

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: March 5, 2013
Time: 1:30 pm
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD
Vern Hollett, BSWCD
Cassie Tauber, Associate
Sean Johnson, NRCS
Jace Bylenga, LAS

Erin Mader, POBC
Mark Hogen, SWC
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD
Brad Bluemer, County Weed Supt.
Tom Herron, IDEQ
Guest Speaker: Lisa Derr, Pend Oreille Shores Resort

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

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 1:30, and introduced Lisa Derr from the Pend Oreille Shores Resort. Lisa presented her five-year water conservation journey that began with the need to conserve water as their two wells were running dry, as well as the need to decrease their wastewater flow. The Resort originally used two drain fields to apply their effluent. Increasing costs for the use of one of the drain fields and environmental protections squeezed them into a desperate search for a way to deal with their effluent while protecting the lake that they love. The Resort installed water saving bathroom fixtures which reduced their water usage by 40% and established their own drain field. The single drain field is now capable of handling all the effluent they produce and their wells are less tapped. This is a very compelling story with many setbacks and great determination to find an answer that preserves the integrity of the lake, which is the backbone of their resort industry.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Financial Report:

Vern reviewed the February financial report and moved that it be approved. Dale seconded the motion, *the motion carried.* Dale moved to approve sending \$50 to Envirothon, Vern seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS by Greg Becker: Greg was in Boise; his written report was reviewed and is included with the minutes.

- The board requested Kathy Cousins be asked to speak at the next meeting regarding our field office's role in partnering with the Clark Fork Delta restoration project.

Lake*A*Syst by Jace Bylenga: Jace completed getting the signatures on both the Dover and Laclede MOA's regarding their match toward the 2012 Source Water Protection Grant. His knee surgery is March 13th and he will probably be out up to 2 weeks after that. DEQ has contacted him regarding participation by L*A*S in a project at Fernan Lake. He will know more by the next meeting.

POBC by Erin Mader: Erin reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. The Bonner County Task Force is disbanding, a decision of the County Commissioners since most of the decisions regarding treatment in the lake are done now by ISDA.

SWC by Mark Hogen: Mark reviewed his written report which is included with the minutes. Mark will help Linda with SWC assistance requests which are due March 31st. Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve the requests, *the motion carried.* Mark reported that JAFAC this morning approved an additional \$50,000 funding for districts, making the 2:1 match up from 1.28:1 to 1.38:1.

BSWCD by Linda O'Hare: Linda reviewed her written report which is included with the minutes. Thank you pictures from members of Daisy Troop for using the animal tracks were displayed in the board room.

- Water Festival on May 16 & 17: We still are in need of donations. Fly film festival will be April 19th and 20th with Big R and Trout Unlimited

Bonner County Weed Department by Brad Bluemer: Brad reported that he is gathering information to apply for a USDA/NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant that now has an aquatic noxious weed component. He would like to help private dock owners with treatment of aquatic weeds instead of them applying pesticides not approved for water. University of Idaho has some newly researched methods of treatment that would be utilized. There is a possibility the district could administer the grant – Brad will gather more information.

IDEQ by Tom Herron:

- Tom presented a contract from DEQ for L*A*S funding through June 2013 for \$2000. Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve signing the \$2000 L*A*S contract, *the motion carried.*
- There are several aspects to their Healthy Forests Watershed Grant with IDL, and one aspect would include requesting assistance of the L*A*S program in the Fernan Lake Watershed. Jace, L*A*S coordinator, will meet with Kristin Larson from DEQ for more details.
- Tom is working with other agencies regarding getting Cocolalla Creek back into its channel and decreasing its overland flow into wetlands.

OLD BUSINESS

Round Lake Stewardship Trail: Linda reviewed the Committee’s progress; Vern moved and Cassie seconded the motion to propose the district administer funds for a 5% administration fee for the improvement process on the Round Lake Stewardship Trail. *The motion carried.*

L*A*S SWP MOA’s: The Memorandum of Agreements with Dover and Laclede have finally been signed by those groups for their part on the grant. Dale moved to sign the MOA’s. Vern seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Division I Spring Meeting: This meeting scheduled for March 7th has been cancelled due to a medical emergency in Division I Director Billie Brown’s family. It will not be re-scheduled due to the busy schedules of supervisors and staff in the spring.

Idaho Ag in the Classroom: No donation will be given this year.

Annual Plan of Work and Update of Five-Year Plan: After review, Cassie moved to approve the Annual Plan of Work and the Update of the Five-Year Plan. Dale seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter: Linda met with Jessica Erickson to review the Annual Plan of Work and all the topics it lists to be included in the district newsletter. Funding for this expanded newsletter was received from the Soil Conservation Commission. Linda included a list of all topics for the board and asked for any other suggestions.

Boat Inspection Station Hiring: Inspector positions for the 2013 season will be advertised March 7th – 17, screening on March 20th, and interviews March 26-27th. New hires will be approved at the April 2nd board meeting.

MOA with Earth Wise for 319 L*A*S Grant: Dale moved to sign the MOA with Earth Wise to complete the BMP work for the LAS 319 grant at a bid of \$450. Vern seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*

Army Corps of Engineers Permit for Water Festival: Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to sign the Army Corps permit for the Pend Oreille Water Festival to use the property at Riley Creek Campground, and to require waivers from all students who participate. Linda had the permit and waiver approved through ICRMP. ICRMP will provide event insurance at no extra cost to the district, but requires a waiver be signed by each student and their parent/guardian in order for them to participate. *The motion carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE:

A post card regarding a class action suit against the State of Idaho Insurance Group was read, with no action by the district.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of February minutes

Approval of February financial report

Approval to pay \$50 donation to Envirothon

Approval of submitting requests to SWC for district assistance

Approval of signing contract with DEQ for \$2000 for L*A*S program through June 2013

Approval of proposing 5% administration fee for Round Lake Stewardship Trail project

Approval of signing Laclede and Dover MOA's for SWP grant

Approval of FY2014 Annual Plan of Work and Update Five-Year Plan

Approval of signing MOA with Earth Wise for 319 L*A*S BMP

Approval of signing permit with ACOE and requiring waivers for Water Festival

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.