



Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District
7830 Meadowlark Way, Suite C1 – Coeur d’Alene, Idaho 83815 – Phone (208) 762-4939

Date: February 12, 2020

Time: Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: NRCS Conference Room, 7830 Meadowlark Way, Suite C-1, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83815

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. District Business

- a. Approve Minutes from January’s Meeting **ACTION ITEM**
- b. Treasurer’s Report **ACTION ITEM**

III. Agency Reports

- a. NRCS: Aubrey
- b. ISWCC: Brad
- c. KSSWCD: Updates

IV. Other Business

- a. John Mobbs- Growers Meeting- Aquifer Funding
- b. Betty Mobbs- North Idaho Farm Stand
- c. Increased Appropriation to the ISWCC – **ACTION ITEM**
- d. Approve Boat Station MOU – **ACTION ITEM**
- e. Approve \$50.00 Forestry Contest Donation – **ACTION ITEM**
- f. Donation to 2020 Idaho Envirothon – **ACTION ITEM**
- g. High School Volunteer at Boat Station
- h. Funding request for Grower’s Meeting
- i. NACD TA Grant- NRCS -Part Time Planner
- j. **Executive Session [Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(a) & (b)]**
- k. Boat Station Employee – Tessa Sebala – **ACTION ITEM**

V. On Going Business

- a. Next Meeting March 11, 2020 at 9am NRCS Conference Room

VII. Adjournment ACTION ITEM

*The Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisors may also hold an executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to [Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(a) & (b)5. No formal action will be taken during this session.



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All services of the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to national origin, race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap. Auxiliary aides or services for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please call 208-209-4348 five (5) days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made. Text telephone (TT) 1-800-377-3529.

Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District
7830 Meadowlark Way, Ste. C-1
Coeur d'Alene ID 83815
208.209-4348

“Putting conservation on the ground by promoting stewardship”

Minutes

Date: February 12, 2020

Present

Bob Burke – Vice-Chairman
Stan Thornton - Secretary/Treasurer
Linda Ely – Supervisor
Bob Flagor – Supervisor
Mike Schlepp – Supervisor
Laurin Scarcello - Supervisor
Aubrey Hoxie - NRCS
Karla Freeman, KSSWCD
Brad Shelton – ISWCC
John Mobbs- Landowner
Betty Mobbs - Landowner

Absent (Board members)

Ed Pommerening - Chairman

Meeting called to order by Vice - Chairman Bob Burke at 9:00 a.m.

Stan Thornton moved and Linda Ely seconded the motion to approve the January 2020 minutes. **Motion Carried.**

Mike Schlepp moved and Bob Flagor seconded the motion to approve the January 2020 financial report. **Motion Carried.**

Aubrey Hoxie with the NRCS gave the following agency updates, currently NRCS has 15 active EQIP contracts and 24 active RCPP-EQIP contracts. 2020 Application, we have 70 so far. 95% are doing forest management (thinning and fuel breaks). EQIP deadline is March 13, 2020. All CSP contracts have been finished as of December 2019.

Aubrey updated on new news, the additional planner was posted to the USA jobs site and is open until April 7, 2020. They will be pulling certs every couple of weeks to a month and once we hire someone the job will be filled and the posting removed, even if this prior to the April 7, 2020 deadline. New MOU'S between NRCS, the Districts and the Commission are still being finished up and will go out to districts soon. NRCS has adopted a new Mission and Vision Statement for the agency that was just announced by the Chief.

Mission Statement: We deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world.

Vision Statement: A world of clean and abundant water, heathy soils, resilient landscaped and thriving agricultural communities through voluntary conservation.

Aubrey updated the weather/water outlook SWE (Snow water equivalent) is 107% of normal; and % precip: 94% of normal as of February 12, 2020.

Brad Shelton with ISWCC updated that the commission made our JFAC presentation with a 1% mandated reduction for FY2021. There has been some misinformation being spread about the trustee and benefit being held back by the commission. This isn't the case and the TB fund is the same as it has been since 2016 and is mandated by the legislature. The commission presented the ISWCC Omnibus Rule to the senate ag committee which approved the rules as submitted. The governor appointed Wendy Pratt, a rancher and conservationist supervisor at Bingham District to the commission board. Wendy will have a confirmation hearing before the senate ag on February 18, 2020.

Karla Freeman, District Administrator updated that Hutchens (our payroll service) has taken over the workman's comp duties. They are now withholding this from payroll checks and will be responsible for making the yearly payment.

Karla updated on the current tree sales and that we have just over 12,000 trees left.

Karla updated on the ICRMP meeting that was held in Sandpoint, and due to the weather, she was not able to attend but did have the presentation handout for the board members.

Karla updated that the boat station training classes were being held on March 3rd and March 4th, 2020. She also updated that Bruce Davis would not be taking on the supervisor position due to health issues and that Kelli Moe our manger has decided to promote Don Capparelli to this position.

Karla updated on the current projects with the district; the plans for the Wolf Lodge Creek Reach #3 are at 80% complete and have been sent out to landowners and other agencies that are involved with this project for their review.

Karla updated that we were notified that we are being award a Restoration Partnership Grant for Castle Rock Ranch – Albert Walsh landowner located in Shoshone county. No MOU has been received on this as of yet. The district was also notified that we were not awarded the Urban Ag Grant with KEA on the food forest for this year.

Karla also talked about an upcoming request for proposals from NCAD on a Technical Assistant. We do not have a date for when this will be coming down the pipeline but Karla will draft a general budget of what it would look like for the board to review in case we want to move forward in trying to obtain a grant for this.

John Mobbs, landowner was in attendance and spoke to the board on sponsoring/donating to a Regenerative Ranching seminar that is being held May 15th and May 16th, 2020 in Post Falls, ID (see handout). John will be sending a formal request to the district in the upcoming weeks and will be added to the agenda for next month. John also talked about the district having a no till drill program. John is going to gather more information on this as well.

Betty Mobbs, landowner was in attendance and spoke to the board on sponsoring a Farm Corridor. This corridor would allow people to visit the local participating farmers and see where their food comes from and see the practices that are used on these farms. Betty will gather more information and try to get a list of local farmers that would be interested in participating in this (see handout).

Karla, District Administrator presented an Appropriation Letter from Benjamin Kelly, IASCD that was sent out to all the districts in Idaho for a signature to show support. Mike Schlepp moved and Laurin Scarcello seconded the motion to support and sign this letter. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Karla, District Administrator presented the boat station MOU for the 2020 season for approval. Bob Flagor moved and Linda Ely seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Karla, District Administrator presented the Forestry Contest contribution letter to the board for a \$50.00 donation. Stan Thornton moved and Laurin Scarcello seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Karla, District Administrator presented an Idaho Envirothon letter requesting a donation of \$100.00. Stan Thornton moved and Linda Ely seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Karla, District Administrator also updated the board that a high school student is doing a project on the invasive species affecting northern Idaho. He has requested to volunteer at the boat stations to gather hands on training. After checking with ICRMP on the liability, he will be attending the training classes and supervisor Bob Flagor has volunteered to meet him at a boat station and show him the inspection process.

Karla, District Administrator also presented the board with a request that will be sent to the Rathdrum Aquifer – Growers Meeting. We do not want to lose this funding source. We would be able to use this funding source for donations to programs such as workshops and seminars. Laurin Scarcello will take this request to the meeting and be the liaison.

The board went into **Executive Session @ 10:30am** to consider personnel matters per [Idaho Code § 67-2345(1)(a) & (b)]

Roll call:

Bob Burke – Vice Chairman	Yes
Stan Thornton – Treasurer	Yes
Linda Ely – Supervisor	Yes
Mike Schlepp – Supervisor	Yes
Bob Flagor – Supervisor	Yes
Laurin Scarcello – Supervisor	Yes

The board came out of **Executive Session @ 11:15 am.**

The board discussed the return of a boat station employee Tessa Sebala. More information is needed prior to making this decision and will be tabled until we have that information.

Next board meeting will be March 11, 2020 at 9:00 am at NRCS conference room.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.