

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 7, 2017
Time: 1:00 pm Meeting
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Sandpoint, ID



Attendance:

Alice Wallace, BSWCD	Greg Becker, NRCS
Harry Menser, BSWCD	Amanda Abajian, BSWCD
Herman Collins, BSWCD	Brad Shelton, SWCC
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD	Molly McCahon, POBC
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD	Terry McGuirk, BSWCD
Erin Mader, IFG	Jessica Erikson, PRWC

Absent: Jennifer Jensen, U of I
Guest: Belinda Knapton

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 by Chairwoman Alice Wallace.

Approval of Minutes: Cassie moved, seconded by Dale, to approve the November 2017 minutes, *the motion carried.*

Financial Report: Cassie moved, and Dale seconded, the motion to approve the September and October financials, *the motion carried.*

Supervisor Mileage Reports: Board members reviewed, completed and signed mileage reports for July 2017 – December 2017. Amanda will present reimbursement checks to board members at Christmas meeting on December 13th.

Horizon Credit Union Account Renewal: Two CD accounts with Horizon Credit Union are set to renew on December 22nd with a 1.200% rate of return. Harry expressed to the board the option of investing in Verizon bonds which currently have a rate of 5.192% for a 30-year bond. The board requested that Amanda research the option of switching to Verizon bonds with a local financial advisor.

OLD BUSINESS

Health Insurance 2018: Amanda presented her 2018 health insurance policy to the board. Amanda's policy for 2018 will have a deductible of \$6,000 and max out-of-pocket of \$7,350. The monthly premium with tax credit for the policy is \$366.41. Dale moved, and Cassie seconded, the motion to pay for Amanda's full monthly premium of \$366.41, *the motion carried.* Dale expressed his concern about the amount of Amanda's deductible and presented the option to the board of paying up to half of the \$6,000 on a claim-by-claim basis. Individual health claims would need to be presented to the board before payment would be issued to Amanda. Amanda would be responsible for half of the claim cost for each claim. The board would not exceed the \$3,000 amount annually. Herman expressed his concern on how you would identify which claims would be covered by the board, and which ones would not. Amanda and Alice will meet with Leonard Schulte to discuss the most beneficial way to setup a support for Amanda with her health insurance claims.

Molly expressed to the board that she has not decided if she will be enrolling in an insurance plan for 2018 due to monthly costs and extremely high deductibles. Molly will send her board the decision in the upcoming weeks.

Office Holiday Donation: Amanda presented the board with 3 options for our holiday Christmas donation. Option 1 is to adopt a specific family from Farmin-Stidwell that is in need of support for the children. Option 2 is to donate the collected money to the Food For Our Children program, and option 3 is to donate the collected money to our local

food bank. The board discussed the three options and decided the donation would be best served by helping the family in need from Farmin-Stidwell. In lieu of purchasing presents for the upcoming Bonner SWCD Christmas meeting, individuals will bring a \$10-\$20 donation to the event on December 13th. Terry McGuirk will collect information on the family member's ages, sizes, etc. beforehand. Alice Wallace will use the money donated to shop for food at the local food bank and then drop off with Terry McGuirk. Terry or another staff member of Farm-Stidwell will deliver the food and presents to the family on the last day before Christmas break.

IASCD State Conference Report: Amanda presented to the board that Molly McCahon, Cassie Tauber and herself attended State Conference in Boise from November 14th through the 17th. Amanda gave a report on the Forestry Contest during the dinner of the first night of the conference. Amanda expressed her gratitude in being able to attend the event and prepare for the upcoming State Conference that will be taking place in Division I in 2018.

Bonner SWCD Christmas Meeting: The Bonner SWCD Christmas Meeting will be on December 13th at Ivano's at 5pm.

NEW BUSINESS

FY2017 Audit: Amanda presented to the board the completed audit draft sent over by Leonard Schulte. Leonard found a mistake on the boat grant. Expense of insurance was over accounted for and too much funding was taken out of ledgers in 2016 & 2017. Amanda provided Leonard with correct insurance amount and made plans on fixing the problem in the ledgers with ISDA. Linda spoke with ISDA to communicate the mistake and it was decided we will carry-over additional funds into the 2018 boat inspection station season. Dale moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve and pay for the FY2017 audit as presented by Leonard Schulte, *the motion carried.*

Regional Invasive Species Update: Molly reported on Regional AIS issues. She attended the Columbia AIS Team meeting in Portland last week and learned what other inspection stations in the Pacific Northwest are doing. She mentioned they were all different and talked about how some are using mussel sniffing dogs and Alberta implemented a secret boater program where a boat made its way through various provinces and stations to determine benefits and problems. Molly reported that Idaho received 2.5 million in additional funding from the State, 1 million in WRRDA funding from the Corp and then will also have approx. 1.2 million from sticker sales.

Community Kitchen Support Letter: Cassie reviewed the support letter that was sent out to the Bonner County Economic Development Corporation on behalf of Bonner SWCD. Cassie presented to the board that she would like Bonner SWCD to check-in on the Community Kitchen on a regular basis to confirm that the non-profit in charge of the community kitchen is upholding their end of the agreement. The new community kitchen will be based out of the Bonner Mall and the space will be donated for the 1st year for \$1.00.

IASCD Legislative Days: Dale moved, and Harry seconded, the motion the pay for all expenses for Amanda to attend the IASCD Legislative Days in Boise on January 15th – 16th, *the motion carried.*

QuickBooks Training: Amanda presented to the board that Cassie Olson with Boundary SCD found an individual that would be willing to run an afternoon of QuickBooks training in Bonners Ferry on December 8th. Funding for the training, and all travel expenses, would be covered by the IDEA Division I training scholarship for \$500.00. Herman moved, and Harry seconded, the motion for Amanda to attend the QuickBooks training in Bonners Ferry on December 8th.

Civil Rights / EEO: Greg presented to the board that interviews for a summer intern with NRCS will begin next week.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Greg Becker: Greg advised the board that the opportunity for the district to create a working agreement with NRCS is available. The district employee would help mainly with farm bill contracting and data entry. The district has participated in a working agreement in the past, and the opportunity to create a more structural agreement is available. The board agreed they would like to revisit this opportunity in June of 2018.

Greg presented to the board the prospect of a shared district conservationist position between the Bonner's Ferry and Bonner County offices. Time would be split evenly between the two offices. Greg has been traveling between the two offices for the last couple of months now and has not seen any issues arise from it that cannot be fixed. Greg advised he would be supportive of this change.

POBC & LAS Molly McCahon: Molly reviewed her report as a part of the Regional Invasive Species Update.

SWCC Brad Shelton: Brad advised the board that Delwyne recently had an accident and has been out of the office due to the injury. He should be accessible part-time now via email.

PRWC Jessica Erikson: Jessica presented to the board that she organized a Pack River cleanup with the pack river pioneers and collected over 10 bags of garbage in 30 gallon bags! Jessica helped Raegan with the Kaniksu Land Trust teach a water quality station for a student field trip.

Jessica completed her fall monitoring of the temperature loggers on the Pack River and submitted the quarterly and final reports to Avista. Ken Bouwens with IDFG recommended expanding the temperature loggers and 5 new loggers were installed on Grouse Creek.

Jessica advised the board that Ken Bouwens with IDFG, with her support, put together a proposal for funding for a watershed assessment on Caribou Creek and Hellroaring Creek to Avista for \$65k.

Idaho Forest Group Erin Mader: Erin updated the board on her position with the Idaho Forest Group in work force development, and the need to broaden our youths understanding of the benefits of technical education for mill jobs. Erin expressed to the board the idea of expanding the Forestry Contest to include some type of mill education for the students. Erin also requested information on the district tree sale to provide to clients for reforestation projects.

Bonner SWCD by Amanda Abajian: Amanda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05.

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of November minutes

Approval of November financials

Approval of paying for Amanda's 2018 monthly health insurance premium

Approval of FY2017 audit draft and payment to Leonard Schulte

Approval of paying for all expenses for Amanda to attend Legislative Days in Boise

Approval of Amanda attending QuickBooks training in Bonner's Ferry