

**Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District**  
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm Meeting

Place: Bonner County Extension Service (4205 N Boyer Ave, Sandpoint, ID 83864)\* Zoom Teleconference

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**Attendance:**

*Board members:* Jeff Connolly, BSWCD; Rick Watt, BSWCD; Harry Mesner, BSWCD;

*Others:* Sarah Garcia, BSWCD; Georja Kriebs, BSWCD; Tom Fleer, BSWCD; Jenna Ditzel, ISWCC; Cindy Lewis, NRCS; Kyle Lunsford, NRCS; Jennifer Jensen, UI Extension;

*Zoom Attendees:* Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC;

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 PM by Vice Chairman Jeff Connolly.

**Call to Order** 12:59 PM

1. **Action Item: May 2024 Minutes**

Motioned to approve April meeting minutes by: Rick

Second by: Harry

Motion carried

2. **Action Item: Financial Reports**

Motioned to approve March financial report by: Harry

Second by: Rick

Motion carried

**AGENCY REPORTS**

1. Pack River Watershed Council - Sarah Garcia: Nothing new to report. Pending new contract from Avista, we are coming up on end of funding for current cycle.
2. NRCS Report - Cindy Lewis and Kyle Lunsford: Announced that Nick, Resource Con will be leaving at the end of the month for a new internal position, and they hired a new Admin Assistant who will be starting in August. Water festival went smooth. The Expo went well, a lot of the kids were engaged and got good feedback. Have 112-118 approved contracts.
3. Lakes Commission - Sarah Garcia: Molly is actively involved in the discussions of the Albeni Falls Dam issues.
4. UI Extension- Jennifer Jensen: Helping with Farm tour. Have Jr Master Gardner Classes, currently 12 kids signed up, 6-12 year old range. Plant Clinic has a lot of frost and winter damage inquiries. Currently hiring for a specialist position that focuses on Organic production, 3 candidates has been selected. At the stakeholder event the 3 candidates will be there to meet the public and for the public to ask questions.
5. SWC Report - Jenna Ditzel: Lorretta will be switching rolls within the Agency. Delwyne will be the temp supervisor of the field staff. WQPA determination meeting is being held in June. Surveys will be sent out the Districts July 1<sup>st</sup>.
6. AIS/Boat Stations- Sarah & Tom Fleer: Slow start this year with sticker sales down 50%, 2500 boats so far. Believe this is due to the weather, so once weather warms up believe sales will increase. Found mussels at Samuel. Got hot washed and will go for another decontamination at Hope Marina . Bonner Ferry opening 12<sup>th</sup> of June, opening for North and South bound.
7. Water Festival - Sarah Garcia: Event went well. The transition for the lunch time was a success.

*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.*

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**DISTRICT BUSINESS**

1. *Action Item:* Lake Commission LOA  
Motioned to approve the LOA by: Rick                      Second by: Harry                      Motion carried
2. Forestry Contest: Went well highlights UI Timber Sports Team doubled the Job Fair and 5 times the engagement. Total donations were down and cost was also down. 4H Whistle Stop winner in Senior category. Still working on MOU.
3. Round Lake Fishing Day: Sarah assisted on the second field trip. Ran smoother this year with 4<sup>th</sup> graders only. Lots of fish were caught & the kids were very excited!
4. Bonner County Farm Tour June 13<sup>th</sup>: Is coming up and Georja and Sarah will be attending.
5. *Action Item:* Bonner County Fair – Aug. 13-17<sup>th</sup> “Country Roots & Cowboy Boots”  
Motioned to have an outside booth at the Fair by: Rick                      Second by: Harry                      Motion carried

**DISTRICT UPDATES**

**BSWCD Report – Sarah Garcia:**

- Grant Updates:
  - Rural Development: Been submitted, went thru a ranking process, it initially ranked well. We anticipate we will receive funding but will be notified by the end of summer on final decision.
  - Urban Ag grant: Waiting to hear back of the \$10,000 grant.
  - 319: Site visits scheduled and awaiting Bills info to write grants
- Selkirk Food Summit: District to help present and support the summit around Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Homesteader Conference: Georja will represent the district. Additional outreach handouts and rack cards for the event has been ordered.
- AIS meeting Thursday: meeting was unfortunately poorly attended but discussed weed treatment for the lake and boat check station.
- IASCD Director meeting: attached are meeting minutes.
- Georja Kriebs, will be leaving Bonner SWCD, she got offered a new position with NRCS and will be starting in August. In the meantime, she will be working on SOP's.

Rick moved, seconded by Harry to adjourn the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 2:09 PM.

  
District Supervisor Signature                      7/02/24  
Date

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