Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

# Date: Tuesday, December 4, 2018

# Time: 1:00 pm Meeting

Place: 1224 Washington Ave., Sandpoint, ID

Attendance:

Dale Van Stone, BSWCD John Gaddess, BSWCD/IDL

Alice Wallace, BSWCD Sarah Garcia, BSWCD Molly McCahon POBC

Harry Menser, BSWCD Jessica Erikson, PRWC Mark Sauter, Community member

Jim Stevens, BSWCD Greg Becker, NRCS Terry McGuirk (via conference call)

Absent: Cassie Tauber, BSWCD; Jennifer Jensen, Brad Shelton; Chase Youngdahl

The meeting was called to order at 1:13p by Chairman Dale Van Stone.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve the November minutes, *the motion carried.*

**Financial Report:** Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to approve the November financials, *the motion carried.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Holiday Party:** Sarah informed the Board that she had made the party arrangements as requested at Ivano’s for Wednesday Dec. 19th. The Board asked Alice to contact the food bank to get information on a family to sponsor for this year’s donation.

**Panhandle Seedling Program:** Sarah informed the board that we had received our Ponderosa & Larch seeds; these had been shipped to the CDA nursery along with the programs 2020 order.

**IASCD Conference:** The board reviewed the highlights of this year’s IASCD. Sarah relayed the compliments of Idea President Robbie Taylor, on a well-planned & successful conference. The board congratulated Molly on her great presentation.

**NRCS- Letter of Support:** The board reviewed the prepared letter of support draft to be sent to Curtis Elke requesting additional focus/prioritization to fill the vacant positions. Alice moved, and Harry seconded the motion to approve the draft letter as written to be mailed to Curtis, *the motion carried.*

**KSS Letter**: The board reviewed the correspondence to address concerns with the KSSWCD. Harry moved, and Alice seconded the motion to approve the letter as written to be mailed to KSS board, *the motion carried.*

**Poster Contest:** Sarah reminded the board of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners & had Board chairmen Dale sign certificates to be presented to winners.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Boat Station 2019 Operators Meeting:** Sarah informed the board of the Operators meeting on Dec. 19th in Boise where the 2018 season would be reviewed & the 2019 season updates/requests would be addressed. The board was presented with a list of suggested adjustments/improvements for the 2019 season that was compiled by Glenn and Sarah based on observation and inspector feedback.

**FFA/4-H:**  Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to send $50 donation as in years past, *the motion carried*

**Annual Plan of work/ 5yr plan update:** The board determined this work day would take place Wednesday January 16th from 10a-2pm.

**Legislative Days:** Board members will not be available to attend but gave Sarah approval to attend on the Districts behalf.

**Health Insurance:** The board was presented with group plan options available for Molly & Sarah. Alice moved, and Harry seconded, the motion to cover up to $415/m per employee in insurance premiums, *the motion carried*

**Jessica’s availability:** Jessica informed the board with changes to her personal life she is now available additional hours to assist with district needs. Harry moved, and Alice seconded the motion to utilize Jessica for office/program needs on an as needed basis.

**Civil Rights/EEO:** There are no updates to civil rights at this time.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**NRCS Greg Becker:** Greg reported that there is no word on when Kirks position will be posted. He informed the board that Cindy Vaugn from the Moscow office was currently here on detail and that she is also be an applicant for the soil con. position. The teleconference was canceled due to pending farm bill. Idaho restructure likely in 2020 and would combine Boundary, Bonner, and Kootenai/Shoshone under one supervisory area. This could be an opportunity to really cement district relationships and unite in a single goal. There will be an opportunity for districts to voice their thoughts. Greg formally requested that the board consider allowing Sarah to attend the 3-week long Soil Bootcamp as it would be a benefit to both the District as well as strengthen the district and NRCS’s relationship as she would be able to assist NRCS and producers more effectively.

**POBC Molly McCahon:** Molly informed the board she would be going to Invermere, BC to attend a Columbia River Treaty community meeting from the Canadian view to have a more rounded understanding of the concerns of both sides. She also informed the board that she would be attending the invasive species meeting on Dec. 12th in Boise. Molly with support from Mark Sauter outlined how they helped to utilize the “Everything Sandpoint” app to keep lake visitors informed of the laws as well as important information regarding, locations, amenities (bathroom, fuel, etc.).

**Pack River Watershed Council Jessica Erickson:** Jessica recently completed eqip training with Greg to be able to assist with applications, site visits, etc. She also informed the board of the recent Water Festival meeting and that she was finalizing the Pack River newsletter to be sent out the next week.

**Bonner SWCD by Sarah Garcia:** Sarah relayed how much she enjoyed the U of I tree identification course she had taken the week before as well as the upcoming course she would be taking on the 7th. She also gave an overview of the eqip training and site visits that she had completed as well as the Hoodoo mountain resource concern tour that was completed with Greg and Brad to identify areas to target for grant opportunities. Sarah also reiterated her meeting with Glenn regarding the boat stations in preparation of the operators meeting; the work that was completed on the Panhandle Seedling Program in November, and the water festival meeting she also attended.

Alice moved, and Harry seconded that the Board go into executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49p.

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District Supervisor Signature Date