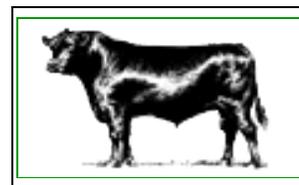


Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes



Date: Tuesday, August 9, 2011
Time: 5:15 pm
Place: Tauber Ranch on Gold Creek Road

Attendance: Herman Collins, BSWCD Erin Mader, Associate
 Vern Hollett, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS
 Cassie Tauber, BSWCD Dennis Aslett, ACES
 Alice Wallace, BSWCD (5:30) Molly McCahon, L*A*S
 Harry Menser, Associate Linda O'Hare, BSWCD

Absent: Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Fairy Delay, Associate; Ed Nurmi, Associate; Nick Studebaker, NRCS

The board meeting was called to order at 5:15. Herman thanked Cassie Tauber for having us at their ranch.

Approval of Minutes:

Vern moved to approve the June 2011 minutes and Cassie seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

Financial Report:

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

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Greg Becker reported as follows:

➤ Greg is working on two WRP (Wetland Reserve Program) projects, and one is at the point of signing the conservation plan. Cassie moved and Vern seconded the motion to approve of Herman signing the conservation plan for wetland reserve on the WRP by Priest Lake, *the motion carried.*

L*A*S: Molly reported as follows:

- There are 600 books left of the original L*A*S guidebook. Molly has had bags printed with a handle that the books fit in that she is delivering to the shoreline landowners who have not received them yet. She delivered 20 along the Pend Oreille River west of the Longbridge. Milfoil is a huge concern of the landowners in that area, and Molly is pursuing with the City coordinating disposal of the milfoil removed from their shorelines.
- New signs have been printed to identify plants at BMP sites at both Dover Bay and the Waterlife Center. These signs are very durable, as are the stakes she is using.
- September 6th DEQ has scheduled a tour of our two BMP projects funded by the L*A*S 319 grant, the one at Dover Bay and the one at the Waterlife Center. Molly will conduct those tours. We will hold our September 6th meeting at Dover Bay so the board can visit that project.
- Rebecca Stevens with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe has changed positions, and will no longer be in charge of the Lake Management Plan and working with Molly on their L*A*S book. Her new title is Restoration Coordinator for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees for the Coeur d'Alene Basin. Until Rebecca's replacement is hired, Sandra Raskell the Tribe's Engineer will be reviewing and editing the LAS materials, along with Glen and Becki from DEQ.

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

- Boat Inspection Stations: Running smoothly, hired 2 new employees, AIS ticket sales brisk, Samuels has completed 1,426 inspections and Oldtown 3,069 through August 27th. No mussels found.
- Source Water Protection L*A*S Grant: Final report submitted.
- Fish Creek 319: Final graveling work will be done this fall.
- QuickBooks Conversion: Very time consuming, but going OK so far. K-1 Accounting was very helpful.
- Forestry Contest: Had final wrap-up meeting on June 29th – and received another \$500 donation.
- Tree Seedling Meeting in CdA with PLRC&D Forestry Committee July 20th: Reviewed options of the Forestry Committee and their assets if RC&D status changes. RC&D seedling prices to districts will remain the same. Ponderosa Pine 5.5 inch trees are already sold out due to large CRPs in north Idaho. A forester from Kootenai County suggested we plant more seedlings next year for the 2013 season as the CRP contracts have increased and require large numbers of trees, especially the 5.5 inch Ponderosa Pine.
- We will not have a fairbooth this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Division I WQPA: The QuickBooks account has been cancelled as of August 4th, and K-1 Accounting Service has done a backup disk for us. At Billie Brown's suggestion, we will have the 4 districts' chairmen review the books at their 1:00 meeting in Coeur d'Alene tomorrow.

Wording on Subdivision Reviews or P & Z Reports: This was tabled until the September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

319 Schweitzer Road Grant Application: The board reviewed changes in the final version of the grant from its original presentation to the board, and decided to meet with DEQ and the Independent Highway District to review the methods chosen to reduce sediment in Schweitzer Creek and Sand Creek. A meeting date of August 23rd at 2:00 was suggested – Greg and Linda will work on setting up that special meeting.

SWC Distribution of Funds: FY2011 had remaining funds of \$5393, and this was distributed equally among the districts to be used for training. Each district received \$107.86.

SWC Funding for Forestry Contest in 2012: BSWCD received word that the SWC did approve of \$1500 funding for the Forestry Contest in 2012. The focus of their funding this year was on educational projects. The board truly appreciates their funding and support of the Contest.

Tree Seedling Prices: Vern moved and Alice seconded the motion to keep our seedling prices the same as last year, *the motion carried.*

ISWCC Strategic Plan FY2012-2015: Everyone was invited to attend the 1:00 meeting August 10th in Coeur d'Alene to review the strategic plan and prepare a Division I recommendation to submit to the ISWCC. Herman and Linda planned to attend from Bonner SWCD. The board all had copies of the Plan to review, and the information to join the conference call scheduled for August 11th.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Lake Level Fluctuation: Erin said she attended the August 4th BPA/ACE meeting regarding lake level, and was very disappointed in the meeting setup. The draft EA was only released by BPA late on Thursday the 28th, and there was little time to review it before the meeting. The meeting was set up so there was no opportunity for attendees to benefit from the input of other attendees as there were multiple stations manned by BPA or ACE representatives, and attendees walked through the stations. Tri-State has requested an extension of the public comment period, which is scheduled to end August 31st. The board suggested Bonner SWCD send a letter requesting an extension of the deadline, and that EPA should be more approachable and open toward getting public comment. They also need to put out more public information in the newspaper and on the radio promoting the informational sites where citizens can review the material regarding lake level fluctuation.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15.

Respectfully submitted by Linda O'Hare, District Administrator.

Approved by:

District Supervisor Signature

Date

Recap of Motions:

Approval of June 2011 meeting minutes
Approval of June and July 2011 financial reports
Approval of signing WRP conservation plan near Priest Lake
Approval of tree seedling prices remaining the same as last year

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.