

# Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

---



Date: January 6, 2015  
Time: 1:30 pm  
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Molly McCahon, LAS  
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Erin Mader, POBC  
Harry Menser, BSWCD Mark Hogen, SWC  
Vern Hollett, Associate Linda O'Hare, BSWCD  
Greg Becker, NRCS

Absent: Herman Collins, BSWCD; Cassie Tauber, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 by Vice-Chairman Dale Van Stone.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Alice moved to approve the December 2014 minutes, Harry seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

## **Financial Report:**

Alice reviewed the January financial report and moved to approve it, Harry seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Alice moved and Harry seconded the motion to donate \$50 to Envirothon and to pay \$50 IDEA dues for 2015, *the motion carried.*

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

**NRCS by Greg Becker:** Greg reported at the end of the meeting as he was at an appointment.

**POBC by Erin Mader:** Erin is back at work after 3 months of maternity leave. She reported on the December POBC meeting Fish and Game report regarding improved spawning grounds and increased numbers of kokanee in Lake Pend Oreille, as well as the research going on in Priest Lake regarding its fisheries. Erin also reported on the trail being built along the Pend Oreille River between Old Town and Priest River, and eventually to Dover.

**Lake Assist by Molly McCahon:** Molly reviewed her written report which is submitted with the minutes.

## **SWC by Mark Hogen:**

- Mark reported that April 24<sup>th</sup> is the date the SWC needs information from districts regarding projects they would like to complete if they received more funding from the legislature. The request in the recent email from Art Beal is for IASCD.
- Mark reported that the legislative portal is now open – Linda has started on the information for it.
- SWC Training – Mark and other SWC employees received training on Local Hwy Technical Assistance Council funding that could supplement 319 projects. Mark and Molly will look into this more and report at the next meeting.

**BSWCD by Linda O'Hare:** Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. Linda received email confirmation from Matt Voile that the ISDA boat inspection contracts for funding three Bonner County boat inspection stations for 2015 were awaiting legal confirmation and should be mailed shortly.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup>, the BAG meeting is in October, and funding appropriations are usually in May.

**Legislative Days – January 27<sup>th</sup> 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.*

## CORRESPONDENCE

Jeff Burwell's letter to partners regarding his retirement was shared with the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

---

District Supervisor Signature

---

Date

### **Recap of Motions:**

Approval of December minutes

Approval of December financial report

Approval of \$50 donation to Envirothon, and \$50 IDEA dues

Approval of keeping Herman Collins as Chairman, Dale Van Stone as Vice-Chairman, and Alice Wallace as Secretary/Treasurer

Approval of \$100 bonus for Linda