

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: September 10, 2013
Time: 10:00 am
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD Erin Mader, POBC
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD Mark Hogen, SWC
Alice Wallace, BSWCD Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD
Greg Becker, NRCS

Absent: Vern Hollett, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Harry Menser, Associate; Molly McCahon, L*A*S

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 10:05. Harry Menser was unable to attend the meeting, but had seen Vern Hollett's wife and Vern is now at home and doing well.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Financial Report:

Herman reviewed the July and September financial reports and recommended they be approved. Alice moved to approve the July and September financial reports, Cassie seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS by Greg Becker:

- Greg reviewed the County's request for a letter of support regarding the demolition of the Pack River residence in the confluence of the Pack River and Grouse Creek. Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to send this letter of support, *the motion carried.*
- The Sandpoint Field Office went through a national Farm Bill contract audit on August 22nd, and did well. Ten contracts were reviewed with 4 of them in the field. One of the contracts which was reviewed had a landowner who did not pay their contractor the full amount of the contract. Greg had given his technical approval for payment, but the landowner withheld part of it. The board debated this issue, and decided that if this same landowner seeks another Farm Bill contract, the board would write a letter saying they would not support him receiving another contract unless he paid his contractor the full amount designated if the contractor completed the work correctly. Alice moved and Dale seconded a motion to write the letter regarding full payment to the contractor if this landowner applies again, *the motion carried.*
- Kirk Sehlmeier from our office is working out of the Mountain Home field office for two weeks helping in the aftermath of the Bear Creek fire.

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

Lake*A*Syst by Molly McCahon: Molly submitted a written report which is included with the minutes.

Soil & Water Conservation Commission: Mark Hogen suggested everyone check out the new website for the SWC. All SWC employees have recently received social media training. The SWC is putting out a monthly newsletter and it features district success stories. The Grouse Creek II streambank project would be a good before and after story to submit to it.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. Discussion was held on the expected closure of RC&D the end of November and the status of the tree seedling program. The assets of a 501c3 can be transferred to a government entity, so the seed bank and orchard ownership could be transferred to

a conservation district, but not to Division I. If that happened, an MOU with the Division I districts would govern how the seedling program would be run – probably the profits would pay for someone to administer the nursery aspects, and someone to administer the seedling orders duties. Another option would be to have a private person purchase the seed bank and orchard ownership, and run the program similar to RC&D with the districts continuing to buy from them. Ed Schneider, the former RC&D Forestry Committee Chairman, has expressed an interest in doing this. The board fully supported this option.

OLD BUSINESS

FY2014 POBC Contract: Erin and Linda reviewed the need to revise the existing contract for the Pend Oreille Basin Commission between Bonner SWCD and IDEQ. Lakes Commission board member Douglas Conde presented the two following 2 changes:

- 1) This amendment provides a cost adjustment in support of project activities: administering Pend Oreille Basin Commission; contract, work plan tracking and disbursement of contract **funds as authorized by the Legislature.**”
- 2) Change the proposed budget for FY2014 by adding a line item for **FY2013 unexpended funds to be spent on Commission projects -- \$14,375.76.** Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the revised POBC contract between the Lakes Commission and Bonner SWCD, *the motion carried.*

SWC FY2013 Financial & Match Report: Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the final version of the Financial and Match Report for FY2013, *the motion carried.*

Grouse Creek II: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to approve the mid-contract payment to APEX Construction of \$53,582.00 after the technical advice of Greg Becker, NRCS, and to include in our standard contract language to include partial payment when the contract work has NRCS approval midway through a contract. *The motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

L*A*S Update: Alice moved and Dale seconded the motion to end Jace Bylenga’s work contract for L*A*S on August 14, 2013, *the motion carried.* Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to sign a contract with Molly McCahon through October 15, 2013, to complete the work of 3 L*A*S Grants, Priest River SWP, Dover & Laclede SWP, and the 319 L*A*S grant. *The motion carried.* After review of the L*A*S program at this time, the board approved of establishing a Steering Committee meeting to set priorities for L*A*S, review potential projects and potential grants, then to discuss the hiring of a L*A*S Coordinator and their funding – probably at the November district board meeting. Greg, Erin, Cassie, and Herman volunteered to be on the committee, and other names suggested were Tom Herron, Yvonne Pettit, Kody Van Dyke, and Michelle Anderson. At this time Alice Wallace had to leave the meeting.

Division I Meeting October 10th at Centennial Plaza in CdA: The Tree Seedling Program will be on the agenda and all board members were encouraged to attend. Final count will be taken at the October 1st board meeting, but as of this time Herman, Cassie and Dale all intend to attend.

State Conference – Boise, November 17-20: Attendance will be determined at the October meeting.

New District Website: The quote from Keokee was around \$1000 for the transfer and establishment of a website with them, with monthly additions and maintenance at \$85 per hour. Linda will look for more options.

Boat Inspection Attendant Bonus: Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to give all the attendants who will be asked back next year \$100 bonuses from the AIS vendor fee, *the motion carried.*

WaterJet Stinger Lease: Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to add Boundary County to our lease area for the WaterJet Stinger, and to charge \$25 for the first day plus \$15 for every day after the first, along with the existing \$100 refundable deposit. *The motion carried.*

Our next meeting will be October 1st at 1:30. There will be an opportunity to help cut willows at the Willow Nursery on October 8th – meet at our office at 8:30.

Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to go into Executive Session as per Idaho Code 67-2345, the motion carried.

Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to exit Executive Session as per Idaho Code 67-2345, the motion carried.

In Executive Session Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to give Linda a \$1.00 per hour raise, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.
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 September financial reports

Approval of a support letter to the County regarding removal of the Pack River home in the floodway

Approval of the district writing a letter of support regarding full payment of NRCS contracts by landowners

Approval of 2 changes in contract for POBC between Bonner SWCD and IDEQ

Approval of FY2013 Financial and Match Report sent to SWC

Approval of mid-contract payment to APEX on Grouse Creek II, and approval of changing language in standard contract to accommodate this in the future

Approval of terminating Jace Bylenga's L*A*S contract

Approval of hiring Molly McCahon as L*A*S Coordinator through October 15, 2013

Approval of a \$100 bonus to all boat inspection attendants who will be asked to return next year

Approval of adding Boundary County to WaterJet Stinger lease agreement, as well as charging \$25 for first day, \$15 for every day after the first, and continuing the \$100 returnable deposit

Approval of going into Executive Session

Approval of exiting Executive Session

Approval of a \$1.00/hour raise for Linda

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.