

**VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**JANUARY IN-PERSON 209 N IDAHO ST, CASCADE - ZOOM HYBRID MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY JANUARY 5, 2023 MEETING MINUTES 9:00 A.M. IN-PERSON/ZOOM HYBRID**

**Members Present:** Bill Leaf, John Lillehaug, Colt Brown, in-person and Art Troutner (online)

**Members Absent and Excused:** None

**Others Online:** Ed Allen, Valley Co. Commissioner; Kala Golden, IDWR; Dani Terhaar, IDEQ; Bill Lillibridge, P.E. ISWCC; Lenard Long, FoLC; Neil Shippy, State Watermaster District 65; Maureen Pepper, NRCS State Water Quality Specialist/Idaho TSP Coordinator; Jason Dobis, BOR; Jordan Messner, IDFG; Cynda Herrick, Valley Co. Planning & Zoning; Ron Brooks, NRCS Team Lead Area; Meghan Brooksher, ISWCC, Pam Pace, P.E.; Judy Anderson

**Others Present:** Durena Farr, VSWCD

**9:05 A.M. Call to Order** (No Executive Session)

**Action Item:** Bill Leaf moved to approve and sign December 1, 2022 minutes. John Lillehaug seconded, and motion carried with all in favor. Draft minutes were emailed to the board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Neil Shippy informed the board of upcoming District 65 meeting regarding identification and administration of Dist 65 water rights in order to concerns raised by senior right holders. Starting with Mud Creek, Gold Fork and Clear Creek, Neil will be up in Valley County this summer to begin the process of identifying all users to get them officially administered in the District 65 system. They are not currently looking at groundwater unless senior users call for their water then groundwater evaluation would be needed.
2. Sherry Maupin requested in-person assistance with the NRCS soil maps. Commissioner Maupin is looking to create maps identifying resources i.e. wetlands, ag soils, impact areas, and focusing growth toward Cynda added that that they had discussed identifying different types of ag uses and past history. Commissioner Maupin is looking to build informational tools, recognizing private lands in order to make informed decisions for the planning process as development continues. Judy Anderson asked to have a discussion on what the criteria for “good agriculture land” means and to reference information from American Farmland Trust.
3. January 9<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m. Commissioner’s Oath of Office, John Lillehaug and Bill Leaf will be sworn in.
4. USBR WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I North Fork Payette River Watershed Coalition Steering Committee. Budget Review and adjustments Scope of Work review. A status update provided by Durena.
5. Guests and Guest Organization introductions and updates:
  - a. Valley County P & Z, Cynda Herrick or Lori Hunter CUP review
  - b. Ron Brooks, NRCS, offered soil map assistance and if his office cannot do, NRCS Shawn Nield would be able to help too. Maureen Pepper offered that NRCS is in support of Commissioner Maupin’s call for education and outreach to inform landowners of options as property is transitioned, especially as the heritage farms and legacy landowners begin to age out. Maureen noted peer to peer information sharing on land ownership transition is the most successful.
  - c. Meghan Brooksher ISWCC updates, grant application update Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. Grant committee will notify for site visits in March with final notice in April.
  - d. Pam Pace advocated for additional well monitoring and suggested that developments put in one well for ground water monitoring purposes. IDWR has resource for looking at monitoring data. This has been done in Canyon County. Pam provide a brief water supply update. Even with current high snow pack at 120% , we are only at 88% for flow into Cascade Reservoir and if we look as precipitation we remain in moderate drought. Valley Co has NOT had two consecutive dry years since 1930’s. For information on individual offer well monitoring contact IDWR Gus Womeldorph. Judy Anderson will contact Gus to explore the specifics on signing up wells for monitoring.
6. VSWCD Highway District 3 signs – Entering VSWCD and Leaving VSWCD mile markers needed for ITD, John will identify and get information to Durena for ITD.
7. Five-Year and Annual Plan review and task assignment revisions– Submission target date March 15. Durena will add 2023 and 2024 CWMP grant activity to both 5 yr and annual plans. John provided some additional edits.

8. Meghan Brooksher will get with Bill Lillibridge to determine Technical Assistance needs for VSWCD for District submission to ISWCC March 15
9. **Action Item:** Bill Leaf moved to approve Durena's Spring Break Vacation Request for 32 hours, March 20-23. Colt Brown seconded, and the motion carried with all in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved to provide a District letter of support for a Valley County Recreation Brush Creek Vault Application. Colt Brown seconded, and motion carried with all in favor. IDEQ SuperBAG ranked Brush Creek Vault 7<sup>th</sup> of 10 statewide applications, six regions on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1.2 million in requested funds for Project 1-6. June announcement of EPA award amount to IDEQ
2. Durena will set up a display for District Display Day January 17<sup>th</sup> State Capitol
3. IASCD Division III Spring Meeting February 16<sup>th</sup> (third Thursday) American Legion Hall, In-cahoots Catering menu option 3 for Smokey Chicken and pulled pork, salads, rolls, cookies, and brownies. Registration begins at 9:30 am, meeting begins at 10.

**FINANCIAL ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved to accept and file Treasurer's Report: QB register reports, bank reconciliations for December 31, 2022, General account and 319 account including Board approved recurring payments include Zippy Fiber, NPERS, PERSI and Payroll Processing (includes payroll payment to US Treasury and quarterly payroll payments by Central Mountain CPA) Bill Leaf seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.
2. **Action Item:** John Lillehaug moved to pay Durena's mileage for Boise, for Capitol District display day and for new Display photos. Colt Brown seconded, and the motion carried with all in favor.

**P & Z JANUARY 12 AGENDA 6 P.M., VALLEY CO COURT HOUSE:**

CUP 22-49 Morel Glamping Site Withdrawn

CUP 22-50 Elk Haven Acres Subdivision 2 building sites on individual wells and septic.

CUP 22-51 Amendment of CUP 16-21 Mountain Meadow Rentals Expansion for storage yard to the south

CUP 22-52 North Pasture Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat, Individual well & septic west side of boulder creek

CUP 22-53 Harlow Subdivision – Preliminary and Final Plat, 20 acres, Individual wells and septic, Art Troutner had concerns with the existing waterways. Applicants do have IDWR and USAE permits. Supervisors discussed how the water flows as part of Mud Creek.

CUP 22-54 Haney Solar Panels, detached, personal use, Alberta Estates Subdivision (already installed and needing to show proper process through application process.

**Facts and Conclusions:**

CUP 22-46 Moudy Glamping Site

CUP 22-47 Cryptocurrency Site

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

**Upcoming Events:**

*January 9 9:00 a.m. Oath of Office with Valley County Commissioners for John Lillehaug and Bill Leaf for new terms (2022 election)*

*January 12 P & Z Hearing 6 p.m.*

*January 16-17 Legislative Social and District Display Day at State Capitol*

*February 6 10:00 a.m. Valley Co Commissioner Cloud Seeding Introduction (CS101) from IDWR. One hour presentation*

*February 14<sup>th</sup> Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative final meeting 11-3 New Meadows Community Center*

*February 16<sup>th</sup> Division III Spring Meeting KWP Welcome Center 9:30 registration, 10:00 meeting and American Legion Hall for In-Cahoots BBQ lunch at noon*

*March 20-23 Spring Break Vacation request for Durena, 32 hours vacation requested and approved.*

*March 31 Five Year & Annual Plan, ISWCC Request for Assistance due (Plan submitted by March 15)*

*Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.*

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Approved:** *February 2, 2023*

**Minutes prepared by Durena Farr, District Manager**