

IDAHO SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING

USDA Service Center, 83 Highway 95 N, Grangeville, ID 83530 Wednesday, September 3, 2008 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

6:00 P.M.

Scott Wasem

Scott Wasem called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were Ed Stuiwenga and Tom Gehring. Leon Slichter arrived at 6:05 p.m. Pete Lane was absent. Others present were Jessica Wells-IASCD, Richard Spencer-NRCS, Stefanie Bowman-IDSWCD.

MINUTES

6:05 P.M.

Scott Wasem

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

TREASURER'S/BILLS REPORT

6:10 P.M.

Scott Wasem

Stefanie told the board that making up paychecks before the meetings was time consuming and double work for her. She suggested that she just return to the previous way of turning in timesheets for paychecks, and the board was okay with that.

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

IASCD & ISCC

6:20 P.M.

Staff Reports-

Delmar Wassmuth-Eileen Rowan and Jessica Wells went out to meet with him today. They had him sign a modification, because of some health issues and money issues with the SCC he was not able to complete his contract on time.

There will be a Division II AFO tour next Tuesday the 9th of September. Jerry West will be here and we will be looking at Tim Gehring and Brian Gehring's. It will be at 9:00 a.m. and we will be meeting at Dog Bark Park.

Jessica received a phone call from John Cardwell regarding a meeting headed up to Elk City. They will be meeting at the Junction of Mount Idaho or at the Old Mill Site in Elk City. This is going to be on the 10th of September and will also be with Jerry West.

Eric Wassmuth called and is currently finishing up a rotational direct seed field and he would like to move over to a continuous Direct Seed. Will this be a high, medium or low priority? Eric is currently in the STOC grant. He is currently on the rotational schedule for 428.8 acres and he has been having pretty good success which is the reason for him wanting to go into continuous. The contract would be for 3 years, and the producer would pay for the first year, the District would pay for two years and then the producer would be on his own. Starting out, Eric was listed as a high priority. Right now he is in between the high and medium status. Since he has been doing this for a while, he would be a new farmer, but has done some no-till. He currently does not have a drill. Leon suggested that since the fact that he has done enough that he knows what we are working for, and he knows how it works for him, to go ahead and write up a contract. Over a three year period, Eric received \$7,713.00, which is about \$24.00/acre. NRCS now pays on three consecutive years. They used to cost share for 3 years and then the producer would have to continue on at their own expense. NRCS no longer has any non cost share practices. Everything is cost shared. Leon said to stick with a contract that has two out of three years as being a cost share year.

Doug Boggan-Jessica informed the board that concrete is not going to work at the sites where he wants his troughs. There is not a practical way to get the concrete to the locations. Just getting the rock up there will take quite a bit of work. They may have to use an excavator to get it close, and then use buckets to carry it to the location. For two weeks he will have 30 cows that will use it and then he will have 100 cows use it for three months. They are trying to convince him to move the trough to the lower area of the field, which would be more feasible for 30 cows to walk down to than having 100 cows walk up to. Jessica explained to the board where the location of the current trough site is. Eileen is currently working on different trough types etc., to see if we can come up with something different. Jessica has asked Bill Lillibridge to go down and talk with Doug, to see what options they can come up with, and Bill said to draw up some different options, and he will approve them. Jessica is going to call Bill Lillibridge and have him just draw up the plans, so that Doug doesn't have to wait for the two week turn around time. Leon said not to add a bunch of extra expense, because this is an AFO project, not a grazing project. Jessica, Rich Gribble and Eileen are not sure what it is going to cost to put in the pipe line to get the troughs working. There are numerous hills that are located in the area that will make the pipeline impractical. Jessica suggested that they move the second trough down to the fence line that separate the two fields. The first trough has been approved by the board. Jessica will check to make sure that the well has been drilled and the electricity is in, before any work is done on the pipe line, troughs and cistern. Leon said to take out the trough that is on the upper bench. Jessica will call Doug and tell him that the trough in the upper bench will not work in the contract.

Payments:

Denis Long is finished with his project. Everything is done and approved. Rich Gribble did a lot of the design work for them just to get the project done. The total cost for the project will be \$11,033.63. Denis paid for the culverts and the fence in the upper field.

Jerry Arnzen completed his corral and everything matched the specs. The total cost for the corral will be \$4,248.00 and this will complete his project. Jessica added as a side note that we pay \$12.00/ft and it cost him \$18.52 /ft.

Kent Rad- Jessica told the board that he took the soil tests late, because he is working on Nutrient Mgmt. He did direct seed so he should get paid, because the nutrient is done through his CSP. We are not paying for the Nutrient Mgmt, so we should pay him for the Direct seeding that he did on the field. Soil testing and direct seeding are two different practices in a contract. The soil testing is in the contract because normally the direct seeding and soil testing are done hand in hand. Direct seeding does not require a nutrient management. This is a STOC contract. Leon feels that at this point in time, even though he isn't getting paid for the test, the way it is written, he doesn't feel that we can pay him until it is done correctly. So we are currently post-poning the payment until the process is done correctly.

Andy Kaschmitter came in today and asked if the costs for fencing will be increasing since everything included in building fence has doubled. Tom will bring in a current price list for the items needed, so that we can re-visit updating the cost lists.

NRCS **7:15 P.M.** **Jessica Wells**
Staff Reports: Chris Hoag was here last week. He is the wetlands plant specialist in our area. He took the NRCS staff to different producer areas and looked at stream banks. Richard explained how to go about fixing cut banks and prevent them from getting worse.

Richard is still taking comments on the cost lists. He asked that the board please look over the ranking criteria.

OLD BUSINESS **7:30 P.M.** **Scott Wasem**
1. Elections
2. IASCD-DIV II Meeting
3. Windmills-NRCS said that they need specifics on the windmill sights. They need to know how big of an area, the location, etc. Richard said that it would be better to be on pasture or cropland. The producer needs to let NRCS know what they need to be able to do work on the sites that they are looking at. The only thing that NRCS is worried about is the footprint of the windmill sites. A power company gentleman called Richard and he told them that NRCS doesn't actually have a policy on the windmill area. The companies want to control larger areas around the windmills that are in the CSP area. Richard said the best thing a person can do is get the most information that they can. Acres are moved all of the time, but NRCS just needs to know the specs.
4. Website

NEW BUSINESS **8:15 P.M.** **Scott Wasem**
1. Audit

ADJOURN **8:15 P.M.**

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING **Wednesday, October 1, 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.