



Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 6, 2009
Time: 11:00 a.m. – Chili lunch served during meeting
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101 – Sandpoint Field Office

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Jamie Davis, IASCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD Kate Wilson, Associate
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Linda O'Hare, BSWCD

Absent: Cassie Tauber, BSWCD; Fairy Delay and Ed Nurmi, Associates

Meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. by Chairman Herman Collins, and he welcomed everyone and wished them a Happy New Year.

Approval of Minutes:

Alice moved to approve the November 2008 minutes and Dale seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Vern reviewed the November financial report and Herman reviewed the December financial report and both were found to be in order. Alice moved the November and December financial reports be approved, seconded by Dale. *The motion carried.*

Dale moved to approve the two transfers from the LGIP to Panhandle State Bank: \$606.57 for Lower West Branch WQPA Administration and \$4000 for district expenses. Alice seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to pay the following bills:

- \$31.50 Gem State Minor subscription renewal
- \$154.00 Daily Bee subscription renewal
- \$100.00 Nursery license with State Department of Agriculture

The motion carried.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

- Three people from the Nearshore Committee are working with Greg on the Septic Program and the grant application.
- Greg is working on the bottom barrier proposal for the Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force
- The NRCS audit is winding down. The Sandpoint field office had 40 contracts this summer and with completions and some cancellations, we now have 20.
- Greg has worked with the County over the last month on the plans for Fish Creek, and the County has approved them. Bill Lillibridge with the Commission will now finalize the engineering plans.

IASCD: Jamie reported as follows:

- S.E.E.P. (Stormwater Erosion Education Program) Basic classes are scheduled. The Bonner/Boundary class is in Bonners Ferry in April. She is working on a curriculum for the advanced class. There will be one advanced class offered this spring for the panhandle.
- Jamie shared a draft copy of the Tri-State Nearshore Committee's publication "Pend Oreille Messenger". The newsletter will be mailed this spring to shoreline landowners. Gary Parker is featured as its first Watershed Warrior.

- Land Use Codes hearings were held in Sandpoint and Priest River, and the code revisions have been adopted. Greg is working with the County now on native/non-native plant lists for riparian planting areas.
- Grant Ideas: A landowner on the Pend Oreille River would like to include riparian buffer and open space in his small subdivision. It is estimated to cost around \$60,000 for this area which will include 4 feet of riprap along 1800 feet of River, woody vegetation and seeding, but no pathways. Jamie suggested two grants that may be pertinent – the 5 Star Restoration Grant, and the USFWS Partners Program Grant. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to have Jamie develop a draft of each proposal for review at the next board meeting. *The motion carried.* Jamie found that the Partners Program Grant had to be submitted by January 30th. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to have Jamie prepare the Partners Program Grant with Herman’s review and submit it. *The motion carried.*
- Jamie suggested developing a conservation calendar with help from the Nearshore Committee and possible initial funding from Trans/Canada. She would request photos of projects to be submitted for the calendar. Jamie will contact Trans/Canada re funding.

BSWCD: Linda O’Hare reviewed her written report:

- L*A*S: Around 110 surveys were completed in 2008. Copies of these surveys are ready to be mailed out to the landowners with the BMP recommendations completed.
- Pack River Watershed Council: Year-End Report and 2009 Funding request letter for \$1518 were submitted by December 1, 2008.
- Boater Survey: Lori Halcro-Williams has finished the 2008 report, which will be reviewed later in the meeting.
- 2008 Conference: 42 conference thank yous were sent out, the Resort final bill was reviewed and found accurate, and we received reimbursement for \$90.90 from IASCD for Linda’s mileage.
- Tree Seedling Sale: An irrigation problem at the nursery eliminated all 8” white pine and all 5.5” and 8” Doug fir seedlings from our inventory. Our district had already sold 5,000 of these specific seedlings. If we replace the Doug fir through UI, their cost to us is 9 cents more per tree. The board suggested replacing the trees with UI as long as we make a profit.
- Grant Administration fees were taken by the end of December totaling \$2651.77.

OLD BUSINESS

L*A*S Coordinator Position Funding for 2009: The balance carried forward from 2008 funding for the coordinator position is approximately \$7,600. The Pend Oreille Basin Commission proposal has been approved by the Regional Administrator in CdA, and been forwarded to Boise. We will know the determination regarding the \$15,000 this spring. The 319 grant and funding will be finalized the first of May for \$36,368. The board approved advertising for the position starting at \$7,600 with the possibility of the further funding for full-time to the end of the year.

Lower West Branch Priest River WOPA Fund Balance: Jamie and Greg proposed a project on a tributary north of the Lower West Branch and will have more information at the next meeting.

Sewage Disposal Rule Change: Dale reported the setback rule change was on the agenda at the November Panhandle Health meeting. No decision has been made yet, and they will take comment letters. Jamie suggested slightly revising the letter she had drafted earlier supporting the rule change. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to have the board send the revised letter.

Chamber Legislative Breakfast: Herman reported he, Linda and Kate attended the informative breakfast. All the local legislators were there and spoke briefly on priority issues presented by 3 local legislative concern groups.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers for 2009: Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to cast a unanimous ballot to re-elect the same officers from 2008, Herman Collins as Chairman, Dale Van Stone as Vice-Chairman, and Vern Hollett as Secretary/Treasurer. *The motion carried.*

Christmas Bonus: Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to give Linda a \$125 Christmas bonus and Jamie a \$75 Christmas bonus. *The motion carried.* The board was informed of the death of Mike Duval's mother-in-law. Alice moved and Vern seconded the motion to send a plant to the Duvals. *The motion carried.*

Draft of ISCC Strategic Plan for FY2010-2014: The board approved the draft of the Strategic Plan.

Division I WQPA Payment: Greg presented the Payment Application form from Snowmass Alpaca for streambank work. The riprap work was more expensive than the cost list estimate. The work came in at \$97 a foot, and the price list suggests a low at \$60. Discussion followed regarding not setting a precedent for approving a cost that is too high compared to the estimate list. Dale moved and Alice seconded the motion to approve the payment at a compromise of \$85/foot, for a total of \$17,823.37, and to consider each application in the future on a case by case basis. *The motion carried.*

Aquatic Invasive Species Projects/Grants for 2009: Kate Wilson reviewed the boater survey final report. She then reviewed the status of the legislated aquatic invasive species fund, which has \$3,000,000 remaining. She suggested splitting the Bonner County 2009 funding proposals into one proposal for "treatment" to be done by the County, and one proposal for "prevention" to be sponsored by BSWCD. The district proposal would include administering funding for 1) manning two boat wash stations purchased and owned by ISDA, and funding for labor provided by ISDA; and 2) a special pilot project for bottom barriers at a private marina in Glengary Bay which has two water intakes and private docks. This would be a larger area for bottom barriers than has been done here in the past, and would be an area not conducive to herbicides. A third idea includes setting up training and equipment for a volunteer group where local certified divers get trained to hand pull aquatic weeds and set bottom barriers. The Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force meets today after the district meeting, and will review the proposals. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion that the district sponsor the "prevention" proposals for 2009 funding if the Task Force supports this idea. The proposals are due January 25th, so if the Task Force supports separating the proposals between the County and the district, then Herman would sign the proposal. *The motion carried.*

State Insurance Fund Renewable Report: The board was given copies for review.

Quickbooks: The information recently received from the Soil Conservation Commission was reviewed. Vern moved to have Linda and Herman decide which version, online or desktop, the district would choose. Dale seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Tri-State Request for FY2009 WAG Administrative Assistance from ISCC for \$690.60: After reviewing the request, Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion we support Tri-State's proposal for \$690.60 administrative assistance for the Pend Oreille WAG. *The motion carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) RC&D Meeting on January 8th at 1:00.
- 2) Partners for Fish & Wildlife and Recovery Programs of USFWS - call for 2009 proposals.
- 3) IDEQ Announcement of 2010 Funding Cycle for 319 programs

February Meeting: The board enjoyed meeting over lunch, and decided to meet on February 3rd at 11:00 am and order pizza.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of November 2008 minutes

Approval of November and December financial report

Approval of transfer of \$606.57 WQPA funds and \$4000 district funds from LGIP to PSB

Approval of paying \$31.50 for Gem State renewal, \$154 for Daily Bee renewal, and \$100 for Nursery License renewal

Approval of drafting grant proposal for subdivision riparian buffer to 5 Star Restoration Grant and to USFWS Partners Grant for review at the February meeting

Approval of submitting grant proposal for subdivision riparian buffer to USFWS Partners Grant by January 30th deadline with Herman's approval

Approval of 2009 officers: Herman Collins as President, Dale Van Stone as Vice-President, and Vern Hollett as Secretary/Treasurer

Approval of Christmas bonuses of \$125 for Linda and \$75 for Jamie

Approval of buying a plant for the Mike Duval family

Approval of WQPA payment for \$17, 823.37 which includes rip rap at \$85/foot

Approval of the district sponsoring the "prevention" proposals for 2009 funding if the Bonner County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force supports the idea.

Approval of Herman and Linda choosing for the district either online or desktop Quickbooks

Approval of supporting Tri-State's WAG administrative funding support for \$690.60

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.