

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2009
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101 – Sandpoint Field Office

Attendance: Vern Hollett, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Jamie Davis, IASCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Molly McCahon, L*A*S
Harry Menser, Associate Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Kate Wilson, Associate

Absent: Herman Collins, BSWCD; Cassie Tauber, BSWCD; Ed Nurmi, Associate; Fairy Delay, Associate

Dale Van Stone called that he would be late, so without a quorum, Vern Hollett started the gathering with Agency Reports.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker highlighted his written report as follows:

- He and Jamie finalized the Septic Program 319 grant application and it is ready to be submitted.
- Division I DC's will rank 2009 EQIP contracts this Thursday, May 7th. There are more applications than EQIP dollars available this year, with a total statewide of \$5 million less.
- The MOA for Fish Creek between the district and the County was signed by both parties.
- Smith Creek Snotel survey results: 41% density, 8 feet snowpack
- Kathy Dingman's change from working for both RC&D and NRCS to full time NRCS has resulted in her helping all Division I offices. Greg will be her supervisor, and went through training with her last week.
- Employee mid-year reviews were completed.
- NRCS Audit was completed.

L*A*S: Molly reviewed her written report as follows:

- April Garden Show booth was a success, 10 books were handed out, many questions on milfoil.
- Earth Day had a good crowd also, with everyone very knowledgeable about water quality.
- Volunteered at Arbor Day
- Sandcreek Boardwalk BMP – contacted landowners via mail, will continue working on that. Kody Van Dyke at Sandpoint Public Works said their current priority is the pedestrian access behind the Panida. Jamie and Molly will work with them on including stormwater filtration solutions.
- Draft of the native plant list to be included in the LAS books was presented favorably to the board
- Working on letters to landowners who filed for permits within 300 feet of shoreline
- Soil samples gathered for comparison of analysis
- Will now begin Priest Lake outreach, neighborhood groups, and prioritizing target areas.

Dale Van Stone arrived at 3:40, and called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes:

Alice moved to approve the April 2009 minutes and Vern seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Vern reviewed the April financial report and recommended it be approved. Alice moved the April financial report be approved, Vern seconded the motion, *the motion carried*.

AGENCY REPORTS, continued

IASCD: Jamie reviewed her written report:

- Pend Oreille River Subdivision Grant Proposal Update:
 - **Five-Star Restoration Program grant finalized at \$40,000 - no word back yet
- USFWS Partners Program – Jamie met with Juliet Barenti about some potential sites in the Pend Oreille drainage – Program has \$27,000 for use in streambank and riparian enhancements. Meeting with Juliet Friday on potential projects on Priest River and Grouse Creek.
- Schedule for 2009 SEEP training: Hayden March 25-26, St. Maries April 8-9, Bonners Ferry April 22-23 Trainings completed, going to Smeltonville May 6th. Still have Kootenai County May 20-21.
- Corresponding with Farmin Trust manager re stormwater solutions in Sand Creek area.
- Other Activities: City of Sandpoint Parks Management Plan 2009 reviewed, Forestry Contest News Release, Advanced SEEP class development, AIS Task Force meeting, Water Festival preparation, assistance to Benewah and Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD's.

BSWCD: Linda O'Hare reviewed her written report:

- Boat Wash Station: Order the Portable Boat Wash Station on April 16th from Greenfield Industries in Monarch, Montana. Should be delivered mid July and they will train us at that time.
- Tree seedling pickup went well, Bill Love and Tom Johnson from IDL were there all morning to answer questions and demonstrate tree planting. 19,020 trees were sold for planting in Bonner County, with a profit of \$3,057.48 after paying \$39.14 for delivery of UI Doug firs.
- Greg and Linda attended the RCYD Forestry Committee meeting last week. Silvaseed Nursery in Roy, Washington was chosen as our new Division I nursery since North Woods Nursery in Elk River is closing. Even with transportation, prices will be very comparable to the last couple of years. RC&D will keep their prices to districts the same as last year. Linda will present different scenarios for pricing to the board at the next meeting, with the possibility of keeping our prices the same except for lowering the 8" seedlings on orders of 1000 or more.
- Forestry Contest: We received a \$5000 donation from the North Idaho Timberfest Committee, as their organization is ending. This money has been put in the Forestry LGIP account to be used in the future for more compasses and clinometers, as the Forestry Contest continues to grow. We are doing well for regular donations this year, and have 3 new donors along with 2 new ones last year. New donor banner is being printed, as well as a new banner for the picture. April newsletter sent out.
- Water Festival plans going well. Linda helped with classroom instruction at Hope Elementary.
- Will teach Tree ID at Idaho Hill Elementary in Oldtown on May 18th.
- Reviewed Dick Rush's letter regarding status of ISCC with the board.

OLD BUSINESS

QuickBooks: Herman and Linda decided to stay with the online version of QuickBooks. Any information that needs security is kept in a locked file.

FY2011 Budget: The Commissioners approved our request for \$14,500 for FY11 pending budget approval process. Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve the FY11 budget that included the \$14,500 from the County. *The motion carried*.

Septic Program 319 Grant: Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to have Dale sign the cover letter and submit the 319 Grant Application for funding the Septic Program. *The motion carried*.

Priest River TMDL Implementation Plan for Ag: Jamie will present information on this at the next meeting.

Tri-State Semi-Annual Meeting Report: Herman was out of town, so Vern moved and Alice seconded the motion to have him present information on this and their request for \$500 funding from conservation districts at the next meeting. *The motion carried.*

L*A*S Cell Phone Stipend: Molly will present this information at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Farm Tour: The tour will be June 17th, registration is \$25. The three visits will include McNall Shorthorn Ranch, Ponderay Garden Center (lunch served), and Sandpoint Ranch. Pre-registration deadline is June 8th, so we will finalize attendance at the June 2nd board meeting.

Bonner County Watershed Code Subcommittee invitation: Jamie's participation has been requested to address the Watershed overlay and provide expert opinion and information of a variety of aspects of watershed protection, including risk assessment and policy recommendations. They will have one meeting per month for six months – the first meeting is May 20th. Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to have Jamie represent the district on the Subcommittee. *The motion carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was available for review:

- 1) Easter card from Ed Nurmi
- 2) RC&D Meeting on May 7th

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of April 2009 minutes

Approval of April financial report

Approval of FY11 budget

Approval of submitting 319 Septic Program Grant Application

Approval of tabling Tri-State report to next meeting

Approval of Jamie representing the District on the Bonner County Watershed Code Subcommittee

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.