

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Tuesday, July 13, 2010
Time: 4:00
Place: WaterLife Discovery Center – 2100 Lakeshore Dr. - Sagle

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
 Vern Hollett, BSWCD Dennis Aslett, NRCS/ACES
 Alice Wallace, BSWCD Kirk Sehlmeier, NRCS SCEP
 Cassie Tauber, BSWCD Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
 Harry Menser, Associate Dan Whatley, Boat Inspection Station Supervisor
 Fairy Delay, Associate Tom Herron, IDEQ
 Mark Hogen, SWCC

Absent: Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Kate Wilson, Associate; Ed Nurmi, Associate;
 Molly McCahon, L*A*S

The board meeting was called to order at 4:15 by Chairman Herman Collins at the Waterlife Discovery Center.

Approval of Minutes:

Vern moved to approve the June 2010 meeting minutes and Alice seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

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

AGENCY REPORTS

L*A*S: Molly was on vacation. Linda reported that the USFWS 5 Star grant that Ruth Watkins and Molly applied for was denied. The grant would have funded a demonstration project of various types of riparian buffers along the 150 of shoreline at the WaterLife Discovery Center, and would have included the help of 2 separate classes from Sandpoint high school to design the plantings and to plant them. We are looking for alternative funding sources.

ISWCC: Mark Hogen reported he has been working with Greg on a WQPA contract and plan to be included in the Division I WQPA funding. \$59,000 remains in the fund to be used by June of 2011. Also, the ISWCC has moved into new offices and they have new website, a new phone, and the new physical address.

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

- Greg reviewed the WQPA contract with the board. It is a supplement to EQIP and is a project on forest thinning and grazing.
- Greg reviewed the proposal from BPA to make Army Corps fluctuate the winter lake level up to 3 times for the purpose of power generation. At the last public meeting BPA requested letters of concern or support for the proposal. Molly and Greg both have input into a letter they would propose for the board to submit. Concerns include shoreline erosion, wildlife habitat, damage to boat docks and marinas, and potential construction usually designated to winter months with low lake levels. The letter was reviewed by the members at the meeting. Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve of Herman signing the letter to be sent to BPA, provisional as to everyone's approval after studying the letter. *The motion carried.* Linda will mail a copy of the letter to every board member for their feedback.
- Greg introduced Kirk Sehlmeier, his new SCEP student for this summer. He will be gaining experience division wide, and has 2 more years of school left at Ohio State.

Boat Inspection Stations: Supervisor Dan Whatley reviewed the statistics on the 3 boat wash stations for the first month of operation. 1807 inspections, 13 boats washed with no mussels found but lots of weeds, 550

AIS stickers sold. The 12-hour shifts are working fine. The attendants continue to be self-motivated and doing a good job. Dan gave a presentation at Kiwanis, and may be requested to present at other meetings.

IDEQ: Tom Herron reported as follows:

- Integrated report will be ready for public comment the end of July. Tom will get a copy to the district for review.
- Tom is working with Kate Wilson on 2011 funding for L*A*S through the Pend Oreille Basin Commission. Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve of applying for this grant. *The motion carried.*
- IDEQ's budget is still tenuous.
- Anti-degradation rules are still in the development stage. They should be out in draft form in September for public comment.
- Tom thanked our district for working with them on finding a source for the project on the North Fork of the Couer d'Alene River. They will be working with the Benewah district on this project.
- Applications close on July 14th for the coordinator position at POBC to replace Kate. DEQ sent a letter to the governor committing to supporting the Lakes Commission and their coordinator position. The cooperation and coordination between DEQ and POBC has worked well.

BSWCD: Linda O'Hare highlighted her written report:

- Our ICRMP insurance payment will come due in August for \$850.00.
- Linda's written report updated the board on the Boat Inspection Stations, L*A*S, and SWPP.
- Fish Creek 319: Met with 4 people from IDEQ this morning to review the site – they were complimentary of the work completed.
- Pack River Watershed Council: The float trip took place on June 27th with 13 people in attendance. The 2nd quarter Avista grant report has been completed.
- Forestry Contest: The final newsletter and award certificates have been completed. Linda's hours were billed at 164.5 hours at \$14.50 for \$2385.25.
- Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD will receive no funding for FY2011 from either Kootenai County or Shoshone County. Their board is re-organizing.
- County Letter of Intent: Linda revised the budget approved by the board for FY2011 after receiving the negative Letter of Intent from the county. Herman approved the revised budget before it was sent to the state.

OLD BUSINESS

Farm Tour on June 16th: Herman, Kate, Kirk and Linda attended the Farm Tour which covered the fires of 1910 and 1917 and a visit to a ranch raising elk, goats, sheep, chickens, and horses.

Audit: Cassie moved and Vern seconded the motion to sign the engagement letter with CPA Leonard Schulte. *The motion carried.*

Local Work Group Meeting: Greg met with the other DCs and NRCS Program Manager to review the priorities from the local work groups, and they will incorporate a question into the ranking tool regarding urbanization and fragmentation which will give more points if there is contiguous ownership on applications. The priorities remain the same with forestry, water quality, grazing, and weed and pest management.

NEW BUSINESS

Rulemaking for Allocation of Funds to Districts: The board will review the draft of the rules and send any comments to Linda so they can be submitted by the August SWCC meeting. Herman also announced the new member of the SWCC is Roger Stutzman.

Support for IASCD Executive Position: The board will act on this at the August meeting.

Forestry Contest Larry Fryberg Memorial: Herman and Linda reviewed the information received from Horizon Credit Union regarding investing the \$30,000 from the Larry Fryberg Memorial in a 5 year fixed annuity with Liberty Life at 3% interest. It was discussed if the district board approved of getting the annuity, then it would be taken to the Forestry Contest Steering Committee for their approval. Alice moved and Vern seconded

the motion to approve of putting the \$30,000 Larry Fryberg Memorial in the Liberty Life 3% 5-year annuity. The motion carried.

Retirement Parties: Mike Duval's retirement party will be Friday, July 30th at 2nd Avenue Pizza at 5:00. Either call the office or email Greg if you would like to attend. Linda will get more information to the board members about Kate Wilson's retirement party and confirm their attendance. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to donate \$50 to Mike Duval and \$50 to Kate Wilson for their retirement. The motion carried. Herman said they have both been great additions to our office.

State Conference:

Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to support Linda's attendance at conference. The motion carried. At this time the round trip flight from Spokane to Boise is \$126. A car rental from there to Burley would be shared with Benewah.

Correspondence was reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of June 2010 meeting minutes

Approval of June 2010 financial report

Approval of letter to Army Corps of Engineers regarding lake fluctuation, if majority approves after study

Approval of signing engagement letter with CPA Leonard Schulte for FY2009-10 audit

Approval of applying for POBC 2011 grant

Approval of investing the Forestry Contest \$30,000 Larry Fryberg Memorial in a Liberty Life 3% 5-year fixed Annuity, providing the Forestry Contest Steering Committee approves

Approval of donating \$50 to Mike Duval and \$50 to Kate Wilson for their retirements

Approval of supporting Linda's attendance at state conference in Burley

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.