

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 6, 2016
Time: 1:05 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Sandpoint, ID



Attendance:

Herman B. Collins, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Molly McCahon, LAS/POBC
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD Guest: Nathan Dyk
Harry Menser, BSWCD (1:30)

Absent: Erin Mader, Associate

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 by Chairman Herman Collins. Herman welcomed Nathan Dyk as a guest and potential Associate for the board.

Approval of Minutes: Alice moved, seconded by Dale, to approve the November 2016 minutes, *the motion carried.*

Financial Report: Alice reviewed the October and November financials and moved to approve them, seconded by Cassie, *the motion carried.* Alice moved, seconded by Cassie to approve paying \$100 for the ISDA Nursery License, to approve transferring \$30,000 to the LGIP, and renewing the two Horizon CD's at 1.2%, *the motion carried.* The board members submitted their July 1 through December mileage reports.

OLD BUSINESS

IASC State Conference Report: Alice and Cassie reported on the different sessions at state conference, and that the resolution on Wild Fire funding and prevention passed, as well as the emergency resolution on Farmland Preservation. The flight home from Pocatello was cancelled, so five of the six travelers from North Idaho rented a vehicle and drove home – splitting the costs.

Christmas Party: The Christmas Party will be held at Trinity at City Beach December 14th at 5:30. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion we pay for all dinners, *the motion carried.*

Division I Seedling Protocol: Linda reviewed the discussion from the Division I meeting in October regarding the tree seedling sale and that a decision on guidelines was postponed until the March 2017 meeting. Some of the topics included the total quantity of seedlings planted, dividing the available seedlings by district either evenly or weighted by previous year's sales from the beginning of the sale until September when the balance would be available by waiting list or upcoming orders, and whether a large buyer can buy from one district and plant in other districts.

Bonner SWCD Update: Discussion was held on Molly and Linda's changes in insurance as of January 1st and on hiring Erin Mader as a POBC consultant for a few months at \$25/hr. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to increase Linda's insurance stipend from \$222 a month to \$242 a month, to increase Molly's insurance from \$100 a month to \$304 a month, and to pay Erin Mader as a consultant at \$25 an hour for up to 12 hours a month at Molly's request. *The motion carried.* Employee transition was also discussed with Linda retiring in June, and Molly will determine by the January meeting whether she will remain at the POBC position or take Linda's position.

NEW BUSINESS

FY2016 Audit: The audit was reviewed. Dale moved and Harry seconded the motion to sign the representation letter accepting the audit, *the motion carried.*

Lightning Creek Large Woody Debris Installation and Recruitment Project: Greg reviewed his NRCS EQIP Special Projects Pre-Proposal to restore stability and habitat on private land along Lightning Creek, downstream of

similar projects done by the Forest Service in the upper watershed. The proposal needs the support of the conservation district to proceed. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to support the proposal if it is approved, *the motion carried*.

Update on Mussels in Montana: Linda distributed information to the board on Montana Governor Bullock declaring on November 30th a statewide natural resource emergency for Montana water bodies due to the detection of the larvae of invasive aquatic mussels at Tiber Reservoir and suspected detections at Canyon Ferry Reservoir and the Milk and Missouri Rivers. At this time we are not aware of anything being done at the state level to protect Idaho from potentially infected boats from Montana launching in Idaho waters. Dale suggested writing a letter to our legislators requesting their attention to this emergency and signed by all the district board. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to write this letter signed by all the board members to Senator Keough and Representatives Scott and Dixon, *the motion carried*. Dale will also visit with legislators at the January Water Resources meeting.

Pacific Northwest Seed Association – Jan 10 – Kennewick WA: John McNabb has offered Cassie his paid place at the regional seed conference on January 10th in Kennewick – he can't attend as he is receiving a national award at the same time. The agenda offers a great deal of information, as well as equipment displays offering the latest in design of no-till drills and aerators. Hopefully Cassie will be able to attend, if not Molly might. A decision was tabled until the January meeting.

Office Protocol: Greg reviewed the flow chart of work decisions and property management decisions as they relate to NRCS and to Bonner SWCD, and the importance of following that protocol.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS by Greg Becker: The deadline for 2017 cost-share applications is December 16th. They have a record number of applications so far of around 50, and could be 70 or 80. They have also received two WRE applications.

SWC: Bill Lillibrige was unable to attend the meeting, so Linda reviewed the SWC state protocol chart she had received, shared Chris Bank's work plan, and reviewed the position announcement for Mark Hogen's vacancy. Interviews were conducted, but the candidate chosen accepted another position, so the position is open again.

POBC & LAS by Molly McCahon: Molly reviewed her written report regarding: the Bonner real estate class to be held in March; helping Bonner County Waterways with their outreach campaign on no-wake zones; the outreach campaign on Priest Fisheries; her attendance at the Bonner County Planning & Zoning workshop held at Northside School last week regarding "sub-areas" of Selle Valley – around 150 Valley residents attended with the majority not wanting changes and Molly requested they provide everyone with clear information on the recent changes to land use ordinances including subdivisions as part of these planning workshops; a potential demo project at Wolf Lodge; and Steve Klatt with the County announced they selected a contractor for the work at Priest Lake regarding the lake level. Molly also discussed the rapid response in Montana related to the mussels, and that we need to expedite Idaho's rapid response plan.

Bonner SWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda congratulated the 3 newly elected supervisors, Harry, Cassie & Alice. Camas SCD has donated \$25 to help pay for the engraved stone at the Memorial Grove on the Delay property. Linda then reviewed her written report. The Boundary Christmas Party/Rene' retirement part was canceled. Dale moved and Alice seconded the motion to purchase a \$75 gift card for Rene', *the motion carried*.

Cassie thanked Nate for coming, and extended the offer to attend the meetings and become an associate.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20.

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of November minutes

Approval of October and November financial reports

Approval of paying \$100 Nursery License, transferring \$30,000 to LGIP, and renewing 2 CD's at 1.2%

Approval of paying for all dinners at Christmas party

Approval of paying \$242/month for Linda's insurance, \$304/month for Molly's insurance, and hiring Erin Mader as a POBC consultant at \$25/hour for up to 12 hours a month at Molly's discretion

Approval of signing audit representation letter

Approval of supporting Lightning Creek Pre-Proposal if it is approved

Approval of writing a letter to legislators requesting assistance re containing Montana mussels

All services of the Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to national origin, race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap. Auxiliary aides or services for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please call 263-5310 five (5) days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made.