

Minutes
Gem Soil & Water Conservation District
Virtually via Zoom
June 1, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kirk Vickery, Chairman; Maggie Sisler, Vice Chairman; Cliff Fivecoat, Secretary; Jamie McCann, Treasurer; Zeke Ortiz, Associate; Leanne Buck, District Manager

NOT ABLE TO ATTEND: Clayton Ayers, Supervisor

GUESTS:

PARTNERS: Meghan Brooksher, ISWCC, Tyler Ernst

MEETING: Kirk called the regular session of the Gem SWCD board meeting to order at 12:09pm. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

MINUTES:

Jamie made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes for May 4, 2026, and approve as written. Cliff seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

TREASURER/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Jamie read Treasurer's Report for May 31, 2026. Jamie made a motion to accept Treasurer's Report and to pay the bills. Cliff seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

May 31, 2026

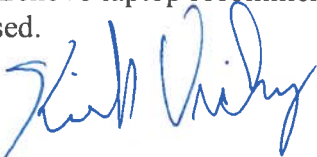
Beginning Balance:	\$ 16,260.00
Debits	\$ 16,000.00
Credits	\$ <u>19,223.83</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 13,036.17

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Leanne spoke with Sean Pooly with Nano Pulse Digital and has a meeting scheduled to finalize setup for the district website. No setup fee, \$100 a month for maintenance. Maggie spoke to lawyer, Derrick Pica. He may have a conflict-of-interest policy we can use. Maggie to follow up. Board discussed fall tour dates, looking at the 2nd or 3rd week in September. Discussed possible owl education from BSU. Leanne to look into it.

NEW BUSINESS/DISTRICT OPERATIONS:

Pivot track filler purchased. Board discussed rental contract—\$200 a day, \$500 for 3 days, \$700 for the week. Deposit of \$300 required and will be returned upon return of camera and equipment inspection. Board discussed laptops for district use. Jamie made a motion to purchase the Lenovo laptop recommended by Vickery IT. Maggie seconded the motion and the motion passed.



OTHER BUSINESS: Discussed biocontrol collecting for Poison Hemlock. Maggie checked but colony is not very strong. Board decided to not collect this year and let the colony grow.

COMMISSION REPORT:

Meghan reported: ISWCC working group working on the MOU draft for IDWR merger, will outline intent, collaboration, guardrails, ensure branding, organizational structure, and ensure that technical services and staff availability to district are not diminished. DEQ grant presentations went well, but funds are limited to \$220,000 for the state this year. Payette River-Reed Canal ranked #3. Silver Leaf Irrigation landowner has been paid for completing their project. Last year's 319 projects are still waiting for EPA funds to be released. DEQ to receive \$1,995,000 for FY26 projects. Financial and Match reports due Aug 16th. Central Registry due July 1st. Last day of fiscal year June 30th.

NRCS ACTIVITY REPORT:

NRCS update- Erin Brooks acting detail for Emmett and Weiser. Thirty-two pre-approved applications for Team 5, five in Gem County. Two new employees, Ryan Collins and Tyler Ernst, Pheasants Forever.

STAFF REPORT:

Leanne's report: Worked on daily office duties. Outdoor school was a success, 200 5th grade students attended. Meghan assisted and we worked in the garden at Shadow Butte with three 5th grade classes. Planning to work on newsletter, report financials to SCO, and attend IDEA meeting May 23-24. Budget to be competed for next meeting.

PLANNING & ZONING:

Discussed Flying Thunderbolt Grass Airstrip—no resource concerns.

DISTRICT DRILL:

None

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Forestry Tour June 25, 2026, 9AM-4PM New Meadows

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, Jamie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cliff seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:21PM.

Next meeting is July 6, 2026, at 12:00pm at 1857 Hwy 16, Ste B.