

Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2023
Time: 1:00 pm Meeting
Place: 1224 Washington Ave Ste. 101, Sandpoint, ID * Zoom Teleconference

Attendance:

Dale Van Stone, BSWCD; Rick Watt, BSWCD; Harry Menser, BSWCD; Brad Bluemer, BSWCD; Jeff Connolly, BSWCD; Jim Stevens, BSWCD; Tom Daniels, Boundary SWCD
Sarah Garcia, BSWCD; Cindy Lewis, NRCS; Austin Terrell, GOSC; Jenna Ditzel, ISWCC
Zoom: Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC,

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by Chairman Dale Van Stone.

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes: Rick moved, seconded by Harry to approve the June Minutes. *the motion carried.*

Financial Reports: Brad moved, seconded by Rick to approve the May 2023 financial reports, *the motion carried.*

Financial Match: Rick moved, seconded by Jeff to approve the Financial Match document as presented. *the motion carried.*

Audit Agreement: Harry moved, seconded by Rick to approve the Audit Agreement with Scott Hoover to complete the Fiscal Year 2023 governance audit. *The motion carried.*

Land & Soil Judging Event Donation: Brad moved, seconded by Jeff to donate \$75.00 to the Land & Soil Judging Event. *The motion carried.*

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: Cindy notified the group that her team was still actively contracting items. Cindy is also working with both Bonner & Boundary on their recently awarded WQPA grants. She has also participated in meetings regarding grizzlies & high tunnels predominantly in relation to Boundary county. The new Joint Chiefs fuel reduction agreement will extend from the Canadian border to the interstate along the HWY 95 corridor. Future NRCS staffing was discussed. The NRCS team will all be in Boise from Aug. 14-18 for an all-employee meeting.

Idaho SWC. -The Districts WQPA grant was approved, and a site visit was completed by Sarah, Bill & Jenna. A no rise permit may be an issue for the completion of the grant due to the limited in water construction window. Getting equipment to the project area & down on the bank will be an additional challenge. Harry moved, seconded by Rick for the District to sign the WQPA agreement document. *The motion carried.*

Gov. office of Species Conservation: The program with help from partners has purchased a dump trailer for the carcass removal program they are piloting in Boundary County in early spring 2024. To date there have been 0 livestock predation by grizzlies vs. 21 last year. Fish & Game has ordered an apple press to encourage people to utilize their apples vs. leaving them on the trees and drawing in fall bears. Austin will likely partner with Sarah to have some Bear Aware materials on display in the Districts fair booth.

IASCD: Tom Daniels Division I Director attended the Board meeting informed board that they'd had a board meeting a month prior discussed some possible resolutions to be presented at the upcoming conference. Tom also informed that there were two candidates for the vacant Executive Director position with a final decision & offer expected to be made within the upcoming week. Tom also informed the Board he would not attend the November conference.

Boat Stations: The group reviewed the written report provided by Glenn Kibbey on station operations for the month. A recommendation was made in Glenns report to replace the Clark Fork canopy that with normal wear & tear is beginning to reach its life expectancy. The Board also discussed Glenns' notice that this will be his final season and recommendation that the position be advertised so that candidates can shadow Glenn at the end of the

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season. Rick moved, seconded by Harry for the District to purchase two additional canopy tops to replace damaged ones at the Watercraft inspection stations as well as to begin advertising the Program coordinator position. *The motion carried.*

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Homesteader Conference Report: Sarah shared a PowerPoint highlighting the success of the Homesteader conference in reaching the District's target audience of landowners seeking assistance with natural resource concerns.

NRCS Pilot Program – Composting: Sarah notified the Board of exciting developments including the full support of the LPO school district and County. The new partnerships developed were highlighted and Sarah provided an overview of the application process and challenges. The District was successful in submitting their grant and anticipate hearing more after the first of the year.

NRCS Education Umbrella Grant: Sarah notified the Board that NRCS had approached the District with an opportunity to administer an umbrella grant for education events throughout the state. The grant would provide 5yrs of additional support to the Idaho State Forestry Contest in addition to other education events. Brad moved, seconded by Harry for Sarah to move forward with administering the NRCS Education Umbrella Grant. *The motion carried.*

Source Water Grant: Due to the current District workload the Board was informed that we would be unable to apply for the current Source Water Grant Cycle. The District was awarded a grant during the 2022 cycle and received the subaward in April. Sarah will be working on the public outreach/education component in time to have materials for the Fair.


319 Grant: Sarah, Jenna, Bill and Cindy completed a site visit for a potential 319 on the Upper Pack River. Due to the limited turn around, tenuous neighbor relations, and current District workload it was determined that although a good project a complete application could not be completed in time for the current application window. The team will work with all parties to apply for the 2024 grant cycle.

District Report: Sarah reminded the Board that she would be in Boise July 19/20th to attend the IDEA Directors meeting. She had gone over her monthly activities throughout the course of the meeting prior to her report.

Fair: The Board was asked to put the Fair dates on their calendar to determine which dates they would be available to man the District Booth. Sarah informed them that since we would have electricity, she would be creating some videos of current and past projects to display on TVs as well as updated hand out materials.

Jeff moved, seconded by Brad to enter executive session per Idaho code 74-206 (b). Roll Call: Dale, aye; Harry, aye, Rick, aye; Brad, aye; Jeff, aye. No minutes were taken.

Jeff moved, seconded by Brad to adjourn the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

 8/1/2023
District Supervisor Signature Date

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