

# Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

## Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018  
Time: 1:00 pm Meeting  
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Sandpoint, ID

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### Attendance:

Dale Van Stone, BSWCD	Jessica Erikson, PRWC
Alice Wallace, BSWCD	Greg Becker, NRCS
Terry McGuirk, BSWCD	Harry Menser, BSWCD
Jim Stevens, BSWCD	Molly McCahon, POBC
Amanda Abajian, BSWCD	John Gaddess, IDL
Kirk Sehlmeier, NRCS	Herman Collins, BSWCD

Absent: Jennifer Jensen, U of I, Cassie Tauber, BSWCD

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 by vice Chairman Dale Van Stone.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alice moved, seconded by Terry, to approve the April 2018 minutes, *the motion carried.*

**Financial Report:** Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve the April financials, *the motion carried.*

Dale advised the board that after reviewing the financial reports with Amanda, he thought it would be beneficial to move some funds from the checking account to the LGIP savings account. Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to transfer \$60k from the Columbia Bank checking account to the LGIP savings account, *the motion carried.*

**Horizon Credit Union CD:** Alice moved, and Terry seconded, the motion to renew the CD with Horizon CU as is on May 19<sup>th</sup>, *the motion carried.*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Caribou & Hellroaring Habitat Prioritization Assessment:** Jessica advised the board that the project goal is a habitat prioritization assessment specifically to benefit bull trout and cutthroat trout in the watershed. The statement of work has been completed and submitted. The board asked Jessica to check with Ken Bouwens and Avista if an administration fee of 15% would be agreeable to the new contract.

**Forestry Contest:** The 36<sup>th</sup> annual Forestry Contest will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at the Delay Farm. Amanda advised the board that planning for the Forestry Contest is going well and on schedule. This year the majority of the food was ordered through Super1, and Franz will be donating all of the buns for the contest.

**Water Festival:** The 2018 Water Festival will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> at the Riley Creek Campground in Laclede.

**Funding Meeting with County Commissioners:** Dale advised the board that the meeting with the county commissioners went incredibly well. The commissioners agreed to increase the county funding to the district by \$2,000, bringing the total funding for FY2019 to \$12,500. Amanda advised the board that the letter of intent will be arriving from the county commissioners by the end of the week. The district is incredibly grateful to receive such strong support from Bonner County to help aid in local conservation projects.

**Conference Planning:** Amanda advised the board that she went to down to Post Falls with Terry and Alice to visit the location for the 2018 conference at the Templins Red Lion Resort. They were able to tour the facilities and plan where meetings will be held throughout the conference. Currently the Division I planning committee is discussing ideas for the keynote speaker and breakout speakers for the conference. Ideas were presented by the board that will be taken to the next planning meeting.

Alice advised the board that the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission meeting will be held in Boundary County next week on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tree Seedling Program Proposal:** Kirk Sehlmeier with NRCS provided the board and attendees a background history on the tree seedling program. During the 90's the program was started by the Resource Conservation and Development council to provide seedlings to local landowners. Eventually RC&D was discontinued and the program needed to be passed along to another entity. Multiple parties stepped up to take over the program, and it was decided to be transferred to IFOA as is. The program's biggest assets are the seed bank and the agreements with multiple orchards.

Kirk presented to the board the idea of transferring the forest seedling program from IFOA to the districts. Kirk highlighted that Bonner SWCD is financially stable and would be able to form a tree committee with other districts to manage the program. It was also recommended that an independent contractor be hired to oversee the program details to keep current employees from being overloaded. The board expressed their desire to see the financial information on the forest seedling program from IFOA before any concrete decision is made.

Bonner SWCD is committed to keeping the program going, and will be attending the June IFOA meeting to discuss what needs to happen to ensure the programs well-being.

**Approval of Boat Station Attendant New Hires:** Amanda presented to the board the list of attendant new hires for each station. Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve all new hires for the Bonner County Boat Inspection Stations, *the motion carried.*

**Ray Delay Thank You:** Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve purchasing a \$100.00 gift card for Ray Delay as a thank you for allowing Bonner SWCD use his property for the 2018 tree seedling sale, *the motion carried.*

**PRWC Compensation Update & Renewal:** Jessica advised the board that since a lot of her work requires her to access the internet from her home she is currently going over her data limit. She does not have Wi-Fi or regular internet access from her home, and must use a data plan on her phone. Dale suggested to the board that they provide Jessica with \$30.00 a month to cover the additional data charges, and compensate Jessica for all work-related mileage. Alice moved, and Terry seconded, the motion to compensate Jessica for all work-related travel and provide \$30.00/month for data expenses, *the motion carried.*

Harry moved, and Alice seconded, the motion to renew the contract for the district to administer funding for the Pack River Watershed Council for FY2019, *the motion carried.*

**Lakes Commission Contract Renewal:** Molly advised the board that the recent bill for additional funding for the Lakes Commission was approved and will be included in the contract for FY2019. Harry moved, and Terry seconded, the motion to renew the contract for the district to administer funding for the Lakes Commission for FY2019, *the motion carried.*

**Civil Rights/EEO:** There are no updates to civil rights at this time.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

**NRCS Greg Becker:** Greg reported 1. The EQIP fuel reduction program application period has been extended to May 25<sup>th</sup> 2. USFWS contract is being edited by Juliette Berenti and then will be returned for signature by the district and NRCS 3. Greg will be going to Moscow as acting Area Conservationist for a 60 day detail.

**PRWC Jessica Erikson:** Jessica reported 1. She is learning how a “statement of work” is created by working with Avista 2. Working with Gail on the upcoming water festival, and 3. Planning on helping Molly with classes at the Waterlife Discovery Center. 4. Completed the Spring Pack River Watershed Council Newsletter

**Bonner SWCD by Amanda Abajian:** Amanda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. Alice moved, and Terry seconded, providing Amanda with an hourly raise of \$2.16, *the motion carried*. Amanda thanked the board for the unexpected raise.

### **Executive Session - as per Idaho Code 67-2345**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00.

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District Supervisor Signature

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Date

#### **Recap of Motions:**

Approval of April minutes  
Approval of April financials  
Approval of transferring \$60k to the LGIP savings account  
Approval of allowing CD with Horizon Credit Union to renew as is  
Approval of boat attendant new hires  
Approval of purchasing \$100 gift for Ray Delay  
Approval of providing \$30 compensation to Jessica Erikson for data  
Approval of PRWC contract renewal  
Approval of Lakes Commission contract renewal  
Approval of \$2.16 hourly raise for Amanda Abajian