

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: May 2, 2012
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD (2:00)
Greg Becker, NRCS
Erin Mader, POBC
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Randy Stolz (3:00)

Absent: Alice Wallace, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Harry Menser, Associate; Molly McCahon, L*A*S

The meeting was called to order at 1:30.

Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the April 6, 2012, minutes, and Vern seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

- Vern reviewed the April financial report and recommended it be approved. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve the minutes, *the motion carried.*
- The new payroll checking account at PSB has been set up with an electronic transfer option. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to authorize Linda to transfer funds from one account to the other for purposes of payroll, including an initial \$6,000 transfer, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

- Greg has a large potential EQIP streambank protection project on the Pend Oreille River that if approved for funding would be completed this fall.
- Greg is working with a landowner on a Conservation Innovation Grant to turn biosolids into compost.
- The Schweitzer Road snow removal and sand/sodium chloride treatment during this winter was very successful. Water monitoring on a "control sampling" of Sand Creek had 1.5 to 2 parts per million of sodium chloride. During the month of March when Schweitzer measured 50 inches of snow, a sampling showed 2 parts per million of sodium chloride during the highest snow removal portion of the month.
- May 23 Greg will begin working with Clagstone Development on a wetland inventory and a grazing inventory as a part of the overall Resource Conservation and Enhancement Plan required by the County. Stimson Lumber will complete the Forest Management Plan using the NRCS template.

L*A*S: No report - Molly is on vacation.

POBC: Erin Mader reviewed her written report:

- Fish & Game is working on their 5-Year Plan and changing the management of the Priest Lake fishery. In order to decide if they should try to suppress lake trout or discontinue all management activities, they have developed an online survey. In the past in order to keep the native fish population growing in Upper Priest, they have suppressed the lake trout. F&G believed fishing would increase if the native fish population increased, but the lake trout keep coming back. The online survey will help them decide what to do.
- The next POBC meeting is June 6th, 10:00 - 1:00 at Panhandle Health. Topics include IDFG update on Priest and Pend Oreille, DEQ WAG for Priest Lake tributaries, and DEQ delisting of Pend Oreille River for

phosphorus levels and antidegradation plan. Erin was asked to check into whether the City could discharge into the river differently due to the delisting.

- Discussions have resumed between the state and BPA regarding lake level fluctuation and five years free of legal action against BPA.
- Earth Day events and the flowering rush dig were both very successful. BNSF had 20 volunteers that helped pull the flowering rush.
- Waterlife Discovery Center field trips begin this Friday, and 6 are planned until early June.
- Regarding the vegetation at Memorial Field – Jared with the City of Sandpoint will do a biological assessment of the area, then hopefully they will be able to proceed with the grid to capture the blown in vegetation. Signage will be important, and they may look to the district for help with funding that. Linda will check with Tom Woolf with ISDA regarding funding for signage or help until this project can be completed.

BSWCD: Linda O’Hare reviewed her written report which included the following:

- Boat Stations: Paperwork for this year’s attendants has been completed.
- Fish Creek Road 319: Gordon Bates delivered construction information on the culvert project to restore Cocolalla Loop Road. The board reviewed pictures Herman took of Fish Creek Road areas needing work after the March runoff and of the Cocolalla Loop Road washout.
- Tree Seedling Sale: Bill Love volunteered this year to help buyers with their questions regarding planting the tree seedlings, and again this year was kept very busy. Linda will check with all the buyers on their satisfaction this year and report to the RC&D Forestry Committee meeting to be held May 22nd at 2:00 pm.
- Forestry Contest: Karen and Linda have prepared 17 poster boards with pictures for a “museum” at the Contest.
- All the information and payment have been sent in for the district’s student scholarship applicant for the Natural Resource Camp at Ketchum.
- All the paperwork for the new payroll bank account has been completed.

OLD BUSINESS

Personnel Policy Update: The board went through the Personnel Policy item by item that was suggested for change. Vern moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve the revised Personnel Policy. *The motion carried.*

SWC Budget Hearing Request: Linda reviewed the changes she made with Herman’s approval on the budget hearing requests she submitted. The only item that the Commission planned on budgeting for was the Capacity Building request, so that was changed to be the Idaho State Forestry Contest instead of a district newsletter. The project priorities submitted were: 1) LAS, 2) WDC, and 3) district newsletter.

319 Fish Creek Road Improvement Grant Balance: Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to get an agreement with the County to complete the repairs on Fish Creek Road prior to releasing the funding for the Cocolalla Loop road project. *The motion carried.*

Grouse Creek Project: The board approved of Linda putting out bids on this project.

Elections: Alice Wallace, Vern Hollett, and Cassie Tauber are all up for election in November 2012, and they all have decided to run again. Linda will give them their petitions for signatures.

Forestry Contest: Members of the board who will volunteer this year are Herman Collins and Vern Hollett. Molly and Erin will also help, as will Greg and Kirk.

Water Festival: Volunteers this year from our office will include Herman, Harry, Erin and Molly, and Greg and Kirk will help set up and take down tents.

NEW BUSINESS

Division I WQPA: Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve WQPA Contract No. 74021110C0 for the following four payments: Item Numbers 10 & 14 for \$4125; Item Numbers 11 & 15 for \$4125; Item Numbers 2 and 5 for \$3,300; and Item Numbers 3 & 6 for \$1,996. *The motion carried.*

POBC Administration for FY2013: Erin will meet with her board chairman on Friday for a final decision on who will administer their funds from the legislature.

Audit: Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to request Leonard Schulte do the FY2012 audit, *the motion carried.*

FY2013 319 Grant Cycle: Greg will continue to look at the county road projects for a potential 319 project.

Our next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 5th. Cassie requested asking all the board members to see if our meetings could be changed to the first Wednesday.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of April 2012 minutes

Approval of April 2012 financial report

Approval of transferring funds into new PSB payroll checking account, including the initial \$6,000

Approval of Personnel Policy updates

Approval of requesting County finish repair to Fish Creek Road prior to funding Cocolalla Loop Road

Approval of Annual Plan including requesting Jessica Erickson doing newsletter

Approval of 4 Division I WQPA payment requests

Approval of requesting Leonard Schulte be hired for our FY2012 audit

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