

VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
209 N IDAHO STREET CASCADE, ID
JANUARY MINUTES
THURSDAY JANUARY 3, 2019, 1:00 P.M.

Members Present: Art Troutner, Paul Kleint, John Lillehaug, Justin Florence, Ralph Thier

Members Absent and Excused: None

Others Present: Scott Henderson, District Conservationist; Durena Farr, Admin; Lenard Long, public guest.

Meeting called to order by Art Troutner, Chairman, at 1:00 p.m.

John Lillehaug moved to approve December 6, 2018 meeting minutes as emailed to Board Supervisors for review.

Ralph Thier seconded, and motion carried. Art Troutner signed the December 6, 2018 meeting minutes as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Scott Henderson provided his NRCS staff report, reporting that Farm Service is in shut down mode. NRCS has funding to operate through January 19. NRCS employees are down with 35 unfilled positions within the state. Feb. 5th is a NRCS Div. III Local Work Group, location TBD. Scott also informed that the Farm Bill did get signed with the work requirement for food stamps removed. NRCS is reviewing 30 EQIP applications with Doug Higby assisting with engineering design for the projects. Lastly, Scott informed the Board that NRCS would be moving into their new office space on March 1, 2019.
2. *Ralph Thier moved to provide the Valley County Commissioners with a letter in support from Valley Soil & Water District for the commissioners to sign the Midas Gold Community Agreement.* Discussion followed noting the upcoming McCall City Council special meeting on Monday, January 7th at 6 pm at the North Fork Lodge for public comment regarding the Community Benefit Agreement and then for the McCall Council to take a vote on whether to sign the Community Agreement or not. Art voiced concern for the district taking a political stance on the subject and opposed issuing a letter of support from the District noting there was no benefit for the District at this time. And since legal issues remain unanswered on whether the County is legally allowed by Idaho Code to be a signer on such an agreement. Art has attended all the informational community meetings regarding the agreement. Ralph attended the commissioners workshop in Cascade and to date, other supervisors have not been able to attend workshops scheduled by the Commissioners. Ralph Thier added that there was no risk in providing a letter of support, stating the district would benefit from Valley County having a "place at the table". With no further discussion, *John Lillehaug seconded the motion and the motion carried with Art opposing.* A draft letter is to be composed by Ralph Thier and distributed to the Supervisors for review and edit.
3. Discussion on the Boise Forest Coalition - Idaho Department of Lands Grants (utilized for the Pioneer Fire recovery effort) as a potential future funding for the District, brought by Paul Kleint, was tabled for future discussion.
4. Ralph Thier moved to change the name Valley Soil & Water Conservation District to Valley County Conservation District. After discussion by the board, Ralph Thier withdrew the motion.
5. Ralph Thier proposed to establish a 501(c)(3) "Friends of the Valley County Conservation District. After discussion the board wished to explore or study the issue further.
6. Horizon's Environmental Issues Committee Meeting January 10th 6 p.m. Cultural Arts Center, Cascade presentation by Lenard Long on the Lake Cascade Cyanobacteria. Paul Kleint, Ralph Thier and Durena Farr to attend.
7. Durena reminded board to review email of 5-Year and Annual Plan Due to Commission March 2019

FINANCIAL Action Items:

1. **Action Item:** *John Lillehaug moved to accept and file Treasurer's Reports for December 31, 2018. with statements presented for the General checking, 319, LGIP accounts. Paul seconded, and the Treasurer's reports were accepted, signed and filed.*

2. **Action Item:** *John Lillehaug moved to approve Legislative Social and District Display Day - travel expenses, food and lodging for Ralph Thier and Durena Farr. Justin Florence seconded, and the motion carried. Ralph will attend the Legislative Social and Display Day. Durena will bring the district display for the District Display Day on Tuesday 8 a.m.*
3. **Action Item:** *Durena Farr proposed District payroll processing with Lamm & Company CPA PA (Kendra Brown, CPA) for a fee \$135/qtr or \$540/yr. (\$45/mo.) which includes quarterly reporting and online payments and year-end W2. John Lillehaug moved to have payroll processed by an independent accounting firm not to exceed an expense of \$600/year. Paul Kleint seconded, and the motion carried. John had alternative accountant payroll services he wished to check before committing to Kendra Brown at Lamm & Company. Durena will wait for a final okay from John before proceeding with set-up with Kendra Brown, CPA for Lamm Accounting.*
4. **Action Item:** *Durena asked for input from the board on a request from the National Watershed Coalition Annual Membership fee of \$75 since she had no experience with this group and had not paid before. The Board did not have any knowledge of the group or benefits/services provided and thus declined the membership request.*

GRANT 319 UPDATES:

1. **Action Item:** *Riverfront Conservation Program Agreement approved by City Council. District signature (Army Corp, DWR, McCall meeting Wednesday, Dec 5 noon)*
2. *Durena Farr reported that the Cascade Strand 319 project Interpretive signs are completed and will be available for pick-up and display for the District day at the Capitol.*
3. *Durena Farr advised the board on the ISWCC Newsletter feature article on Donnelly Boat Launch Project and Lake Cascade algal bloom. The issue is to be released in January and will be available for the Legislative Social and District Display Day.*
4. *Cascade Strand access area seeding.*

Valley County P & Z: *The Board and Scott Henderson had no additional resource concerns for the Public Hearings January 22 and 28, 2019 1:00 p.m., forwarded to the board via email December 28, 2018. The District's original letter of concern for #2. CUP 18-14 The Retreat, was addressed by the applicants purchase of an adjoining property that would allow a difference road grade construction for the project.*

1. *VAC 18-04 BOCC Portions of Road Right-Of-Way Roseberry Townsite. Hearing January 28, 1:00 p.m.*
2. *Appeal of CUP 18-14 The Retreat. Hearing January 22, 1:00 p.m.*

DATE REMINDERS:

- *McCall City Council special meeting Monday, January 7th at 6 pm at the North Fork Lodge.*
- *Environmental Issues Committee Meeting January 10th 6 p.m. Cultural Arts Center, Cascade*
- *Legislative Social Monday, January 14th, 4:30-6:30 pm. Ralph and Pam Thier to attend.*
- Legislative Displays Tuesday, January 15th 8:00 am – 4 pm, Ralph and Durena to attend.*
- *Valley Co. commissioners meeting on Midas gold Community Agreement, January 16, Donnelly Elementary School*
- *Next Board meeting February 7, 2019 1 p.m. VSWCD office 209 N Idaho, Cascade*
- *Amendment to Valley Co Code – Floodplain Ordinance Amendment, Jan. 7th 1 p.m.*
- *Chase Cusack, DEQ and Alan Monek, BOR attending March 7th, Board meeting to discuss monitoring plans. Lenard Long also to attend.*
- *McCall Chamber of Commerce presentation at Spring 2019 Membership breakfast, May 16, 2019*

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Chairman: _____ **Date** _____

Minutes prepared by Durena Farr, District Administrator