

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: September 8, 2016
Time: 1:00 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Sandpoint, ID

Attendance: Herman B. Collins, BSWCD Erin Mader, POBC
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Molly McCahon, LAS/POBC
Harry Menser, BSWCD Mark Hogen, SWC
Greg Becker, NRCS Linda O'Hare, BSWCD

Absent: Alice Wallace, BSWCD; Cassie Tauber, BSWCD

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 by Chairman Herman Collins. Herman welcomed Mark Hogen and thanked him for all his help with projects for our district.

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

Financial Report: Alice reviewed the July and August financials on September 2nd, signed them, and recommended approval. Dale moved, seconded by Harry, to approve the July and August financials, *the motion carried.*

OLD BUSINESS

No-Till Drill: Cassie Tauber was unable to attend the meeting but left information that there will be a demonstration of the no-till drill on September 14th, 10 am, on Shingle Mill Road. Dale and Herman will both be out of town, but Harry, Greg, James, Kirk, Molly and Linda will attend.

Ag Tourism – “Incubator Kitchen”: Bonner County voted against putting money in the budget to build an incubator kitchen at the fairgrounds as they didn't have a business plan, and they weren't sure how many people might use it. Harry reported there were 30 people using it at the time the original one closed. Cassie left information that she had one more source to check to see if it would work.

Boat Inspection Station Update: Inspection stations closed Tuesday after Labor Day. Our inspections were up 16% over last year. Hours were extended from 12 per day last year to dawn to dusk this year or around 15.5 hours a day, and each station had a sheriff's deputy onsite 2 days a week turning back boaters who drove by the stations. Due to crowded storage at the IDL yard this year, ISDA is renting a storage unit for us. No mussel were found on boats this year, but 107 had weeds that were cleaned off, and 31 boats were hot washed. Cell service was minimal this year at Clark Fork and Samuels, and ISDA hopes to add boosters to those sites next year.

Financial & Match Report: The final copy of the Bonner SWCD Financial & Match Report was shared.

NEW BUSINESS

AIS Sticker Sale Report: Sticker sales were hurt a bit mid-season when the state ran out of non-motorized stickers, but our total sales were still up: last year's total sales were \$57,808, this year's total sales are \$64,479. Bonuses were discussed, Dale moved and Harry seconded the motion to give \$200 bonuses to inspectors who work full time and then a percentage of that for those working less than full time, *the motion carried.*

Lake Assist and POBC: Erin Mader has resigned as Coordinator for the Lakes Commission as of the 23rd of September, which is the next POBC meeting. Harry moved and Dale seconded the motion to select Assistant Coordinator Molly McCahon as the Coordinator at that time, and change her salary to that of the Coordinator, *the*

motion carried. Molly will continue also as the Lake Assist Coordinator for the IDEQ grant. A decision will be made by February 1st as to whether or not the district needs more help to fulfill these positions.

Tree Sale Division I Guidelines: Discussion was held regarding the large early sales this year and running out of seedlings. Guidelines for the future could include setting a limit per district when seedlings first go on sale, then a date mid-season when any unsold trees are available to any district. The board also discussed consultant buyers wanting to purchase seedlings through only 1 district, but planting seedlings in other districts. The board felt the district the sale goes through should receive the entire profit on all sales. If it is a single sale it should be through the district where the trees will be planted. There was discussion on the Denny order this year and the board recommended the profit stay with our district. Linda will contact Billie Brown regarding putting a discussion on tree sale guidelines on the Division I meeting agenda. This year so far Bonner SWCD has sold 91,485 seedlings.

ICRMP Risk Management Training – October 20, Coeur d’Alene: Harry said he would be interested in attending, and Linda will contact Alice.

Division I Fall Meeting October 7th – Coeur d’Alene: Dale moved and Harry seconded the motion to pay registration for board and staff at the Division I meeting, *the motion carried.* At this time Dale, Herman, Molly and Linda are interested in attending.

IASCD State Conference – Nov. 15-18, Pocatello Red Lion: Harry moved, Dale seconded the motion to pay expenses for any board members and staff attending the State Conference, *the motion carried.* Linda will check with Alice and Cassie regarding attendance. Linda and Molly may attend.

Other Business:

- Curtis Elke and Tony Sunseri met with the Bonner County Commissioners on August 27th. Harry moved and Dale seconded the motion to send Curtis and Tony a thank-you letter, *the motion carried.*
- Linda is in contact with the Bonner County Elections office regarding the three supervisor vacancies in 2017.
- Herman will contact Cornell Rasor regarding speaking at our October or November meeting on federal/state land stewardship. At another meeting we will have someone from the Forest Service speak to us.

AGENCY REPORTS

POBC by Erin Mader: Erin stated that she has resigned, and is wanting to get back into teaching. She has a long-term sub position lined up for this winter. Harry moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve of Erin Mader as an Associate on the Bonner SWCD board, *the motion carried.* Erin accepted the position.

LAS by Molly McCahon: Molly reported on lake levels, September 21 is the date draw down will start on Pend Oreille. This is 3 days later than it could start due to work on the BNSF bridge. Priest Lake will begin draw down in October as usual weather permitting. The September 23rd POBC meeting will be at the Beardmore Building in Priest River from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The agenda includes presentations on the Priest Lake Fishery and Management Study, Improvements to Bonner County Waterways Facilities, Navigable Waters 101 by Jim Brady with IDL, and a LPO lake level update from ACOE.

NRCS by Greg Becker: 1) Greg explained the National Initiative for NRCS regarding training in order to receive help from supervisors and district employees. Cassie Tauber has applied to attend the NRCS boot camp conservation planning October 18-November 4th, and will be able to bring that learning expertise back to the board. Her expenses will be paid for by either NACD or NRCS as a reimbursement. Linda will work with Cassie, NRCS and NACD regarding that reimbursement. 2) Curtis Elke and Tony Sunseri met with the County Commissioners regarding the Schweitzer Road runoff situation. The County started the project with emergency permit approval from the Army Corps of Engineers. Curtis directed NRCS to not get involved in the project – any federal help should come through ACOE. 3) Greg has received a proposal for a CRP on Priest River on 23.76 acres for upland wildlife habitat. Harry moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the CRP project, *the motion carried.* 4) We will gather 2000 willows on Monday the 12th with F&G for the Clark Fork Delta project. That leaves 8000 willows available for other conservation projects.

SWC by Mark Hogen: Mark announced he will be retiring on September 30th, but he may still visit our board meetings from time to time. Mark distributed copies of the SWC newsletter about the project he helped with in Benewah. Everyone thanked Mark for his help over the years and wished him well.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes, highlighting:

- NRCS has increased their donation to the Forestry Contest from \$800 to \$2500. Thank You!!!
- Flowers were purchased for Fairy Delay's funeral on August 26th
- \$165 HP printer purchased for Water Festival
- Linda requested and was approved for vacation November 3-11.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30.

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of July minutes

Approval of July and August financial reports

Approval of \$200 bonus to boat inspectors on sliding scale as to hours worked

Approval of Erin's resignation as POBC Coordinator on Sept. 23rd and Molly then receiving wages as Coordinator

Approval of paying registration for those attending Division I Meeting on Oct 7th in Hayden

Approval of paying registration etc for those attending State Conference in Pocatello Nov 15-18

Approval of thank you letter to Curtis Elke and Tony Sunseri

Approval of Erin Mader as an Associate member of the Bonner SWCD board

Approval of CRP project on Priest River