

# Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

## Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

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Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2011  
Time: 1:30 pm  
Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD  
Dale Van Stone, BSWCD  
Vern Hollett, BSWCD  
Cassie Tauber, BSWCD  
Harry Menser, Associate  
Erin Mader, Associate

Greg Becker, NRCS  
Linda O'Hare, BSWCD  
Cornel Rasor, County Commissioner  
Scott Bauer, Bonner Attorney

Absent: Alice Wallace, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Molly McCahon, L\*A\*S;

The board meeting was called to order at 1:40.

Herman congratulated Linda on receiving the Outstanding District Employee Award at the IASCD State Conference in Boise. Linda thanked the board and the office personnel for their help toward the award, and for their great direction on conservation in Bonner County.

### Approval of Minutes:

Dale moved to approve the November 8, 2011 minutes, and Vern seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

### Financial Report:

- Vern reviewed the November financial report and moved it be approved. Dale seconded the motion, *the motion carried.*
- The board will decide at the next meeting regarding the subscription for the Daily Bee.

### AGENCY REPORTS

**NRCS:** Greg Becker reported as follows:

- The Wetland Reserve Program project with the Kalispel Tribe is going well and the first payment has been processed.
- Greg discussed with the board the potential for coordinating with IDL and the County on a 319 grant application for a high priority road/culvert project. The board approved.
- Schweitzer Road 319: The Independent Highway District is proceeding with plans to use the sodium chloride combined with sand to take care of Schweitzer Road this winter, with the City of Sandpoint conducting regular monitoring on their drinking water source near Sand Creek.
- Deadlines for EQIP and WHIP: December 16, 2011, is the deadline for applications for EQIP and WHIP. Greg has received around 25 applications so far. He will do a PSA for WRP (Wetland Reserve Program) applications next week.

**L\*A\*S:** Molly was unable to attend and asked Linda to cover the following:

- L\*A\*S Book for CdA Lake: Work on the L\*A\*S book rewrite for CdA Lake is going well. The AIS chapter is in its final edit, and it is very professional and complete. It will be a great tool for everyone in north Idaho to learn about the existing threats and future threats of aquatic invasive species.
- Molly met with Pete Gardner, F&G, at the Water Discovery Center regarding the maintenance plan. Pete will work with Chip Corsi on a support letter for us regarding their maintenance plan before we commit more L\*A\*S dollars to projects there. Molly is also looking at options for a source water grant. Dale moved Vern seconded the motion to approve of Molly applying for the SWP grant, *the motion carried.*

**BSWCD:** Linda O'Hare highlighted her written report which included the following:

- As a result of an AIS meeting in Post Falls November 10<sup>th</sup>, a training will be organized for early this spring for area people involved with boat sales or marinas on inspecting boats for mussels.
- Pack River Watershed Council: The Fourth Quarter Report has been submitted, along with the 2012 Funding Letter of Request for \$1820. A grant is being submitted for Temperature Monitoring on the Pack, and if the grant is approved they may request the PRWC Coordinator conduct that monitoring.
- Avista POBC Grant: The signed Letter of Agreement was received and we should receive the initial funding next week. Herman and Linda visited with our state legislators yesterday regarding funding for POBC in FY2013.
- There will be an open house for RC&D at their new office on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 4pm. Their address in CdA is 7880 Franklin St.

**Bonner County:** Cornel Rasor reported as follows:

- Cornel Rasor updated the board on the wetland dispute in the county, and the use of coordination through the Property Rights Council. Cornel explained the steps taken to get the PRC set up. He also reviewed information on the road proposed near the fairgrounds and the county detention center. Cornel and Attorney Scott Bauer answered several questions, including one on the Grazing & Timber Assessment. Scott Bauer requested help from our office regarding issues with stormwater and the Clean Water Act, and the board supported Greg and Molly offering information to ag and private landowners regarding conservation practices.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**IASCD State Conference:** Linda reported the trainings she attended regarding Performance Reports, 319 Grants, Associate Press coverage, and Coordination between federal agencies and local governments were all excellent. Herman said he enjoyed the conference and the partnership is healthy.

**Performance Report:** Linda reviewed the new format for the Performance Report. After adding a few items to the "Future Projects", Cassie moved and Dales seconded the motion to approve the report, *the motion carried*. Cassie requested the board look into buying a "no till drill" for future use in Bonner County. With their approval, she will pursue information on prices.

**L\*A\*S Laptop:** Cassie moved and Dale seconded the motion to upgrade the ACER L\*A\*S Laptop at the \$266 bid Herman received. *The motion carried.*

**Farm Tour 2011 Video:** Due to lack of time, this was tabled until the next meeting.

**ICRMP Training Review:** This was also tabled until the next meeting. The January meeting was set to have this training start at noon over lunch, and the regular meeting will start at 1:30.

**Christmas Party:** December 15<sup>th</sup>, Western Pleasure Guest Ranch, 5:00 sleigh ride and 6:30 dinner.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Avista Contract for POBC Funding:** The signed Letter of Agreement regarding this funding has been received, and ICRMP has confirmed that as soon as the Employee Agreement is signed Erin Mader will be covered by the district's liability insurance. Chip Corsi is working with the AG's office on a property use agreement for Erin to use the Waterlife Discover Center for her office. Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to approve the Employee Agreement with Erin Mader, which included the wage at a maximum including taxes of \$22 an hour, and mileage reimbursement at \$.455 per mile for Erin's private vehicle. *The motion carried.* Linda will check on benefits required for all employees due to recent legislation. Erin has set up her office and begun working. The POBC will meet this Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 at City Hall, regarding lake level fluctuation.

**L\*A\*S Letter of Agreement with Priest River re Source Water Protection Grant:** Tabled until next meeting.

**Natural Resource Camp:** Dale moved and Cassie seconded the motion to pay \$235 for one student to attend the Natural Resource Camp June 25-30, 2011 at Ketchum, Idaho. *The motion carried.* Linda will get information sent out to local 12-14 year old students.

**Letter of Support to the Idaho Legislature for POBC Funding in FY2013:** This was tabled until the February meeting.

**NRCS Forestry Contest Cooperative Agreement :** Dale moved and Vern seconded the motion to have Herman sign the Agreement with NRCS for \$750 funding for the Idaho State Forestry Contest. *The motion carried.*

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- The Proposed Idaho Invasive Species Strategic Plan which includes combining noxious weeds and invasive animal species was available to read.
- A thank-you note from Claude Bruce's daughter was read.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

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District Supervisor Signature

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Date

### **Recap of Motions:**

Approval of November 2011 minutes

Approval of November 2011 financial report

Approval of Molly applying for a Source Water Protection Program grant for L\*A\*S

Approval of FY2011 Performance Report

Approval of paying \$266 to upgrade the ACER L\*A\*S computer

Approval of paying \$235 for a local student to attend the Natural Resource Camp

Approval of signing NRCS Cooperative Agreement for \$750 funding for Idaho State Forestry Contest

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