

IDAHO SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING
USDA Service Center, 83 Highway 95 N, Grangeville, ID 83530 Wednesday, August 1, 2008 6:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

6:03 A.M.

Scott Wasem

Scott Wasem called the meeting to order at 6:03 a.m. In attendance were Leon Slichter, Ed Stuiwenga, Pete Lane. Tom Gehring was absent. Others present were Jessica Wells-IASCD, Richard Spencer, Stefanie Bowman-IDSWCD.

MINUTES

6:04 A.M.

Scott Wasem

August 1, 2008-Leon made a motion to approve the minutes as is. Ed seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S/BILLS REPORT

6:10 A.M.

Scott Wasem

Leon made a motion to try approving paychecks for Stefanie once a month, signing only the ones for the next month. Ed seconded. Motion carried.

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

NRCS

6:20 A.M.

Staff Reports-

Richard informed the board about what the Toolkit Training in Moscow was about.

Richard also discussed his Staff reports for the month of July. Richard answered questions regarding the fence training that was held in July. Field verifications on CSP have been going well. There have been a few producers that were haying before the 16th of July, but they were stopped before they got too far.

EQIP LWG meeting-payment rate schedule comparison. The costs that are on the forms are the ones that the producer would receive, they did this to make it easier on the producers. Richard handed out to the board members and suggested having the District Administrator call people to see if they would be interested in attending an EQIP meeting.

The 2009 application process is closed. For 2010, the producers need to come in ahead of time and have Sydney put together a grazing plan. Richard will check the protocols to see what is acceptable. Jess thinks that it would be in the best interest of the board to hire a Contractor to work up Grazing plans if there is enough interest on the Lower Salmon area. There is a cap on the EQIP costs. The producers can only do the EQIP practices for 3 consecutive years to get paid for them. We could have the 319 and EQIP contracts go through the producers land one right after another. But to go through the EQIP program, the grazing plans would have to meet the NRCS specs. Being a Tier III, the producers cannot apply for an EQIP project. To get an EQIP contract you have to be an Ag Producer that has \$1,000.00 worth of income from an agricultural enterprise.

SCC

7:00 A.M.

Jessica Wells

Staff Reports-

2. 1 new contract, 3 modifications, 2 payment applications.-

Denis Long-new contract for Division II AFO. The fence will be done on his own, put in pipeline for his troughs, going to develop his spring, fence off all of the wetland and a crossing. Going to put a trough in along the road, and one is at the bottom of the field. He will be feeding the cattle east of the old red barn. He is Tier III so if there is a resource concern with any of the new changes, he will have to do something else. Denis installed two culverts on his own to keep the cows from mucking up the wetland area, and has fenced it off the entirely. Leon feels that getting him up into the timber to feed during the winter would be an excellent place.

Kent Rad-The direct seeded field over by the sales yard was barley. We have had the original soils test sent to us to verify that they were actually done. MacGregors didn't take the sample until after Kent had seeded. Jess suggested refusing the payment application because the soil sample was not taken until after the field had been seeded. He is getting close to the threshold for his phosphorus, which is 6, he is currently at a 4/5. He can be paid when he re-seeds the field and takes a soil sample in the correct order.

Leon made a motion to deny the payment application because he doesn't meet the guidelines for Direct Seeding specifications, he took the soil test after the fertilization was done. Pete seconded. Motion carried.

Larry Arnzen-heavy use pad. Has an access road that he doesn't want to build. Eileen contacted Bill Lillibridge to see if he needed it, and Bill said no. So they have a modification for \$1,500.00 to be removed from the contract.

Ken Seubert- is not turning in any of his Spring Crops for payment. Some of his acreage changed hands.

Tim Gehring-needs a modification. Jessica and Bob Sandlund went out and helped him locate the area for his cistern. They ended up decreasing the size of the cistern. Instead of concrete around the troughs, they are going to put rock, due to the amount of slope, he wouldn't be able to keep enough earth around it to keep the cows from tearing out the concrete. He is also going to build fence on his own. Increase the cost of troughs and add an additional trough. Still under the AFO limit, so only the board needs to approve it.

Brian Gehring-needs a modification. He wanted the cistern lower, but when Jess and Bob looked at it, it wouldn't work. Updated the cost for the troughs-2, wants to go with frost free.

Bill Lillibridge is now going clear to the Canadian border and as far South as Owyhee County and the turn around time is about 3 weeks to get him to look at an engineering plan.

3. **Working with smaller acreage landowners.**-Smaller acreage producers have been contacting IASCD asking for help on weed control. We had a lady call earlier this week, and she actually has 10 acres of ventenata. She had originally thought it was cheat grass. If the producers can show that their intent is to show that they intend to have \$1000.00 of income per year for agricultural purposes we can help them. Farm machinery suppliers are also targeting smaller landowners. They currently have CIG grants through the Commission that could be possible for these landowners, or we can put together some grants that would be good for this purpose. For WOPA they no longer have to be Ag producers. Jessica would like the board to think about this and let them know before the end of the year. Clearwater County is also addressing the issue. Possibly touch base with Kelli Roselini and see how they are going about it.

4. **Update cost list and supplement 1.**-These include labor and costs of equipment. Skid steers are not on there. We have 10.90 an hour for non-skilled labor, and the skilled labor is 16.90 an hour. Make a column for equipment with operator and one for equipment without operator.

Leon made a motion to move unskilled labor to labor for \$12.00 and skilled labor to equipment operator for \$20.00. Pete seconded. Motion carried.

5. **Update on WOPA funding situation.**-Have already allocated out all of the money. We called everyone and have heard from a few. But others we still haven't received the payment approval form from. They may get money this fall, but probably not.

Leon Slichter left the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

8:15 A.M.

Scott Wasem

1. Elections-declaration of candidacy and appoint election official

NEW BUSINESS

8:15 A.M.

Scott Wasem

1. State mileage rate, increase to 58.5 cents per mile

ADJOURN

8:15 A.M.

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

6:00 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.