

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: March 6, 2012
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD
Harry Menser, Associate
Greg Becker, NRCS
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Mark Hogen, SWC
Cornel Rasor, Bonner County (2:00 – 3:00)

Absent: Alice Wallace, BSWCD; Cassie Tauber, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Molly McCahon, L*A*S; Erin Mader, POBC

The meeting was called to order at 1:40.

Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the February 7, 2012, minutes, and Vern seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

- Vern reviewed the January financial report and moved it be approved. Dale Cassie seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*
- Herman and Linda reported on their meeting with Tom Gibson from DAD regarding the board's investments. Tom complimented the board on their stewardship over the years regarding investments, and recommended maintaining their conservative approach. He did recommend purchasing a \$30,000 CD from a local bank to help increase interest earned at this time. The board reviewed the CD information presented and Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to purchase the 26 month CD from Horizon Credit Union in Sandpoint at 1.2% interest with the Board Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Treasurer as signatories, *the motion carried.*
- Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to donate \$50 to the Envirothon, *the motion carried.*
- Vern moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve of an additional \$8,000 transferred to the LGIP. *The motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

- Greg is working on the final stages of development for 16 EQIP applications this month. Two of the applications are for hoop houses, which are a result of the article placed in the newspaper. Hoop houses offer up to 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$10,000.
- Greg met with the landowner of the final WQPA contract the district has, and he is on task to complete the contract by May.

L*A*S: Linda gave a short report as Molly was unable to attend. The grants supporting the L*A*S program right now are all very specific regarding deliverables, and so Molly is mainly working on the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan and the Priest River Source Water Protection Plan. Linda suggested asking the County for \$3000 and City for \$1000 funding to cover some of the work Molly does for them. Cornel asked the district to itemize Molly's contributions to the County and send it to him.

POBC: Erin was out of town and submitted a written report covering the following:

POBC was granted funding by JFAC, but it still needs to be approved by the House and Senate. The money would run through DEQ. **OLD BUSINESS**

The SWC Ag TMDL Implementation Plan for Lower Clark Fork River will be addressed at the February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Alice moved and Harry seconded the motion to retain the same officers as last year with Herman Collins as Chairman, Dale Van Stone as Vice-Chairman, and Alice Wallace as Secretary/Treasurer, *the motion carried.*

Potential District Projects: Potential district projects include helping fund the kitchen expansion at the fairgrounds, new park established at the fairgrounds, a 319 road improvement project on Wooded Acres Road, Beach Road, part of Gold Creek Road, or East Spring Creek Road by Lightning Creek. Linda will check with CPA Leonard Schulte regarding the legality of projects that can be funded. Linda and Greg will check with the County regarding their road priorities. 319 applications for projects in 2016 are due by August 1st, the BAG meeting is in October, and funding appropriations are usually in May.

Legislative Days – January 27th in Boise: No one from BSWCD will attend this year.

Division I March Meeting: Linda and Alice will check on a location.

District Health Insurance: Linda will check with our payroll firm, Jim Hutchens PA, regarding options for the district to pay for health insurance for Linda, Molly and Erin and report at the February meeting.

Meeting Calendar for 2015: A suggested calendar was shared with the board which includes 3 meetings of field trips; June, July, and September. This calendar will be reviewed monthly regarding viability.

Civil Rights / EEO: At the suggestion of the NRCS Human Resources department, we will include this topic on the agenda for our meetings. Greg reviewed two items:

- 1) Inappropriate jokes at meetings
- 2) Level of respect for people giving reports

Erin requested input from the board regarding her reports and how much information the board would like, as all her topics are very in-depth. After discussion, it was suggested to have the staff submit written reports, then to limit their reports at the meeting to 5 minutes and to just cover one or two priority topics. Reports could last longer with questions from the board. BSWCD is an active district, and to keep the agendas and meetings manageable, we need to stay focused and on task.

Other: Alice moved and Harry seconded the motion to give Linda a \$100 Christmas bonus, *the motion carried.*

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- The next POBC meeting will be March 20th at 10 am at Panhandle Health. It will include an update from IDFG on LPO fishery numbers, possible scenarios of Priest Lake fishery management, and the latest on the lake level fluctuation. There will also be a presentation from Waterkeeper on the coal trains.

Soil & Water Conservation Commission: Mark Hogen reported as follows:

- The Commissions budget was presented to the legislature and passed.
- April 4th is the next SWC meeting, and these are available to call into.
- The Technical Assistance Work Group has been set, and Billie Brown is the member from Division I.
- Mark will send us some brochures on the RCRDP.

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

- Boat Stations: We received the MOA from ISDA regarding 2 boat inspection stations for this season. Linda presented the proposed schedule for hiring and the board said they could be available at the times suggested. The boat stations will open May 24th through September 10th. The 2 banners for the sides of the boat stations are completed.
- Tree Seedling pick up day will be April 12th at the Delay Farm. The total sales = 29,135 seedlings with a profit around \$3250.

- Forestry Contest is scheduled for May 10th. Longtime supporters will be invited, as well as some of the David Ritz Memorial winners. T-shirts will be sold at the contest, and vests with the FC logo will be offered for sale through Meyer's Sport-Tees. The display is available for 3 different Forestry events prior to the contest.
- Farm census brochures were handed out.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Plan of Work: The board reviewed the Annual Plan of Work. Discussion was held regarding the newsletter and Linda suggested asking Jessica Erickson to help with a district newsletter as long as she is doing one for the Pack River Watershed Council. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to ask Jessica Erickson to help with a semi-annual newsletter, and to include the newsletter in the Annual Plan as well as the other changes in the draft. *The motion carried.*

Personnel Policy: Linda and Herman will check with the Department of Labor on the questions and report to the next meeting.

Idaho Ag in the Classroom: Discussion was held.

Division I Meeting: The Division I Meeting will be held in Bonners Ferry on March 8th at 10:00 am with a presentation on the Kootenai River project. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to pay for registration for the people attending, *the motion carried.* Vern will drive and will leave the office at 8:30.

NEW BUSINESS

Boat Inspection Station for 2012: Vern moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve signing the MOU with ISDA for boat inspection stations at Oldtown and Samuels for the 2012 season, *the motion carried.*

May Board Meeting: Herman and Linda have their final ICRMP training on May 1st which is the normally scheduled date for the district board meeting. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to change the date of the May meeting to Wednesday, May 2nd, at 1:30. *The motion carried.*

ICRMP Risk Management Training: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to pay the registration and mileage for Linda and Herman to attend the May 1st training in Coeur d'Alene, *the motion carried.*

Fair Booth: The cost of a fairbooth has increased from \$40 to \$75. Vern moved and Dale seconded the motion to pay for the booth. The vote was tied, so *Herman cast the deciding vote in favor of paying for the booth.*

MISCELLANEOUS

Herman visited with Anne at the Historical Museum, and they would like to have the journals of Ed Nurmi, the first District Conservationist in Bonner County, and would set up a separate space for his items. Linda will contact Anne.

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 February 2012 minutes

Approval of February 2012 financial report
Approval of investing \$30,000 in a 26 month CD at Horizon
Approval of paying \$50 for Envirothon
Approval of transferring an additional \$8,000 to LGIP
Approval of Annual Plan including requesting Jessica Erickson doing newsletter
Approval of paying registration for Division meeting
Approval of signing MOU with ISDA for 2012 boat inspection stations
Approval of changing May board meeting to Wednesday, May 2nd
Approval of paying for Herman and Linda to attend May 1st ICRMP training in CdA
Approval of paying \$75 for a fair booth

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