

MINUTES OF JEFFERSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Rigby Service Center
December 8th, 2011

Supervisors Present: Mel Briggs, Richard Jacobson, Jason Ferguson, Jerry Foster, Chuck Stewart, Pete McGarry, Brian Reed, Soil & Water Conservation Commission, Ben Evans, County Executive Director
Others Present: Becky Crystal, District Employee, Howard Johnson, Soil Conservationist
Absent; Pat Hendren ,Shane Shippen,
Mel Briggs, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Minutes of the October 12th, 2011 Jefferson S.W.C.D. Board Meeting minutes were mailed out earlier for review. **Richard made a motion, seconded by Pete, to dispense from reading the minutes and accept them as written with the date change. Motion passed.**

Financial Report for October & November 2011 Jason made a motion seconded by Jerry to accept October & November 2011 Financial Report. Motion Passed.

Bills

The following bills were discussed:

- Lisa Arteaga - \$15.00 - 5th place poster contest
- Tanner Clayton - \$35.00 - 1st place poster contest
- Jenna Murdock - \$20.00 - 4th place poster contest
- Braden Erickson - \$25.00 - 3rd Place Poster contest
- Debra Williams - \$30.00 - 2nd place poster contest
- Rachel Grover - \$10.00 - 6th place poster contest
- Butte SWCD - \$62.50 - Meal for Division VI fall meeting
- Jefferson Star - \$26.00 - Subscription for the Jefferson Star
- Garrett Richins - \$60.00 - 1st place speech contest
- Shania Jensen - \$50.00 - 2nd place speech contest
- Annalisa Richins - \$40.00 - 3rd place speech contest
- Amanda Hale - \$20.00 - 4th Place speech contest
- IRS - \$482.84 - Tax Payment 7/1/11 - 9/30/11
- ID State Tax Commission - \$27.00 - tax payment 7/1/11 - 9/30/11
- Post Register - \$130.39 - Add for CCPI land leveling
- IDCL - \$28.03 - Tax payment 7/1/11 - 9/30/11
- Rebecca Crystal - \$354.04 - Payroll 10/16/11 - 10/31/11
- IASCD - \$555.00 - 2011 Conference Registration & Meals
- NACD - \$500.00 - 2012 Membership dues
- Speedy CPS - \$24.00 - Copies for CCPI Project
- Shania Jensen - \$60.52 - Mileage to travel to Speech Contest
- Pete McGarry - \$44.59 - Mileage to travel to fall division meeting
- Richard Jacobson - \$60.52 - Mileage to travel to fall division meeting
- Lazer Art & Engraving - \$71.70 - Poster contest Plaques for 2011
- Steven Richins \$60.52 - Mileage to travel to speech contest
- Pete McGarry - \$31.85 - Travel to October board meeting
- Jon Hogge - \$389.36 - Mileage & food for Envirothon to present @ conference
- Pat Hendren - \$43.68 - Travel to October board meeting
- Riverside Hotel - \$1,193.28 - Hotel stay for 2011 IASCD Conference
- Mel Briggs - \$317.36 - Mileage/food to IASCD 2011 Conference in Boise
- Jason Ferguson - \$314.36 - Mileage/food to IASCD 2011 Conference in Boise
- Becky Crystal - \$330.86 - Mileage/food to travel to IASCD conference in Boise

- Richard Jacobson - \$357.86 - Mileage/food to travel to IASCD conference in Boise
- Rocky Mountain Environmental - \$285.62 - Mileage/Food, speaker @ IASCD in Boise
- United States Post Office - \$190.00 - Bulk mailing permit #10 for Jefferson
- The Cheesecake Factory - \$212.20 - Board Meeting @ IASCD Conference in Boise
- Rebecca Crystal \$618.55 - Payroll 11/1/11 - 11/15/11
- Miskin & Associates \$415.00 - 2011 Financial Audit
- Cash - \$150.00 - Petty Cash for drawer
- Rebecca Crystal - \$349.07 - Payroll 11/16/11 - 11/30/11

Becky added the following bills; Idaho Department of Ag - \$100.00 – 2012 Tree License, Broulim’s - \$79.80 – December board meeting, Chuck Stewart - \$48.24 – Mileage to December board meeting, Pete McGarry - \$31.85 – Mileage to December board meeting, Gator Jacks - \$103.52 – Lunch for board meeting
Pete made a motion, seconded by Jason to ratify the above bills, and pay the additional bills Becky added. Motion passed.

NRCS Update /CCPI GRANT

Howard handed out a paper that showed FY 12 Program dates and went over the information in length. Howard also let the board know that the CCPI grant funded 9 contracts totaling \$114,000 for laser land leveling. Richard asked Howard about the Sage Grouse Initiative Program. He read in the paper that they are getting closer to listing the Sage Grouse on the endangered species list and wanted to know what type of impact if any the SGI program has had on the population. Howard let the board know that at this time he did not know what impact the SGI Program has had on the endangered numbers, however he said he has heard that SGI will be continued as a program for EQIP. Howard also talked in brief about the deadline for the EQIP sign up; applications have to be in by January 13th. Mel asked Howard about possibly applying for additional funds for the CCPI project, or maybe submitting a new grant that would include the Roberts area. Howard said he would look into the possibility and let the board know. Howard let the board know that they will be filling Aaron’s position with an employee from area 1. His name is Nick Studebaker and he will start February 2nd.

IASCD Meeting Boise November 13-16

Richard gave the board a brief update about the IASCD meetings in Boise. The Envirothon team gave a good presentation for the education luncheon, and our Speech contestant took second place. Roger Warner gave a good presentation for our Water Resource meeting.

IASCD Coordination Class Update by Richard

Richard briefed the board about the coordination class that he attended at the conference. The class was about how to fight the government. There are a few government agencies that qualify to fight the federal government due to a clause that was found. We are one of those few agencies. Richard said this was interesting information but he did not see how this pertained to our district. Brian Reed explained to the board the reason Terri wanted the Districts to attend this class. Conservation Districts are the lead in Idaho for Conservation and Environmental things. When dollars are spent the government has to come to the table and here our needs. This is a good tool to let our priorities be known, they have to consider what our needs are and prove in court why it should be done their way. It has to be federal involvement, federal lands in order for this clause to work.

2012 IASCD Conference in Idaho Falls

Mel let the board know that IASCD conference will be held in Idaho Falls next year and that our District will be in charge of the IDEA Luncheon. The board discussed this briefly and will talk about it again at a later date.

High Country RC&D

High Country RC&D sent out a letter to all conservation districts asking them to donate to the cloud seeding program again this year. The board discussed this briefly. **Jerry made a motion seconded by Chuck to give \$500.00 to RC&D for the Cloud Seeding Program. Motion passed by majority vote.**

QuickBooks Payroll Problem

Becky let the board know that in order to continue with QuickBooks payroll online they would need to pay an additional \$42.00 per month in addition to the fees that have already been paid and have this charged to a Credit Card. Becky also let the board know that as of July 1, 2012 IASCD will no longer help districts to purchase QuickBooks online. This has become a huge hassle for Nancy the Administrative Assistant for IASCD. The board discussed many different options to solve this problem. They asked Becky to get more information and they will discuss this at the next board meeting.

Tree Sale

Mel read the email that Mike from Sester Farms sent Becky. Basically Sesters wants to use our name to sell their ball and burlap trees, they will pay for all the advertising, take care of all orders, and handle the loading of these trees and in return they will give us a 5% commission for endorsing their product. After some brief discussion the board choose to decline this offer.

CCPI Land Leveling Money

Becky asked the board how they wanted to disperse the \$3,000.00 that the District obligated to the CCPI Grant. Howard gave a suggestion that the board buy each producer a nice soil probe since this would tie in with the nutrient management practice that they will have to do. **Jason made a motion, seconded by Jerry to buy the nicest soil probe we can buy for \$100 to give to those in the CCPI Program. Motion passed.**

Financial Audit

Becky handed out the financial audit for FY11 that Miskin & Associates has prepared. **Richard made a motion, seconded by Chuck to approve the FY11 Financial Audit. Motion passed.**

Reorganization of the board

Jerry made a motion, seconded by Chuck for the board to remain the same with acclamation. Motion passed.

Directors Reports

Ben Evans gave the board an update on FSA. He said things are changing and things are getting tough. Ben updated use on average adjusted income. Now booth farm and nonfarm will be put together, if your three year average is over one million you will not be able to apply for some programs. If you have applied for EQIP you need to fill out the newest form. Also FSA will be responsible to send forms into the IRS this year. The DCP acre sign up is not until January 23rd, there will be no advanced payment for 2012. Ben also let the board know that after 23 years Elaine Roker has retired and that they will not be able to fill her position.

Mel made a motion to enter Executive Session of the Jefferson SWCD to discuss personnel matters pursuant Idaho Code Section 67-2345. Jerry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Richard made a motion, seconded by Jason, to return to regular board meeting. Motion passed.

Next board meeting will be held January 12, 2012 at the Rigby Service Center at 9:00 a.m.

Jerry made a motion, seconded by Richard, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Minutes taken and typed by Becky Crystal.