

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 1, 2015
Time: 1:00 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101



Attendance: Herman B. Collins, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Erin Mader, POBC
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Molly McCahon, LAS
Harry Menser, BSWCD Mark Hogen, SWC
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD (1:30) Linda O'Hare, BSWCD

Absent: Fairy Delay, Associate

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 by Chairman Herman Collins.

Approval of Minutes:

Alice moved to approve the July 2015 minutes, Harry seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Alice reviewed the July and August financial reports and moved they be approved. Dale seconded the motion, *the motion carried.* Alice moved to approve the transfer of \$15,000 from LGIP to the district checking account, Harry seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

OLD BUSINESS

Office Internet Upgrade: Expenses for the internet upgrade were reviewed. The \$536.88 total was split between the district and POBC, keeping the district total under the voted on \$300.

Boat Inspection Station Update: Total Idaho inspections are up this year, as are inspections for Bonner County. However, recent smoke from forest fires and the cooling weather have diminished boat traffic. Overall the season has gone well, personnel have been excellent, and 3 mussel boats have been intercepted at our stations.

“UI Restoring Idaho Streams” Class Update: The program on August 14th through UI with both Greg and Linda as speakers was well received, with 24 participants. Chris Schnepf from UI said due to the good turnout and positive responses they are likely to offer it again next summer.

Round Lake Stewardship Trail Donation Request: Donations are being requested to update and improve the Stewardship Trail at Round Lake, which will include 31 redesigned kiosks. Over the last two years IDL, F&G, Round Lake State Park, and Bonner SWCD have met to gather information and finalize the wording on the new kiosks, and now are requesting donations to cover the cost, which is estimated at \$600 per sign. The district tabled this request until the October meeting.

Grouse Creek III Avista Project: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to amend the contract with APEX Construction and pay an additional \$150 above the \$2,956 contract for additional rock work needed on the Pack River streambank stabilization project, *the motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

AIS Bonuses: Dale moved and Harry seconded the motion to give \$200 bonuses to the boat inspectors for their help with selling Aquatic Invasive Species stickers this season, *the motion carried.*

Division I Meeting October 9th at Stensgar Pavilion in Worley: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to pay \$19 registration for our legislators or commissioners invited, as well as for any Bonner SWCD personnel attending, *the motion carried*. At this point Harry, Dale, Cassie, Herman, Molly, Erin, Greg, Sean, and Linda plan to attend.

IASCD Dues: Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to pay the \$1,800 dues to IASCD, *the motion carried*. The board reviewed the IASCD Final Budget Report for FY2015, and discussed attending the Annual Conference in Boise November 15-18th. Dale will attend as he is there for a Water Board meeting.

Water Festival Coordinator's Contract: Dale moved and Harry seconded the motion to approve Gail Bolin's contract at \$18 an hour and with a \$5000 cap, *the motion carried*. Herman and Harry both praised Gail for her efficiency and comradery in running the Water Festival.

Local Work Group: Harry Menser volunteered again to help Greg coordinate the meeting. The date was set at September 16th at Panhandle Health District from 9 to 11. Linda will confirm the date with PHD and send out the invitations tomorrow.

Daily Bee Subscription: Harry moved and Alice seconded the motion to split the cost of the Daily Bee subscription between POBC and the district, *the motion carried*.

ICRMP: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to renew our ICRMP membership and pay the \$1,122 annual member contribution for October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, *the motion carried*. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to reject the offer of additional Terrorism Coverage, *the motion carried*.

RC&D Dissolution: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve and sign the Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. Plan of Liquidation and Dissolution, and include a letter requesting final distribution of funds by October 1, 2015, *the motion carried*.

Civil Rights/EEO: Linda reviewed 4 strategies from Inc.com to make yourself invaluable to your overall organization and the team of people you work with: 1) Aim to understand *everything*; 2) Set the standard; 3) Seek solutions, always; and 4) Own up to good and bad outcomes. Conclusion – these strategies are working well in this office.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS by Greg Becker: Greg emphasized the importance of the Local Work Group process. The deadline for EQIP applications is earlier than usual this year, might be mid-October.

POBC by Erin Mader: Erin reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes.

LAS by Molly McCahon: Molly reviewed her activities this past month which include the fair booth on wildlife habitat which earned the 3rd place ribbon; the CdA Girl Scout camp shoreline buffer was approved with a \$5000 budget but they have decided to upgrade their lawn first so Molly will put on hold ordering the plants that were supposed to be installed this fall; Molly and Erin participated in the outreach education portion of Trout and About for Trout Unlimited on Sunday with good response. Molly is following through with the CFL recycling in Bonner County and has contacted all 11 transfer stations, will get the shipping boxes from Avista to cover them all, and will work with the Public Works department on signage – Molly will supervise putting the boxes at the transfer stations and shipping them when they are full.

SWC by Mark Hogen: 1) Mark reviewed information on a 2017 IASCD/SWC grant program to help districts with funding for match for grants. He will update us as more information is obtained -- they would like to start with \$200,000 and provide it to districts who have received grant funding in 2016 and to districts who have never applied for grants. 2) Mark has been surveying culverts that might need replacement for fish passage and erosion control. He will report again with more information. Herman requested he give a report to the Cocolalla Lake Association.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is submitted with the minutes. Restaurants are beginning to take reservations for Christmas, and Alice volunteered to find a location for the Christmas party. There was a brief discussion on how conservation districts could help with recovery from fires. Linda will check to see if a tour of the Clark Fork Delta can be set up for the October meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.
Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

- Approval of July minutes
- Approval of July and August financial reports
- Approval of \$15,000 transfer from LGIP to checking account
- Approval of additional \$150 amendment to contract with APEX
- Approval of \$200 AIS bonus to each of 16 boat inspectors
- Approval of paying \$19 registration for each legislature, commissioner, and personnel attending
- Approval of paying \$1800 IASCD dues
- Approval of Water Festival Coordinator's contract
- Approval of splitting Daily Bee subscription between POBC and district
- Approval of renewing annual membership with ICRMP for \$1122, and rejecting additional terrorism coverage
- Approval of signing liquidation and dissolution for Panhandle Lakes RC&D, with final distribution of funds by
October 1st

All services of the Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to national origin, race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap. Auxiliary aides or services for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please call 263-5310 five (5) days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made.