

IDAHO SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING
USDA Service Center, 83 Highway 95 N, Grangeville, ID 83530 Wednesday, April 2nd, 2008 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

5:35 P.M.

Scott Wasem

Scott Wasem called the meeting to order at 5:35. Members present Scott Wasem, Tom Gehring, Pete Lane, Ed Stuivenga. Leon Slichter arrived at 5:50.

Others present: Jessica Wells-IASCD arrived at , Richard Spencer-NRCS arrived at 5:35, Stefanie Bowman-IDSWCD

MINUTES

5:35 P.M.

Scott Wasem

March 5, 2008 minutes-Tom moved to approve the minutes with corrections, Ed seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

5:45 P.M.

Scott Wasem

The CD's 90 day period is up on the 12th of April. The board decided to roll it over for another 90 days.

Ed made a motion to approve treasurer's report as presented. Pete seconded. Motion carried.

BILLS REPORT

5:55 P.M.

Scott Wasem

Leon made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Tom seconded. Motion carried.

SCC

6:00 P.M.

Jessica Wells

Staff Reports- Jess presented a payment application for Ken Ross's water trough. Ross's application is in the Lawyer's Creek contract. He will finish the other two when the weather straightens up.

Discussion followed on Bob Rylaarsdam's contract. His current work does not meet the specs that are required for this contract. The fence posts are supposed to be 6-8" in diameter, 8' long and buried 3' deep. The posts are currently 4-5" in diameter, buried 3' deep, and 7' long. Further discussion followed.

Jess gave an update on the WOPA budget situation. They are currently not able to fund any new contracts. The board has a copy of a letter from Biff Burleigh. They have used all but \$1,000.00 of next year's budget for the current years' contracts. Jess talked with Biff today, and he asked her to hold off on starting any new contracts, that way we can see where they are currently sitting. Jess sent out a letter to all current WOPA contract producers concerning the current budget situation.

NRCS

6:30 P.M.

Staff Reports-Richard Spencer presented his staff's reports.

Richard updated the board on how the CSP meetings went. He thought they went very well and has had some good responses on them. He estimates that about 100 producers out of 170 contracts attended at least one of the meetings. They still have hand outs that they can give to participants that were not able to attend.

Richard informed the board that Stefanie will be getting some training to work on some of the maps, that were found missing from producer files, during NRCS's quality review. Jess, Richard or Bob can show her some of the basics and Kelly Olson will give her the more advanced training.

NRCS is working on updating the EQIP contracts. There are numerous contracts that are not completed. The state will be sending out letters to producers if items are not completed by the deadline, which is April 10th, 2008. Discussion followed.

Richard was asked to talk about the current building situation. Currently the building situation is up in the air. NRCS has to get approval from GSA. Once they give an okay the options will go out for bid. Richard had to submit an area for consideration. There isn't really any existing spaces in town that are available lease options. The new space would be about 500-600 sq ft smaller than the current building. Lewiston is now paying \$15.00 sq ft after they moved to their new building. At this building we are currently paying \$19.00 sq ft.

OLD BUSINESS

7:05 P.M.

Scott Wasem

1. Tree report

2. Kyle Wilson-Mileage 120 miles—Leon wanted to know if the board would be interested in paying for his mileage. **Leon made a motion to pay the state mileage rate for Kyle Wilson for 120 miles. Ed seconded. Motion carried.**
3. NRCS-MOU- The board needs to discuss this some more before they act on it. Richard will be informed as to when this MOU is required to be turned in. The board can make their own suggestions. The board can make a draft with changes that they would like to see. It does not necessarily mean that these changes will be accepted. Leon asked if each district is based on that district or if it is the same one for all districts. Latah and NezPerce County have gotten together and have come up with a draft, and Clearwater may be signing with them. The board needs to determine if Rich Sims has looked at the suggestions and if he is going to sign off on theirs. If he does, the board can mirror those drafts. The board will take a look at the draft by Latah.
4. BAG presentation- Scott expressed his concerns with the information that was presented to the board for his presentation to the BAG advisory committee on the Lower Salmon Grant Application. One of the main questions was "Why is this project so big"? He said that he had to ad-lib info to answer their main questions. He suggested that we need to add figures to the presentations, basically an estimate off of the previous projects that the board has worked on. Jess informed the board that we don't actually know the figures that they need. We don't know how many head of cattle, length of fences, etc. The BAG advisory committee wants specifics, basically guesses. Jess suggested that the board make a committee when working on these projects, because more than just Eileen and Jess need to be working on these grant applications. Richard suggested having a public meeting, so that we can get the information out there to the producers in the area. Jess suggested having the meetings now, so that we can get the information out. Scott suggested sending out a questionnaire to all of the producers in this watershed that we can contact. NRCS has a team that will do a Rapid Assessment of watersheds. Richard will check on this for the board.

NEW BUSINESS

8:00 P.M.

Scott Wasem

1. Division II Meeting Discussion-Workshops for District Employees and Supervisors-Leon gave a recap on the discussions from the Division II meeting. AFO has offered to go to the ICA mid year, held in Jackpot, to give them an overall view of what the AFO has done in North Central Idaho.
2. Arbor Day-Pete will get 6 students and a chaperone lined up. **Leon made a motion to purchase T-shirts for the Arbor day participants. Tom seconded. Motion carried.**
3. Executive Session-Employee Review **Leon made a motion to go into executive session. Pete seconded. Scott (yes), Pete (yes), Tom (yes), Leon (yes), Ed (yes).**
4. Budget & Work Plan-FINAL **8:50 P.M.**

ADJOURN

9:15 P.M.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

5:30 P.M.

The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation District may also hold an executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345.
 Note: Order of agenda topics is subject to change.