

VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOVEMBER MINUTES 209 N IDAHO ST, CASCADE
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2023, 9:00 A.M. IN-PERSON/ZOOM HYBRID MEETING

November Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84744799683?pwd=MIRhT24zMk1IdjF5VHJJQWpWNUJhZz09>

Members Present: Supervisors Colt Brown, John Lillehaug, Judy Anderson, Bill Leaf, Associate Supervisors Pam Pace (online) and Lenard Long (online)

Members Absent & Excused: Supervisor Art Troutner

Other Present: Durena Farr VSWCD, Daina Aguas, VSWCD

Others Online: David Watkins, JUB Engineers, Jeff Bateman, PLRWSD; Cynda Herrick, Valley Co. Planning & Zoning; Maureen Pepper, NRCS; Debbie Ferraday, PELA and BPLWQC; Dani Terhaar, IDEQ

Meeting called to order at 9:08 AM by John Lillehaug

ACTION ITEM: Judy Anderson moved to approve and sign October 5, 2023 minutes. Draft minutes emailed to board. Bill Leaf seconded and the motion carried with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Guests and Guest Organization introductions and updates
 - a. David Watkins & Jeff Bateman, Payette Lake Recreational Water & Sewer District reported the Sewer District is working with national engineering firms to comment on the NFPR but all firms have said no due to the tight schedule. The Sewer District wants to hold a joint meeting with VSWCD and requested to hear thoughts on the meeting and start planning next steps. All board members agreed to set up a joint meeting. Lenard Long commented that the deadline for the compliance agreement schedule is December 31st and that the groups need to determine if it can work out. David wanted to clarify what the plan for projects is, as required by IDEQ. He encouraged that the meeting makes a lot of sense and would work well with the goals of the VSWCD. Judy Anderson asked if a joint meeting would have a IDEQ representative and David affirmed that they would. Pam Pace asked when the report would be finished, and David responded that the contingency plan has not be resolved and needs to be completed first. Lenard shared he feels that VSWCD wants to meet but does not want to be complicit to allowing discharge to be put into the river. David responded that the project scope must be reconfigured and that IDEQ wants to know what the plan is for remediation efforts, especially if weather conditions cause risk. Lenard commented that VSWCD hasn't seen enough remediation examples or data to set a plan. Board members want to schedule a meeting soon to work things out. David will meet with his board on November 15. He said best case would be to have a joint meeting before the end of the year, even if not everyone can be present. David will report back with potential meeting dates.
 - b. Daina Aguas (CWMP Grant/NFPR Coalition Administration) provided a quick introduction on her role in the coalition as admin along with her writing experience and education.
 - c. Kala Golden was not present to discuss Cloud Seeding Workshop November 15th
 - d. Valley Co. P & Z - Cynda Herrick provided a review on P & Z septic pump out signs. She reported on CUP 23-41 (Shabby Chick on the Cheap Event Venue) application. It would host a maximum of 100 guests, but fire department questioned road width there.

Another applicant located near the storage units in Donnelly, south of the bus barn. It is a request for employee housing units. It is a 12 acre site with a ditch and wetlands. Bill Leaf asked for clarification on the location, which fronts on the highway and is located south of the cabinet shop. Cynda confirmed that the creek at the location would eventually be piped through—there will be a meeting with Ms. L next week to discuss that. All the concerned activity is north of that.

CUP 23-43 (Round Valley Haven Subdivision -Preliminary Plat) It features 20 acres to be developed into 8 lots with shared driveways and homes. Topography issues exist but developers do have an ITB

permit. There is a total of 34 acres in question. Bill Leaf asked about the pond that exists south of that location and John Lilliehaug affirmed that there are 3 ponds, two which will be kept and one that is in question for fire suppression needs.

CUP 23-44 (Cell Tower Maverick) application for East of the Myrtle House. Nobody showed up to the public meeting. Access would be from a private drive north of the house. The location is partially in a forested area and would be seen from the road. Power poles placed every 20 feet are an impact concern. Bill asked how far the structure is from the highway and Cynda clarified it would be about 600 feet from the highway.

CUP 23-45 (Lake Fork Preserve Subdivision – Preliminary Plat) off Adams Circle (Lot 29). A building permit was obtained, and lot was later split into a two-lot subdivision. John Lilliehaug shared concern about high water table in the summer and early spring and asked if it had been addressed by the sewer district. Cynda confirmed that it has and it isn't classified as a wetland area but it is very close to one.

Judy Anderson asked about Jug Mountain Ranch and their complications with the sewer system. Cynda said the phosphorus standards were changed when the IDEQ took over from EPA. Jug Mountain has not been able to be met for a permit under new standards. The phosphorus discharge goes into Boulder creek, which already has issues according to Lenard Long

- e. Ron Brooks or Erin Morra were not present to give NRCD updates or LWG update
- f. Bill Lillibridge not present to give ISWCC updates, WQPA site visit; Parametrics Stormwater work session Bill's scheduling calendar. Durena Farr gave a brief update to confirm site visits were made and photos are available.
- g. John Lilliehaug gave an update on the local working group that examines allocations proposed by the state office down to the NRCS. Adams, Washington, Payette, Gem, and Valley Counties allocated \$575,000. Last year fiscal year total was \$650,000. Percentages for project divisions were planned to vary with the least amount going to wildlife and the most going to irrigated crop land, but the working group did not use the full allocation as anticipated. Another fund became available to support forestry projects instead of the original allocation money. The local working group discussed allocation funding distribution in the case of leftover funds. Valley County had 8 applications for EQIP and they will probably all get funded. Other funding sources may be available to fund more applications that roll in according to John.
- h. Lenard Long provided an update on Cascade Lake quality, which is in good shape and below detection levels. Blooms popped up at Blue Heron on October 20 which could be seen on the surface. Blue Heron is more stagnant and blooms likely came from ash fall. There were various anomalies seen this year in the lake including temperature, blooms, and growth. Increased runoff led to scum from agriculture in the lake; the algae type that appeared this year has not been determined yet.

Lenard reported that the Septic Pump Out Pilot Program shows that incentives do work. John Lilliehaug asked for clarification on water irrigation flow schedule this year and Pam clarified that water was taken from Deadwood earlier in the season to keep it full and that cold late season runoff is extremely beneficial. Lenard said that the Pump Out Program is done, and the money has been accounted for. The deadline for applications has closed and interest has subsided.

Judy Anderson asked if invasive muscels are being monitored. Lenard is not monitoring for that, but the DA and Fish and Game are. Durena Farr and Lenard have not heard any more about the USBR Willow Creek WMA Four Corners Fire Fund. John mentioned that he has observed problems in the West Mountain area and Lenard confirmed that mud has entered the lake but hasn't caused issues.

- i. Durena Farr mentioned the Cloud Seeding event for Kala Golden. Pam Pace said she may attend but the last one was hacked and went poorly. Attendees must register before the event takes place.

Lenard Long volunteered to attend the Cloud Seeding event and to report back to the group. Durena asked for a P & Z person to attend the cloud seeding meeting.

- j. Pam and Jim Pace presented on the Hayden Lake Field Trip. Hayden Lake is like the Valley County watershed and has similar quality goals. Pam and Jim met with Todd Walker, the water quality improvement manager. Pam and Jim reported that Hayden Lake has a 300-member association, which can be political, for lake protection that focuses on public outreach. Their District cannot be political.

The Hayden Lake watershed deals with issues concerning the dike and development conflicts. The District was abandoned until they recreated a restoration district through petitioning. This provided clear funding mechanisms which can be used for grant seed money.

Pam and Jim reported that there is a fueling station located in the Hayden Lake central marina area which has led to some algae growth, but it is very protected from wave action. Three ramps lead into Hayden Lake with great signage. One is a self-service pay station (5\$ launch for in-state, \$10 for out-of state launch) with signage on best water recreation practices. Durena Farr asked if Valley County could make something similar for the Waterways Management Plan.

Todd Walker does water quality measurements; he sends water samples to the lab every two weeks. He focuses on an arm of Hayden Lake every two years to do in-depth research. He maintains all buoys and that helps control the wakes. There is a wake reporting mechanism on their website that sends bad behavior to the sheriff, which has worked very well. Todd is willing to visit Valley County and join a coalition meeting to share his knowledge. Half of the Hayden Lake association income goes to contractors and half goes to equipment. Lenard Long asked if the income comes from existing taxpayers and boat launch. Pam Pace confirmed. Lenard mentioned that we have a lot of impact from Boise people and that use tax could support the Valley County watershed. The group agreed that boat launching fees can get users to pay more fees than locals. Pam mentioned that the Kootenai County ramps have fees and can be used with purchased permits and suggested that Valley County might be able to do that.

Jim Pace stated that Hayden Lake also struggles with invasive water species management. He suggests that boating cleaning stations give permits to launch boats free of invasives. Lenard said that we need to have a work group within the coalition that tackles this subject. Cynda Herrick requested the presentation information to add into the Valley County Waterway Management Plan.

2. Durena Farr provided a Brush Creek update (Vault invoice paid, \$4,066 above estimate in grant app and ICC invoice submitted. No updates on the Heinrich project.
3. Debbie Fereday reported that the limnologist from the UI reached out and said that the data from the original 2020 Payette Lake Water Quality Study was finally completed. Debbie also reported that a check was sent through for Brush Creek and Durena Farr confirmed that it was received and that the planting went well.
4. Maureen Pepper said IASCD State Conference Registrations for VSWCD Supervisors (first time discount) will begin on Sunday. Links are available on the NRCS website. Maureen will present at the conference on EPA work. Nobody from VSWCD is available to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. BOCC approved VSWCD and engineers work session to address site grading and stormwater calculation questions, VSWCD Art Troutner, ISWCC Bill Lillibridge, NRCS Maureen Pepper, Parametrics Engineer, USGS Engineer, City Engineers, Cynda Herrick and others has not been scheduled at this time. The engineering connection is dependent on Bill Lillibridge's availability.
2. Durena Farr reported that S741 and S724 contract payments made to Brown and Nicholson, final report due 12/31/23 and final invoice due to receive 10% District administration funds.
3. NFPR Coalition Steering Committee will meet November 9 at 9 AM and December 14 at 9AM. November 9 meeting will focus on setting a time and date for the first Coalition date.
4. Lenard Long stated that DEQ may be thrown under the bus for not submitting their plan by the end of December. Lenard volunteered to attend a meeting with the sewer district and recommended that Art Troutner and Judy Anderson attend as well. Durena Farr will send out potential dates. Judy Anderson mentioned that there may be vast misunderstanding between the involved organizations and that a meeting could address these. Especially involving cutting water pollution. There is a need for more appreciation on both sides

according to Judy. Colt Brown said that seems like the sewer district does not have much of a plan yet. Lenard Long commented that VSWCD is in the dark with the sewer district cannot influence their actions. John Lillehaug expressed hope to reopen the discussion with them. Pam Pace volunteered to attend the meeting.

FINANCIAL ACTION ITEMS AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION:

1. **Action Item:** Judy Anderson moved to postpone motion to accept and file Treasurer's Report: QB register reports, bank reconciliations for October 31, 2023 General account and 319 account including Board approved recurring payments including Ziplly Fiber, NPERS, PERSI and Payroll Processing (includes payroll payment to US Treasury and quarterly payroll payments by Central Mountain CPA) until the December 7 board meeting. John Lillehaug and Colt Brown seconded.
2. FY24 Operating Budget Action Item based on estimated ISWCC match allocation

P & Z NOVEMBER 9, 6 P.M. VALLEY CO COURT HOUSE:

1. CUP 21-38 Jug Mountain Ranch PUD 97-1 Phase 3 Village South Extension Request
2. CUP 23-39 Morgan Acres Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat
3. CUP 23-41 Shabby Chick on the Cheap Event Venue Individual Septic and porta potties Summer Place
4. CUP 23-42 Paradigm Custom Homes – Shop, Storage units and 5 housing units, Individual Septic and Individual wells
5. CUP 23-43 Round Valley Haven Subdivision -Preliminary Plat 8 single family lots, 3 open space on 34 acres Individual septic and individual wells
6. CUP 23-44 Cell Tower Maverick Towers 150 ft tall
7. CUP 23-45 Lake Fork Preserve Subdivision – Preliminary Plat Individual Septic and individual wells Adams circle onto Elo Road.

Facts and Conclusions: CUP 23-27 Tamarack Resort amended Village Plaza Condominium; CUP 23-38 Heron Hollow; CUP 23-40 Ahlquist Bunkhouse Helicopter Landing pad and hanger.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Date Reminders:

Nov TBD CWMP NFPR Steering Committee #4 – Early/Mid January Coalition Kick-off Meeting

Nov 6 WCMEDC 6th annual Regional Economic Summit, A Stronger Future Together. Details emailed

Nov 8-9 79th Annual IASCD Annual Conference Riverside Boise

Dec 20, 2023 District Performance Report Due

Chairman: _____ **Date Approved: December 7, 2023**

Minutes prepared by Daina Aguas