

IDAHO SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING
USDA Service Center, 83 Highway 95 N, Grangeville, ID 83530 Wednesday, June 4, 2008 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

5:45 P.M.

Scott Wasem

Scott Wasem called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. In attendance were Leon Slichter, Ed Stuvenga. Others present were Jessica Wells-IASCD, Sydney Yuncevich-NRCS, Stefanie Bowman-IDSWCD.

MINUTES

5:45 P.M.

Scott Wasem

May 4th, 2008 minutes-Leon made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections, Ed seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

5:45 P.M.

Scott Wasem

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

BILLS REPORT

6:30 P.M.

Scott Wasem

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

SCC

6:40 P.M.

Jessica Wells

Staff Reports-

Jessica read the letter that was sent to Kenny Seubert to the entire board. We need to send out a new letter, because we have not heard from him regarding the first. The second will be mailed out on June 5th, 2008 by certified mail, requiring signature.

Jessica presented Bob Rylaarsdam's modification for a French drain
Bob Rylaarsdam- Fencing that was approved at the last board meeting. Payment \$6,882.00

Larry Arnzen-\$5,295.54 for 581' of fencing and 2 heavy use pads.

Frei Farms- Jessica found that John Frei has been over applying nitrates on one of his direct seed fields. Jessica mentioned to him that maybe he is over applying and he has been getting some leaching. John doesn't agree with the soil tests that he has had done and feels that he is not in an area where leaching is a problem. When Jessica asked Eileen, Eileen stated that his fields are actually in the Nitrate Zone. Jessica and Eileen have agreed to pay for the direct seeding, but Jessica told him to watch how much he is applying next year. The nutrient management payment will not be paid for the field that is out of compliance. Payment amount \$10,814.25.

Allen Frei-\$2,427.25 for direct seeding on 107.9 acres.

Steve Sonnen-direct seeded oats and pasture and hay land planting. There is a problem with Primeland not following the seeding plan that Jessica gave them. The plan that she gave them was for pure live seed at 30lbs PLS for tall fescue and 90 lbs PLS for alfalfa. Primeland actually gave him 31% for tall fescue and 80% for alfalfa. The alfalfa is below the 90% required for alfalfa, but was at no fault to Steve. The field was checked again and Jessica said it looked great. She recommends that the board pay for the application. Payment amount- \$826.50

Doug & Karen Lustig \$3,482.40 for direct seeding on 145.1 acres.

Ray Wemhoff- \$895.50 for direct seeding oats on 39.8 acres.

Jim Wemhoff- \$4,518.05 for 3,756' of fencing.

Jessica talked to the board about the Cost Share List. NRCS is actually updating their cost share list, so they are compiling their information and sharing it with us. On the current cost list, soil testing is at \$50.00 but the bills we are getting are for \$62.50. Direct seeding is now at \$30.00 an acre, but our cost list shows us paying \$22.50 an acre.

Doug Boggan-New contract-two watering facilities with concrete pads, well, pumping plant, and a cistern. DIV-II AFO 1 year contract for \$22,238.00.

Leon made a motion to approve and sign contracts, modifications, and payment applications. Ed seconded. Motion carried.

IASCD has been working with Russell Vessey to get a feedlot up on Battle Ridge. He is Tier III CSP, so he has to meet requirements. He has some of the best soil in the soil survey, so Jessica and Eileen feel that putting 40 pair (mommies with new babies) from November through April on 3 acres, with no buildings and lots of dirt would not be the best solution. Jessica called Russell on Friday May 30th, and told him that she didn't feel that it would be feasible to have that many cows on that small of an area. Jessica has asked him to contact her and she will go out and see what other sites that he may have that will be better options for a feedlot. Jessica has not heard from him since Friday May 30th, 2008. Scott suggested telling Russell that a project like this is a 20 year project and the well can only be used for watering the cattle.

The board is in agreement with Jessica's recommendations for Russell Vessey.

Jessica went out to Quinn and Ray Wemhoff's place and looked at a well. They already have a well that gives 1-2 gal a minute. Jessica suggested a cistern, but they already have one, it is just old. They have a lot there, but water isn't a concern. Jessica said that there is a lot with numerous animals at different times and they have a lot of water in it, so they can do a diversion and gutters on the barn to keep the water out of the lot. They do not have a resource concern, because the water is there just not when they need it. Jessica suggested calling them and telling them that we can go out and size up a cistern and the Wemhoff's can install it. If interested in fixing the lot, Jessica can fill out paper work to determine if it would or would not currently meet quality criteria.

Biff Burleigh called and told Jess that the SCC has found \$60,000.00 in their budget that if they can use it by the 20th of June, they can use it in the current year and pay for the projects that they get in. Biff has asked that we get the bills in and down to SCC as soon as possible so that they can get some of them paid.

The board said that as long as it is in accordance with the contracts, they will approve them by a 3 call telephone vote. We will then note that in the minutes at the next meeting.

Leon moved that as needed the board will sign the payment application as presented to a minimum of three board members by phone. Ed seconded. Motion carried.

NRCS 7:30 P.M.

Staff Reports-Sydney Yuncevich presented the staff's reports.

Sydney informed the board that Richard suggested if the board wanted a Rapid Assessment done, the board would have to request one be scheduled by writing a letter to the State Con. It would be easier to get monies for the Salmon River project if a Rapid Assessment was done.

The Farm Bill did pass. CSP has been funded for current contracts. There will be a new CSP program starting Oct 1, 2008. It will be fairly restrictive and open to all of the watersheds. Nothing to exceed \$18.00 an acre for a total contract cost. The current ones would be around \$30.00 per acre. EQIP has been funded with more money. At least 60% of the monies will be for livestock operators.

OLD BUSINESS 8:00 P.M. Scott Wasem

- 1. NRCS/CWA-**Leon made a motion to approve and sign the Cooperative Working Agreement. Ed seconded. Motion carried.** Basically using the same as the Latah District Agreement

NEW BUSINESS 8:05 P.M. Scott Wasem

- 1. Zero Based Budgeting.
- 2. Windtowers on CSP ground-the state office needs from the producers, a plan of what is being proposed. It is hard for the State office to say what is going to be affected on the CSP acres without the proposal information. They need to know specifics before they will make a decision. The companies that are doing the windmills won't even start without knowing it is okay. Once the producer has the pros and cons, they could tell the windmill companies that if the producer loses CSP monies due to something the companies do, the companies would have to pay back the producer. Before any work is done, the work should be in a signed contract with the windmill company.

Ed made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Leon seconded. Motion carried.

ADJOURN 8:15 P.M.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 2, 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.