

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Tuesday, April 3, 2007
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Federal Building

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD Gary Parker, Lake*A*Syst
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD Cassie Tauber, Guest
Fairy Delay, Associate Jim Abbott, Guest
Greg Becker, NRCS

Absent: Alice Wallace, Supervisor; Ray Delay, Supervisor; Ed Nurmi, Associate;
Jamie Davis, IASCD

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman Herman Collins. Herman introduced Jim Abbott, Ed Nurmi's step-son. Jim said Ed had asked him to come to our meeting and let us know that Ed would not be coming to Sandpoint this spring as his health at this time would not allow it. Jim gave our office a box of Ed's field diaries from the 1930's and 40's when Ed was the District Conservationist in Sandpoint.

Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the March 2007 minutes as presented. Vern seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Herman reviewed the financial records for March 2007; Vern moved they be approved. Dale seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reviewed his written report:

- We have 14 2007 EQIP contracts that will need to be reviewed by the board and approved at the May and June meetings. As the applications are finished and ready for review, Greg and Mike will call Dale and Herman to come in and review 5 at a time, then present them at the board meetings for approval.
- As a result of the meeting with the County Commissioners, our office will be more involved with subdivision review through Planning and Zoning. Herman will stop in the office to sign the first opinion letter to Planning & Zoning on Wednesday. Discussion followed on attendance at P&Z meetings - it was decided that would be too time consuming, but recommended attending if a meeting was focusing on an interest of our office.
- WRPs are up to 5 for 2008 and EQIPs are up to 15 for 2008.
- Greg was at Myrtle Creek yesterday for the snow survey, and the overall moisture is slightly below average.
- Greg reviewed the letter he and Jamie prepared to Ag producers in the Cocolalla area to inform them of two meetings in Cocolalla where they will be present information on

voluntary technical and/or cost-share opportunities available in Bonner County. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve the letter and have Board Chairman Collins sign it. *The motion carried.* Cassie expressed concern over the possibility of getting too many EQIP applications, and Greg said the ranking process would be utilized if we had more applications than funds available.

IASC: The board reviewed Jamie's written report, as she was gone doing field work with Mark Hogan.

- Meetings attended: March 20th Pend Oreille River Tributaries WAG; SEEP practice class; Lake*A*Syst program expansion meeting March 8 and Steering Committee meeting March 21,; March 15th Division I meeting; March 23 POL Nearshore meeting; County Commissioners March 22nd and presented informational letter; March 26-27 in CdA for Western Aquatic Plant management Society conference re Eurasian watermilfoil; March 28 Division I NRCS Management Team meeting in CdA and received training on NEPA and ESA-related planning items
- Met with Cocolalla Lake Association Land Use committee member regarding agricultural areas and landowners for development of mailing list and potential inventory permission for 2007 SVAP for TMDL implementation plan development. Greg and Jamie will present technical assistance and cost-share opportunities to watershed residents May 15th and June 19th.
- Pack River SVAP summaries completed. Development of TMDL Implementation Plan in progress.
- Updated SEEP contractor list and mailed SEEP brochures to those on current list.
- Coordinated with ISDA for milfoil residue sampling and analysis
- Assisted Greg with Schweitzer Snotel ground-truth

LAKE*A*SYST: Gary Parker reported as follows:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force held a public meeting March 6th for input – 120 attended, 45 registered comments. Task Force met 3 other times in March to finalize grant proposal to state – the request totaled \$2.4 million for Bonner County
- Met March 8th with Tony Bennett, Lance Holloway, Mark Hogen, Greg, Jamie, Herman, Alice and Linda to discuss future of program and possibility of a Division I coordinator.
- Met with County Commissioners March 22 and presented information on LAS.
- Division I meeting on March 15th – did site tour of Memorial BMP demonstration project
- Native Plant Society power point presentation March 24th – 30 in attendance
- Met with Kathy Dingman to set up Lake*A*Syst website - it is up and running
- Met with Scott Daily with Full circle Design and reporter Keith Kinnaird at Memorial site – story to be in Monday's Daily Bee
- Upcoming presentations: April 10 in Sandpoint at Federal Building, April 17th Hope Community Hall, Arbor Day presentation and BMP tour on April 27. Board members were invited to attend.
- Milfoil samples will be sent Thursday to State Dept of Ag for testing

BSWCD: Linda O'Hare reported as follows:

- Hellroaring: Rob Sampson will re-evaluate project in June
- 319 Grant: DEQ needs approval of sub-grant amendment for additional \$910 for project.
- Forestry Contest: April newsletters will go out next week, we should know estimate of numbers by April 13th. We have received \$6072 in donations so far. Still waiting for a few more.
- Water Festival: Numbers have stabilized around 400 so we don't have to add stations.

- Tree Sale: Have sold 23,280 seedlings at a profit of \$4,847.30.
- Chamber: Next luncheon presentation is April 12th, and Dwayne Parsons will speak on the Humbird restoration area. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to pay registration for Gary and Linda to attend. *The motion carried.*
- Requested and received permission for Linda and Gary to present tree ID to 6th graders May 14th at Idaho Hills Elementary in Newport.
- Linda reviewed the request of the auditor to pay supervisors per diem within the fiscal year, not the calendar year. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to compute and pay per diem for supervisors in both June and December. *The motion carried.*

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting with County Commissioners re Letter of Intent:

Our meeting went well with the County Commissioners, and we all were impressed by their sincerity with regard to conservation practices in Bonner County. We received word that they did approve of our funding for FY2008 for \$12,500.

FY2008 Plan of Work: Public and agency comments were incorporated into our FY2008 Plan of Work, and it was presented for board approval. Vern moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the FY2008 Plan of Work. *The motion carried.*

FY2008 Budget: After revisions, Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve the FY2009 budget. *The motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

Fairbooth: The theme for the fair this year is “All American Celebration”. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to get a double booth for \$80 this year, and split the cost between LAS and BSWCD. *The motion carried.*

319 Subgrant: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve Herman sign the 319 Subgrant for the additional \$910 for the Pack River Road project. *The motion carried.*

Chamber Dues: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to pay Chamber dues of \$100. *The motion carried.*

Women’s History Month: Greg took pictures of Associate Fairy Delay, Guest Cassie Tauber, and he will take a picture of Supervisor Alice Wallace to send to Boise as members involved on our board – for Women’s History Month.

Conservation District Insurance Coverage: The board reviewed the information from the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission regarding the change in insurance carrier and the increase in cost. Cassie recommended that be added to our FY2009 budget. Dale asked Linda to call to get clarification on the \$20,000 deductible and to review insurance coverage on the Hellroaring Project.

Envirothon: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to send Envirothon \$50. *The motion carried.*

Tri-State Semi-Annual Conference: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to cover Herman's expenses for attending the Tri-State Conference. *The motion carried.*

Herman thanked Fairy for coming to the meeting, and asked her to express our regards to Ray. We look forward to seeing him at the Forestry Contest.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of March 2007 Minutes

Approval of March 2007 Financial Reports

Approval of signing letter to ag producers in Cocolalla Lake area regarding technical assistance and cost-share programs

Approval of paying registration for Gary & Jamie for April 12th Chamber luncheon

Approval of paying supervisor per diem the end of June and end of December

Approval of FY2008 Plan of Work

Approval of FY2009 Budget

Approval of paying \$40 from BSWCD and \$40 from LAS for double fair booth

Approval of signing 319 Sub-grant for the additional \$910 on the Pack River Road project

Approval of paying \$100 Chamber dues

Approval of paying \$50 donation to Envirothon

Approval of paying Herman's expenses for Tri-State conference

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