally planned. Luke’s project looks good. Gary’s is about done. Ron finalizing at Clay’s. Lance contacted and scheduled cultural resources for Seth project that is a district project. CREP we will be sending some funding back. PE grant will be to zero as will the IM grant.

**REVIEW OF MOTIONS:**

**Scott moved and Luke seconded to approve May 13, 2025 minutes. Motion carried.**

**Scott moved with Seth seconding to approve the May 14 thru June 10, 2025** **treasurer’s report and pay the vouchered bills** **12876 through 12896, including, 8 EFT and 16 deposits for a total of $87,857.57. Motion carried.**

**Seth moved and Scott seconded to approve the master contract agreement. Motion Carried**

**Seth moved and Luke seconded to approve the RCO grant agreement. Motion Carried.**

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**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve buying weather stations to expend the IM grant. Motion Carried.**

**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve buying the weather stations to expend the IM grant. Motion Carried.**

**Scott moved and Seth seconded to approve to pay bills over the summer months of July and August. Motion Carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m. The next meeting will be held Sept. 9th, 2025 at 8:00 A.M.

Office Manager, Board Chairman,

Briana Kimble Mike Hastings