

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: February 4, 2014
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Alice Wallace, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD
Harry Menser, Associate
Greg Becker, NRCS
Molly McCahon, Lake Assist
Mark Hogen, SWC
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Scott Hanson, Independent Hwy District

Absent: Vern Hollett, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Erin Mader, POBC

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 1:30, and introduced Scott Hanson from the Independent Highway District. Scott updated the board regarding Schweitzer Road and the process of keeping it safe for travel for local residents and for ski traffic, while protecting the watershed for the drinking water intake that is there. They have started their own salt brine facility to help take care of the 18 lane miles of road they are in charge of. The salt they use is from Salt Lake, and is crushed, screened, washed, and kiln dried before mixing it with water for ice and snow removal. DEQ testing regarding the drinking water site has shown no concentrations showing up since this treatment process has started, and also no buildup of sand. Four years ago 2842 cubic yards of sand was used on Schweitzer road, last year 980 cubic yards of sand was used along with 50,370 gallons of salt brine. 35 gallons of salt brine is the normal treatment per lane mile. Herman thanked Scott for the great job they are doing and for updating the board.

NRCS by Greg Becker: Greg had to leave early, so his report was given at this time.

- Work has begun on a Farm and Ranch Protection Program contract of over 300 acres along the Pack River. It involves ag and forestry management with grazing and haying to continue, but with no residential or business development on the property. Kaniksu Land Trust is also a partner.
- Greg spoke to the Cattlemen's Association on Saturday to update them on NRCS Farm Bill programs. He also updated them on district activities, as well as district support for Ag Tourism. One request was received from the group regarding planning & zoning protection for ag land.
- Friday, February 7th is the deadline for the Conservation Stewardship Program. An anniversary payment is given once a year for 5 years on what the landowner is already doing for conservation, along with completion of habitat or other enhancements. There is a three-page application.
- Greg completed a County subdivision review for the Blanchard area.

Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the December minutes; Alice seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Herman reviewed the January financial reports and recommended they be approved. Alice moved to approve the January financial reports, Cassie seconded the motion, *the motion carried.* Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to donate \$50 to Envirothon, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

POBC by Erin Mader: Erin was on vacation, her written report is included with the minutes.

Lake Assist by Molly McCahon:

- The EPA EE grant application for \$80,000 to expand the Water Festival to four more sites was submitted yesterday. We should know if it is approved by April.

- Nearshore TMDL Committee: On March 7th Molly will be one of the presenters at a training headed by Panhandle Health District for Realtors on permits, septic, setbacks, buffers, etc. Cassie offered to help.
- Molly put the website bonnerswcd.org she has been designing for the district online this week. It still has areas that need to be added and completed, but Molly reviewed it with the board and it was well received.

SWC by Mark Hogen: Mark presented the following information:

- He is attending the 75th anniversary of SWC in Boise next Wednesday, and will take brochures to share from K-S and Benewah.
- Mark is helping Greg with Pine Creek, a tributary to the Lower West Branch of Priest River.
- Mark has given information to a Bonner County landowner regarding RCRDP, and has directed her to Greg and the district also for EQIP information.
- Leon Slichter from Grangeville has replaced Dick Bronson on the SWC board.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve of Linda's expenses for traveling to Boise for the SWC 75th Anniversary February 12th, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Lake Assist: Cassie moved and Alice seconded the motion to approve the employee contract with Molly, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Dale moved and Alice seconded the motion to elect Herman Collins as Chairman and Dale Van Stone as Vice-Chairman, the motion carried. Cassie moved to elect Alice as Treasurer, Dale seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Supervisor Election in November 2014: Herman Collins and Dale Van Stone will be up for re-election to their four-year supervisor positions in November. Petitions are due in September.

Budget for FY2015: The proposed budget was reviewed and revised. Alice moved to approve the proposed revised budget, Dale seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Boat Inspection Stations for 2014: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the ISDA contract presented to the board for the boat inspection stations in 2014 for \$106,964, the motion carried.

Division I Spring Meeting: The meeting is temporarily scheduled for March 27th in Hayden. Herman has been chosen from Division I on the IASCD committee reviewing the IASCD dues structure. The board discussed different options, and will suggest to Billie to include dues structure on the agenda at the Division Meeting.

Annual Plan of Work: The board reviewed and revised the FY2014 Annual Plan of Work. The final version will be presented at the March 4th board meeting.

IRA and District Administrator Medical Insurance: Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve \$500 to the District Administrator annually for retirement, not as a SEP IRA as listed in the personnel policy. Changes to the personnel policy will be addressed at the March board meeting. Linda's insurance premium has decreased with her change of insurance and is now \$262. Alice moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve of paying Linda's insurance at \$262 per month, the motion carried.

Personnel Policy Review: This was tabled until the March board meeting.

MOU with Army Corps of Engineers for Water Festival: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the MOU with Army Corps of Engineers for Water Festival in 2014, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of January minutes

Approval of January financial reports

Approval of \$50 donation to Envirothon

Approval of Linda's expenses to Boise for SWC February 12th

Approval of Lake Assist contract for Molly McCahon

Approval of 2014 officers: Herman Collins, Chairman; Dale Van Stone, Vice-Chairman; Alice Wallace, Treasurer

Approval of FY2015 budget

Approval of MOU with ISDA for boat inspection stations

Approval of \$500 retirement for district administrator

Approval of changing district administrator monthly insurance from \$325 to \$261

Approval of MOU with ACE for Water Festival in 2014

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.