

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Time: 1:00 pm Meeting
Place: 1224 Washington Ave ste 101, Sandpoint, ID * Zoom Teleconference

Attendance:

Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Rick Watt, BSWCD; Jeff Connolly, BSWCD; Brad Bluemer, BSWCD; Jim Stevens, BSWCD; Harry Menser, BSWCD
Sarah Garcia, BSWCD; Cindy Lewis, NRCS

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by Chairman Dale Van Stone.

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes: Harry moved, seconded by Rick to approve the February Minutes. *the motion carried.*

Financial Reports: Jeff moved, seconded by Rick to approve the January 2023 financials *the motion carried.* Harry moved seconded by Rick to donate \$50.00 to the Envirothon, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Cindy informed the Board of pending program deadlines including joint chiefs. There is potential that NRCS will be unable to fund all eligible EQIP applications this year. Removing category caps especially for high tunnels has impacted funding this year. Owen Turner, new soil con will start in March. Kyle Lundsford will continue in the detail position for the resource con. The permanent position has been flown and closed awaiting the panel. There are another two positions to be flown this year. New program assistant will start March 20th will work 30 hours a week through the Kootenai TA grant.

Lakes Commission: Molly updated the Board that there would be a Lakes Commission meeting April 6th at the Sandpoint Organic Ag Center. Molly reviewed their current agenda. Discussion was had regarding proposals before the County Waterways advisory board. Molly informed the District that there was an increase in her offices monthly rent, she would be discussing with her board as to how they would like to proceed.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Boat Stations: The Board discussed in detail the communication had to date with ISDA, the Districts needs to be able to administer the stations effectively, as well as the extensive amount of public outreach completed to date. Brad moved, second by Jeff to submit a letter to ISDA with all original parties cc'd reflecting that although the District would like to continue our partnership, we are unable to without the necessary wage adjustments and in the interest of the best outcome for the program we must decline the MOU as presented. *the motion carried.*

Annual Plan of Work/5-yr Plan: The Board reviewed the updates that had been outlined during the District Workshop in November. Rick moved, Brad seconded the motion. *the motion carried.*

NACD Report: Sarah provided the board with a written overview of the NACD conference she recently attended. The discussion centered around the benefits we could utilize in Idaho. Sarah and the Board discussed pursuing the Community Ag grant that had previously been discussed.

Farm Tour: Harry updated the Board on the 2023 farm tour planning to date. Harry and Jim set up plans for Harry to tour the Steven's property during the Forestry Expo in May.

Round Lake Fishing Day: Sarah informed the board of an education opportunity that the district has been asked to assist with. IFG will be hosting "take me fishing" field trips to round lake on May 9th, 10th, & 15th and has asked for help coordinating stations for students to rotate through. Sarah has completed most of the behind-the-scenes

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coordination but will need board members to serve as hosts for the May 10th field trip as she will be completing Forestry contest set up that day. Brad, Dale, and Rick all expressed potential interesting in being present that day.

Forestry Contest: Sarah updated on the planning to date. The 40th anniversary event is going to have some great additions to the lunchtime job fair. We are also seeing a larger resurgence of FFA & ag teams.

Water Festival: Gail provided a brief email overview of the planning to date. Things are on track and moving forward.

PSP/Seedling Sale Update: Sale is steadily moving forward, and we will be receiving our tree delivery on Tuesday April 4th with public pickup April 6th. Sarah invited all who were able to come assist either day.

Division Meeting: The Board received a reminder of the upcoming Division meeting and agenda. The event will be held in Post Falls on April 20th.

Grant Updates:

Source Water Protection Grant: The District is waiting for the subaward documents but will be moving forward with purchasing the new envirosapes as soon as the executed forms are received.

Urban Ag Grant: Sarah informed the Board she was working on the Urban Ag grant application.

NRCS Co-op Agreement: Sarah & Cindy provided information to the Board about the open co-op agreement for public education related to NRCS programs.

District Report: Sarah asked the Board for their input on whether they would like the fair booth to be inside our outside for the 2023 fair and outside was decided. The Board was notified of a recent public records request that Sarah received and responded to.

Harry moved, seconded by Jeff the motion to adjourn the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.


District Supervisor Signature

4/11/2023

Date

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