Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 Time: 1:00 pm Meeting

Place: USDA/ Bonner SWCD Office (1224 Washington Ave, Suite 101, Sandpoint, ID 83864)* Zoom

Teleconference

Attendance:

Board members: Jeff Connolly, BSWCD; Rick Watt, BSWCD; Harry Mesner, BSWCD; Chris Elliot, BSWCD; Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Jim Stevens, BSWCD

Others: Sarah Garcia, BSWCD; Georja Kriebs, BSWCD; Tom Fleer, BSWCD; Jenna Ditzel, ISWCC; Cindy Lewis, NRCS; Autin Terrell, Project Manager, Terrestrial Species Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation

The meeting was called to order at 12:59 PM by Chairman Dale Van Stone.

Call to Order 12:59 PM

1. Amend agenda to add action item for Rural Business Development Grant

Motioned to amend agenda by: Harry Second by: Jeff Motion carried

2. Action Item: June 2024 Minutes

Motioned to approve June meeting Second by: Jeff Motion carried minutes by: Rick

3. Action Item: Financial Reports

Motioned to approve financial report Second by: Harry Motion carried by: Jeff

4. Action Item: Financial Match

Motioned to approve financial match Second by: Rick Motion carried of \$18,000.00 by: Harry

AGENCY REPORTS

1. Pack River Watershed Council - Sarah Garcia: Just received new \$4,400.00 funding. \$4,000 goes to her projects, \$400 is for administrative fee. Wrapping up previous funding.

- 2. NRCS Report Cindy Lewis: Will be going to Wyoming end of the month for a 120-day tour, will be here 1 week and there 1 week back and forth. Looking for someone to back fill her position but not sure if that will be possible. Nick B. old position is now open. Working on awarding 2nd round of joint chiefs. Working on getting Team 1 success story out. Working on getting Local Working Group meeting date out and creating a field day for both Boundary and Bonner SWCD boards.
- 3. SWC Report Jenna Ditzel: Operations money to be sent out by end of month. Lorretta's positions are opening soon. 14 projects approved for WQPA. KSSWCD received grant funding for there no-till drill. On June 6th went on a site visit with Bill and Sarah.
- 4. Governor's Office-Autin Terrell: Private lands funds are now available July 1st, \$75,000. Still working on setup. Open year round call for fencing to protect livestock from Grizzly Bear, area funding available for North Ponderay and all Bonner Co. Will have a 50% match, which can be in kind or material for funds. Will be available for 4H and FFA projects, at no cost for the kids. They will help build the fence and setup to help detour bears from entering, 800-900 volts with 7-9 strands. They will be at the county fairs.

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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5. AIS/Boat Stations- Sarah & Tom Fleer: Boat stations are going smooth no personnel issues. So far 7,200 watercrafts inspected, 1,900 stickers sold so far, 20% lower than last year. New law went into effect July 1st that boats must pull there drain plug. Bonner station is open. Lots of complaints about having to stop twice and safety issues.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Action Item: Rural Development Grant

Harry Mesner recused himself from the vote.

Motioned to donate \$4,000.00 to

Second by: Rick

Motion carried

Pend Oreille Specialty Food Incubator by: Jeff

- 2. Homesteader Conference Report: Forestry Contest: Total 5,000 folks signed up to attend the conference. Benewah, KSSWCD, BonnerSWCD, ISWCC and NRCS was present at the booth. We put together grab bags for visitors. Jenna created a spin the wheel game for visitors to win a prize, with 2 \$50.00 gift cards donated by KSSWCD. Over 200 folks came thru the booth. The Soil health demonstration that KSSWCD board member put on was a great success with many questions and in-depth conversations.
- 3. Action Item: Administrative Assistant Job Description

Motioned to approve description and post position by: Rick

Second by: Harry

Motion carried

DISTRICT UPDATES

BSWCD Report - Sarah Garcia:

- Grant Updates:
 - Rural Development: finishing it up.
 - Upper Pack River 319: conducted site visit, going to finish up 319 grant. Going to have landowner invest \$5,000.00 into the project
 - Baldy Mountain Rd 319: Working with lands over for by in/in kind match thru labor, machinery and forth.
 - Urban Ag grant: Waiting to hear back of the \$10,000 grant.

Harry moved, seconded by Rick to adjourn the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.

District Supervisor Signature

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