

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: November 12, 2013
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD
Greg Becker, NRCS
Guest: John Floyd, Ponderay County WA District Supervisor

Erin Mader, POBC
Mark Hogen, SWC
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Molly McCahon, L*A*S
Brad Bluemer, Bonner Co. Weed Dept.

Absent: Alice Wallace, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Harry Menser, Associate

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 1:30. Herman welcomed Guest John Floyd, a Conservationist District Supervisor in Newport, Washington, with Ponderay County.

Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the October minutes; Vern seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Herman reviewed the October financial reports and recommended they be approved. Dale moved to approve the October financial report, Cassie seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

John Floyd, Ponderay County District Supervisor: John reported that one of the things he is interested in is outdoor education, and their District is interested in participating in or helping with our Water Festival. They are also part of a 3-county effort involved with the Children's Forest Strategic Plan with a goal of reducing childhood obesity and promoting family education. They are also involved with the American Wilderness Leadership School promoting environmental education in the Classroom. Teachers may attend for \$900 in Jackson, Wyoming.

NRCS by Greg Becker:

- The Grouse Creek II project is almost done. Greg, Kirk and Sean have all been involved in the project with gathering willows and with planting cottonwoods, alder, and dogwood along the shoreline of this project.
- They are accepting 2014 cost-share applications.
- Army Corps of Engineers has requested their help on several wetland violations.
- Greg thanked the district for their door prize donation at the LIA dinner in Moscow where he spoke.

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

Lake*A*Syst by Molly McCahon:

- Molly reported that she is working on closing the 3 existing grants for L*A*S. The 319 grant should be finished by the end of November, whereas the Dover/Laclede Source Water Protection grant will carry on for a few more months with the post-card monitoring survey. The Priest River SWP grant has extra funding for workshops they would like Molly to help with, and this activity can be completed before the deadline next August.
- The L*A*S website needs to be re-established before the end of 2013 due to the changes at RC&D. Linda will learn more at state conference next week regarding setting up new websites.
- The brainstorming meeting for new ideas and projects for the L*A*S program will be tomorrow, November 13th, at 9am at Panhandle Health. 16 resource professionals have replied that they will attend.

- Erin has directed \$3500 toward the L*A*S program with specific tasks Molly will help with.

Soil & Water Conservation Commission by Mark Hogen: Mark shared copies of this month's SWC newsletter which featured the Wood's livestock waste barn in Boundary County. Mark said the October issue with the story on the boat inspection stations was great also.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. There was a suggestion on using a small chainsaw for future willow cutting projects – the district could either buy a small one or rent a couple chainsaws for those days of large harvesting.

Bonner County Weed Department by Brad Bluemer: Brad stated that a new 5-year MOU for Selkirk Cooperative Weed Management Area is ready for signature by all the members. Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to sign the MOU, *the motion carried*. Brad reminded everyone that through the SCWMA he has dollars to help with weed control especially on private property, and also on parks, easements, and conservation projects. Brad also said he would like to help or encourage any flowering rush pulls.

OLD BUSINESS

RC&D Update: Cassie reported at the November 7th PLRC&D meeting the tree seedling program was turned over to IFOA (Idaho Forest Owners Association), they rescinded the dissolution so RC&D will be moved into Panhandle Area Council headquarters, and new officers were elected. Cassie will remain in her term as Vice-Chairman for another year and a half. Cassie requested that in 3 months they re-evaluate their programs and where they are. Right now there is \$60,000 in the budget to split between dues paying members. Also, they approved of 20 more hours for Nina to do transfers by the end of the year.

Division I Meeting Report: None

IASCD Conference in Boise, Nov 17-20: Herman and Linda will attend.

District Website: Linda will attend SWC training on district websites at state conference.

Grouse Creek II Project Update: 4500 willows were harvested on October 15th, and on October 17th volunteers cut 2800 more, for a total of 7300 willows for this Grouse Creek II streambank restoration project. Volunteers were from the conservation district, Soil Conservation Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Forest Service, and Master Naturalists. 400 gallon-size trees were also planted. Seed has been spread, and the project will be completed when protectors are put in and the as-built is received.

NEW BUSINESS

NACD Dues: This was tabled until the December 3rd meeting.

SWC District Performance Report: Rough drafts of the 2013 Performance Report were reviewed, and ready for input at the December meeting. The board requested an update from Greg on the Schweitzer Road project, but thought we could take it off our project list on the Commission report.

Pack River Watershed Council Funding Request: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to request funding for 2014 equal to the 2013 total expenses, *the motion carried*.

Water Festival Coordinator Position: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to hire Gail Bolin as the Coordinator for the 2nd year, with a contract maximum of \$5000, *the motion carried*.

December Meeting: We will have a regular board meeting on December 3rd at 1:30. Our Christmas meeting will be Wednesday, December 18th, at Trinity at City Beach. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to have the district pay for board members, associates, and office staff, *the motion carried*.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of October minutes

Approval of October financial reports

Approval of signing new 5-year MOU with SCWMA

Approval of requesting funding for PRWC in 2014 totaling the 2013 expenses

Approval of offering Gail Bolin the Coordinator contract for a maximum of \$5000 for 2014 Water Festival

Approval of paying registration for supervisors, associates, and office staff for the Christmas meeting

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.