

VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
209 N IDAHO STREET CASCADE, ID
MARCH MINUTES
THURSDAY MARCH 7, 2019, 1:00 P.M.

Members Present: Art Troutner, John Lillehaug, Ralph Thier

Members Absent and Excused: Paul Kleint, Justin Florence

Others Present: Chase Cusack DEQ, Alan Monek USBR, Rich Jackson USBR; Jim Taylor USBR; Durena Farr, District Admin; Kris Meyer District Admin. Scott Henderson NRCS and Loretta Strickland ISWCC were present via Skype video.

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

John Lillehaug moved to approve January 3, 2019 meeting minutes as emailed to Board Supervisors for review.

Ralph Thier seconded, and motion carried. Art Troutner signed the February 7, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chase Cusack, discussed DEQ summer monitoring plans and presented WAG development1. scenarios or options. Rich Jackson, Snake River Field Office indicated he would be a regular WAG participant. Alan Monek, USBR – Lake Cascade 2019 monitoring plans
2. Jim Zokan, BOR, Cascade Field Station, discussed the BOR Lake Cascade fencing project. Seven and a half miles are to be fenced this spring with a four-strand design with top and bottom smooth wire and two center strands barbed. Jim asked the District for any installation supervision and assistance to help with the project. Approximately \$45,000 is available from USBR for materials and are actively looking for qualified volunteer crews for installation labor. The Lake Cascade southwest end existing USBR electric fence is also being repaired this spring.
3. From Horizon’s Environmental Issues Sub-Committee, Lenard Long, discussed the March 15th Cyanobacteria Identification Workshop flyer and a draft of a Septic pumping tri-fold handout for homeowners. He presented a septic pumping program concept and the potential of using the USBR WaterSMART Grant with an application deadline April 24, 2019. USBR representatives Rich Jackson and Jim Taylor discussed their experience with the grant and offered to look into alternatives. Lenard is working on securing reduced rates for septic pumping for homeowners around Lake Cascade. Alan Monek, USBR liked the program potential and would look further into funding options.
4. Lenard also shared a draft letter targeting grazing landowners about Lake Cascade water quality issues, the importance for off-site waterers and riparian fencing. The goal is to provide landowners with information on programs available for assistance. The Board felt that this information might be better received from the District’s May newsletter format.
5. The meeting recessed to allow Lenard Long, Chase Cusack, Alan Monek, Rich Jackson and Jim Taylor to leave the meeting.
6. **Action Item:** John moved to approve participation in the Idaho Senior Community Service Employment Program opportunity, with wages paid by the program, not the District with Kris Meyer. Ralph seconded and the motion carried. Kris and Durena will meet with the program director to sign paperwork on March 19th prior to the SWID RC&D meeting.
7. Scott Henderson, NRCS, provided a monthly EQIP update and staff report.
8. Ralph Thier suggested board representation since Midas Gold Stibnite Advisory Council re-opened its meetings to the public, monthly, second Thursday 10 a.m. at Midas Gold offices. For questions or comments, Midas Gold requests individuals submit request prior to meeting to juliegcitynm@gmail.com. It was also noted that the Star News February 28th Editorial was relevant regarding respectful participation since Midas Gold was reversing their closed meeting decision.
9. John Lillehaug reported on the upcoming Forestry Tour. Scott Sievers, IDL, and John are still settling on a mid-May date and agenda for the registration form. It is the year for Valley SWCD to host and take registrations for the event.

10. The board discussed the timing of the Spring District Newsletter. Scott Henderson suggested the District's role in reaching out to all landowners might be a more effective through the District May newsletter. The District could emphasize voluntary participation in Lake Cascade water quality issues as it relates to agriculture and grazing with program options available to landowners through EQIP and/or 319 grants.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Action Item:** The board was asked to provide any final changes to the FY20 5-Year and Annual Plan task assignments and project updates. Durena will have the certification page signed by John since Art will be out of town and submit to the commission by March 21, 2019 since she will be out of the office for Spring Break the following week.
2. Cascade Bridge to Bridge Stewardship and Integrated Weed Management Initiative project proposal application was presented to SWID RC&D at their board meeting on February 19th. Their procedure is to have a month to review the application, followed by a vote for project approval at the next month's meeting which is March 19th, 2019.

FINANCIAL Action Items:

1. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved to accept and file Treasurer's Reports for February 28, 2019. (General account, 319 account, LGIP statement). Ralph Thier seconded and the motion carried. The final supervisor signature was obtained for the new Umpqua Authorized Signatory Form authorizing Ralph Thier as a signatory.
2. **Action Item:** Ralph moved to pay the Southwest Idaho (SWID) RC&D Council 2019 membership dues of \$50. John seconded and the motion carried. Durena confirmed that the council would receive the check prior to the next board meeting where the vote is to be held on the Valley SWCD project application.

GRANT 319 UPDATES:

1. **Action Item:** Riverfront Park additional 60% cost share of \$3,099.60 were reviewed by Bill Lillibridge and determined to be reasonable project costs. After explanation of site visit with Art Troutner, John Lillehaug and Bill Lillibridge, John moved to pay the increased invoice total of \$31,008.60 from the original \$28,461 due to required additional equipment task and turbidity curtain. Ralph seconded and the motion carried. Loretta Strickland cautioned to not set a precedent for allowing such invoice changes in the future.
2. Interpretive signs update. (3)
3. Currently, we are coordinating Strand spring work day for fencing and grass seeding.

VALLEY COUNTY P & Z: The board had no resource concerns for the following applications:

March 14 Hearing 6 PM. Comments by March 6:
CUP 19-01 Valley County Quarry – Yellow Pine
CUP 19-02 Herrick Hills Subdivision 1.1 Preliminary & Final Plat
CUP 19-03 Cabarton Shuttle Service
CUP 19-04 Sands RV Campsite
CUP 19-05 Cornerstone Construction
CUP 19-06 Blackhawk on the River Event Venue-Amendment to CUP 17-04

*The Retreat McCall Appeal was denied, the application was however, referred to Planning & Zoning for more work in several categories.

DATE REMINDERS:

- *Next Board meeting April 4, 2019 1 p.m. VSWCD office 209 N Idaho, Cascade*
- *April 4th meeting with Tim Prather, UI, Strand tour to identify invasives project priorities with Steve Anderson, Horizons is currently being rescheduled due to remaining snow cover.*
- *McCall Chamber May 16, 2019 District presentation at Spring 2019 Membership breakfast.*

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Chairman: _____ **Date** _____

Minutes prepared by Durena Farr, District Administrator