

VALLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DECEMBER MINUTES 209 N IDAHO ST, CASCADE

THURSDAY DECEMBER 5, 2024, 9:00 A.M. IN-PERSON/ZOOM HYBRID MEETING

Join Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86270538275?pwd=2CpGTGRu5WNgAbuB1rbVQypyItha1s.1>

Meeting called to order at 9:07 a.m.

Members Present: Supervisors: Colt Brown, Bill Leaf, John Lillehaug Online; Art Troutner, Judy Anderson

Others Present: Durena Farr VSWCD District Manager

Others Online: Cynda Harris, Valley Co. P & Z; Bill Lillibridge, ISWCC; Neil Shippy, IDWR; Meghan Brooksher, ISWCC; Lenard Long, VSWCD Associate; Pam Pace, VSWCD Associate; Kim Thompson, NFPRWC.

Action Item: John Lillehaug moved to approve and sign November 7, 2024, minutes. Bill seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. Draft minutes emailed to board.

NEW BUSINESS: Guests and Guest Organization introductions and updates

1. EPA Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Update - next meeting Janet Cherry presenting to City of Cascade Monday, December 9 at 6 p.m. Lenard Long will attend.
2. Valley Co. P & Z Cynda Herrick December provided new business review (see below). VSWCD commenting on RedRidge Village and letter to County Commissioners supporting request for new/updated Nutrient Pathogen Study for CUP 24-24 Gold Fork River Ranch.
3. IDWR Neil Shippey provided Water supply update; Nez Perce study/ Clearwater and salmon river cloud seeding potential, Groundwater modeling for DF development, A lot of water rights have not been updated to correct addresses, so missing votes
4. Ron Brooks, NRCS EQIP updates, fire mitigation applications; New batch of fiscal year 2025 application under review 80+ projects; 20-24 fire recovery projects; RCPT program, farm bill partnership program. National Forest proposal fuels reduction on private land Adams/Boise/Valley counties. It got approved this year. 20 million project, 10,000 acres
5. ISWCC updates Bill Lillibridge, Meghan Brooksher; New email for district reports; Field staff opening Jerome office - 39 applications; WACPA local legislature thank you's for support; Payette soil health symposium Feb. 6th, 2025
6. NFPR Coalition Workgroup findings, next steps. Steering committee Nov 14 9 a.m.; Outreach and education calendar created, Work Group Leads are identifying project areas that are specific to top priorities so funding can be identified. Conversation around "what would happen" if we didn't fix issues and how to engage more of the community.
7. Cities of Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall Agenda review; Pam attended McCall, bond in may for 7 mill, 3 mill for liner in summer, 4 million iodine problems; Lenard asked that a comment is made from the district/board for the liner to be replaced, December 12th deadline; **Action Item:** Judy moved for the board to make a comment on the Payette sewer district master plan; Liner priority for district And looking into grant from EPA, CAWAG; John seconded and motion carried with all in favor
8. Sherry Maupin - Ag Preservation District update. VSWCD representatives Bill Leaf, Colt Brown; Signed by laws and small group formed; Set us a method for 20 years, no incentives to date; Pam pace had suggestions: hardship (fire/drought) if can't farm don't lose status \ no commercial use of solar; Colt suggested that limitations should be based on watts used (more used would indicate commercial vs. Home and ag.)
9. Other guest reports - Valley County Regional Resilience Assessment update provided by Brittany Brand, BSU

Jordan : John move **Item** d to accept Audit Report: Jordan with Audit Report; did a final assessment specifically reviewing QuickBooks and bank statements, including invoices and receipts, Everything looked good. Footnotes to audit; Long term liabilities: vacation time not taken (\$6,000) want to max out at 40 hours carry over per year; Capital assets (\$24,000 equipment); Budgeted to earn \$627,000 brought in \$642,000. Budgeted to spend \$541,000 actually spent \$628,000. Invoices being approved and more eyes (board); Good clean audit report, everything in order

- i. Judy Anderson: Judy has been contacting DEQ about groundwater assessment, Idaho Geologic Study is also doing a study. Alexis Clark contact at IGS, completing a 3 year study on Treasure Valley nitrates in groundwater. District to advocate to IGS study, septic density for nutrient pathogen study. Potential looking into the creation of a Groundwater District.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Site grading and stormwater calculation work session follow-up – Payette Lake
2. Noxious Weed Treatment/Enforcement Letter of Support

a. Final letter to be signed

FINANCIAL ACTION ITEMS AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION:

1. **Action Item:** John moved to accept and file Treasurer's Report for November 30, 2024. General account and 319 account activity balanced to QuickBooks, Treasurer reviewed bank statements, ICRMP renewal, approved ACH Payments, Umpqua Card charges, recurring payments including Ziple Fiber, Zoom, NPERS, PERSI and Payroll Processing (includes payroll payment to US Treasury and quarterly payroll payments by Central Mountain CPA). Colt Brown seconded and motion carried with all in favor
2. Zwygart Financial Audit update- Completed and signed
3. **Action Item:** Colt moved to approve Chairman signature for Dec 20 Performance Report after review. John seconded and motion carried with all in favor.
4. **Action Item:** Bill Leaf moved to approve Durena December Christmas week 14 PTO hrs request. Colt Brown seconded and motion carried with all in favor

P & Z DECEMBER 9TH 6 PM; 12TH 6 PM; 23RD 1 PM VALLEY CO COURT HOUSE

New Business: concerns were submitted by VSWCD

1. Amendment to Valley Co Comprehensive plan and Valley Co Code Ag Protection Area Act
2. CUP 20-14 RMC/Pinetop Office Extension
3. CUP 22-23 Keller Multiple Residences Extension Request
4. CUP 24-31 Pearson Ranch – Preliminary Plat; Keep access to ditch
5. PUD 24-01 RedRidge Village – DF Development 1,130 residential units; Access West Mountain Rd. north of Blackhawk; Looking for conceptual approval, before moving forward with more detailed plans; Valley County total: 2058 acres; approximately 1000 acres kept as open space/ recreation/ wildlife area; Sewer for village area unknown if to tap into existing vs. Create new; Unknown about water access, they might have water rights but surface water rights. All water rights are junior. Pam to writeup official concern; Need comprehensive plan to see full extent of project; Septic's for 5 acre lots

Facts and Conclusions Action Items:

V-5-24 Guth Setback Variance
CUP 24-23 Foulk Solar Panels
CUP 24-24 Gold Fork River Ranch
CUP 24-29 Bens Ranch Private Airstrip

Date Reminders:

*December Coalition Steering Committee TBD
December 9th 6pm, 12th 6pm, 23rd 1pm, P & Z Public Hearings
December 20th VSWCD Performance Report Due
January 4 VSWCD Board meeting*

Chairman: _____ Date Approved: January 2, 2025 Minutes prepared by Durena Farr, VSWCD; Kim Thompson, NFPWC