

## Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

### Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
Time: 1:00 pm Meeting  
Place: 1224 Washington Ave Ste. 101, Sandpoint, ID \* Zoom Teleconference

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#### Attendance:

Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Rick Watt, BSWCD; Harry Menser, BSWCD; Brad Bluemer, BSWCD; Jeff Connolly, BSWCD; John Gaddess, BSWCD; Sarah Garcia, BSWCD; Kyle Lunsford, NRCS; Georja Kriebs; Gail Bolin, Water Festival; Zoom Attendees: Jim Stevens, BSWCD; Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC; Jen Jensen, U of I Extension Jenna Ditzel, ISWCC

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

#### Call to Order

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

**Financial Reports:** Brad moved, seconded by Harry to approve the September 2023 financial reports, *the motion carried.* Sarah informed the board that the District audit should be complete by Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### AGENCY REPORTS

**NRCS Report:** Kyle Lunsford extended thank you for fridge/microwave, patience with office reorganization and LWG participation. They have 93 EQIP apps with 67 of them being Bonner Co. with 10-15 of them projected to cancel/ineligible based on historical. Most of the forestry contracts south of lake will be Joint chiefs, and IRA. CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) can be used for smaller acreage and second sign-up through April 5<sup>th</sup>. Potential on Boyer Slough Project plans to work with Jenna to identify. Discussed Conservation Team 1 Townhall meeting Jan 11 at SAOC.

#### Pack River Watershed Council – Jessica Erickson:

**SWC Report – Jenna D. and Bill L.:** District Performance report due Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be 3 new staff members joining their team in the next couple of months.

WQPA- Project has been completed went fairly well. There was a delay due to having to build an access road. The willows were buried a bit more than desired, will reevaluate and watch trees. It will take the Willows approx. 2-3 years to see full potential. The Planting was a challenge due to the sand.

**U and I:** Jen discussed the Land Stewardship/ living on the land program starting in Jan. Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Beef Cattle Care.

#### DISTRICT BUSINESS

**Action Item: Water Festival Contractor Agreement:** Rick moved, seconded by Jeff to approve the Water Festival Coordinator Contract with Gail Bolin of Earth Wise as presented, *the motion carried.*

**Action Item: Temporary employee agreement:** Harry moved, seconded by Brad to approve the Temporary Employee Agreement between the District & Georja Kriebs. *the motion carried.*

**Action Item: ICRMP:** Jeff moved, seconded by Rick to approve for the District to work through ICRMP directly. *the motion carried.*

**River Governance Conference Report:** Sarah reminded the Board of the update she had provided after returning from the Conference mid month. Highlighted key impacts and take aways from the conference as well as discussed AIS concerns and good interaction with State legislators.

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**IASCSD Conference – Report:** Jeff, Brad and Sarah attended and highlighted important information they learned.

**Action Item: Health Insurance:** Jeff moved, seconded by Harry for the district to change to Blue Shield as the district provider due to the cost savings and to continue to cover the full value of the insurance premium, the motion carried.

**Year End Appreciation Dinner – December 13<sup>th</sup>:** Will be at Hydra at 5 pm for Bonner SWCD and partners plus spouse.

**Grant Updates:** Sarah updated the Board on the current status of closing and/or reporting on grants. Waiting to hear on composting grant, should hear back by middle of January. Waiting to work on more grants until we hear from composting one.

**PSP- John:** We should know final counts soon. The trees will be packed out by district by 2024. The cost of trees did go up a bit.

**BSWCD Report – Sarah Garcia:** Sarah informed the board about the work & events she participated in throughout the month as well as highlighted upcoming events on her calendar.

Brad moved, seconded by Jeff to adjourn the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

Wale Van Horn                      12/5/23  
District Supervisor Signature                      Date

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