

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2012
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Alice Wallace, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD (here at 1:50)
Harry Menser, Associate
Erin Mader, Associate
Greg Becker, NRCS
Molly McCahon L*A*S
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD

Absent: Herman Collins, BSWCD; Vern Hollett, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate;

Due to the absence of a quorum at 1:45, Dale asked for reports to start.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

- Information from snow surveys indicates snowpack at Schweitzer is within 5 to 9 inches of last year, and is the same as 2 years ago; Bear Mountain is within 20 inches of last year but the same as 2 years ago. The Panhandle is 80% of normal precipitation for this time of year, whereas the southern part of the state varies between 35 to 65%.
- 20 strong EQIP applications have been received that are likely to become contracts.
- Nick Studebaker will be assigned to southern Idaho sometime in February to learn agriculture practices in that area. Kirk Sehlmeier, Sandpoint FO SCEP student in 2010, will return to the Sandpoint office in April as a full-time NRCS Forester.
- Property Rights Council: Greg and Clare Marley met with the Council to review the proposed watershed overlay.

Cassie Tauber arrived making a quorum; Dale called the meeting to order at 1:55.

Approval of Minutes:

Cassie moved to approve the December 6, 2011 minutes, and Alice seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

- Dale reviewed the December financial report and recommended it be approved. Cassie moved and Alice seconded the motion to approve the December financial report, *the motion carried.*
- Cassie moved and Alice seconded the motion to pay \$154 for the Daily Bee subscription and \$33 for the Gem State Miner subscription, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

L*A*S: Molly reported as follows:

- Priest River Grant: Priest River has issued a Letter of Agreement to Bonner SWCD for Molly's help through L*A*S to train Priest River personnel and the community on water quality related to stormwater, recreation, and construction. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to sign the Letter of Agreement, *the motion carried.* Molly will set up a meeting with Bill Cleveland, Priest River Planner, the same day she meets there for the Priest River WAG.

- DEQ Grant for Coeur d'Alene L*A*S Manual: Molly is continuing to edit the materials for the Coeur d'Alene L*A*S Manual.

BSWCD: Linda O'Hare highlighted her written report which included the following:

- Tom Woolf has requested to borrow one of our generators for the Cedars Station which opens February 1st – and he will return it in March. The board approved. Tom said they are working on the contracts for the 2012 boat stations and we should receive ours soon.
- Avista Pend Oreille Basin Commission Grant: Linda visited with an ICRMP attorney regarding procedures to follow in setting everything up correctly, and the attorney had three recommendations:
 - 1) She recommended changes to the agreement from F&G regarding office space at the WDC, which Chip Corsi has followed through on and we have a final agreement that meets ICRMP's recommendations.
 - 2) She recommended an Agreement between BSWCD and detailing services provided to POBC through the district's employee Erin Mader. Linda submitted a Letter of Agreement to the POBC which they have signed.
 - 3) She recommended submitting to ICRMP a list of office furniture and equipment given to POBC by DEQ that will make up the office at the WDC so ICRMP can include it in their coverage. Erin has submitted that information.

Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to sign the Letter of Agreement with Fish and Game regarding office space for POBC at the Waterlife Discovery Center. *The motion carried.*

Cassie moved and Alice seconded the motion to sign the letter of Agreement with POBC regarding services provided by Bonner SWCD through the Avista grant for POBC. *The motion carried.*

Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to provide the list of assets DEQ gave to POBC to ICRMP for insurance coverage through the end of June, 2012. *The motion carried.*

- Audit: The auditor met at the office this morning, and will have the paperwork to complete the audit finished this week.
- Legislative Display Day has been scheduled for January 26th in Boise. Linda received support from the board to prepare a display with the other Division I employees. The display will be mailed to Nancy Weatherstone who has volunteered to be in charge of it for Division I. Thank You to Nancy!!!

POBC: Erin Mader reported as follows:

- The space at the Waterlife Discovery Center (WDC) is all set up and working well, including new internet service. She will be using her own cell phone for business. Erin's cell phone bill with the extended minutes will run around \$100 a month. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to pay Erin \$50 a month for her cell phone, *the motion carried.*
- Lake Level Fluctuation: There has been no sign-off yet on the part of the State with BPA, they are still negotiating.
- Pend Oreille Clean Water Alliance (POCWA): Erin attended their meeting recently which includes all local wastewater districts. They are working on a voluntary nutrient management plan for the Pend Oreille River where the local entities would set their own regionalized regulations instead of waiting for federal standards to be set. A site near Baldy Road has been designated to house a regional treatment facility which will include Sandpoint and outlying communities.

OLD BUSINESS

Caribou Critical Habitat: Information was given to the board members for their review.

L*A*S Lake Management Plan DEQ Grant Extension: The district received the Amendment to the original grant extending the deadline from December 31, 2011, to June 30, 2012, and adding \$2,225 to the original sum of \$12,630. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to sign the Grant Amendment, *the motion carried.*

Audit: Linda visited with Panhandle State Bank regarding the auditor's recommendation to have a separate checking account for the payroll deduction bi-monthly. PSB will set up a separate payroll account that will only be accessed by the payroll service. Cassie moved and Alice seconded the motion to have a separate payroll account set up. *The motion carried.* Linda will have the paperwork to present at the February board meeting for the supervisors' signatures.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers for 2012: Alice recommended tabling this until the February meeting when Herman has returned.

IDEA Dues: There was a discussion regarding the cost of travel for the IDEA president. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to pay \$50 instead of \$35 for IDEA dues, and that our district recommends all districts pay an extra \$15. *The motion carried.*

Supervisor Elections: The supervisors up for election in 2012 are Alice Wallace, Vern Hollett, and Cassie Tauber. Linda will look into the County covering the cost of the elections.

Personnel Policy: The board members were given a copy of the existing Bonner SWCD Personnel Policy, and a copy of the ICRMP template Personnel Policy for their review. Issues regarding benefits will be discussed at the next meeting.

TAWG: Delwyn Trefz with the Soil & Water Conservation Commission is setting up a Technical Assistance Work Group to prioritize requests throughout the state for technical assistance. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to recommend Bob Flagor from Kootenai-Shoshone to represent Division I. *The motion carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE

Panhandle Lakes RC&D Thank You for office equipment donated.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of December 2011 minutes

Approval of December 2011 financial report

Approval of paying \$154 for Daily Bee subscription and \$33 for Gem State Miner subscription

Approval of signing Priest River Letter of Agreement for L*A*S assistance

Approval of POBC office space Letter of Agreement between F&G and Bonner SWCD

Approval of Letter of Agreement with POBC regarding services provided by Bonner SWCD through Erin Mader

Approval of asset inventory for POBC being submitted to ICRMP

Approval of paying \$50 cell phone service/month for Erin Mader through Avista grant

Approval of DEQ L*A*S Manual grant extension

Approval of opening a separate payroll checking account

Approval of paying \$50 IDEA dues

Approval of recommending Bob Flagor to TAWG committee for Division I representation