



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

AMENDED

REGULAR MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE NOTICE & AGENDA

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission
December 13, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. MT

Location: Idaho Water Center, 322 E Front St, Suite 560, Conference Room, Boise
TELECONFERENCE # 1-877-820-7831 Passcode: 922837

Members of the public may address any item on the Agenda during consideration of that item. Those wishing to comment on any agenda item are requested to so indicate on the sign-in sheet in advance. Copies of agenda items, staff reports and/or written documentation relating to items of business on the agenda are on file in the office of the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission in Boise. Upon request, copies can be emailed and will also be available for review at the meeting.

The Commission will occasionally convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1). Executive Session is closed to the public.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE

The meeting will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please contact the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission at (208) 332-1790 or Info@swc.idaho.gov so advance arrangements can be made.

1.	WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL	Chairman Wright
2.	PARTNER REPORTS (for information only)	
* 3.	AGENDA REVIEW (potential action item) The Agenda may be amended by formal Board action if necessary at the meeting. If so, a motion that states the reason for the amendment and the good faith reason the item was not included in the original agenda will be made and approved by the Board.	Chairman Wright
ACTION ITEMS		
4.	ADMINISTRATIVE	
*# a.	MINUTES 1. October 11 th , 2018 2. October 17 th , 2018 3. November 8 th , 2018 <u>ACTION:</u> Approve	Yadon
*# b.	FINANCIAL REPORT 1. FY 2019 Monthly Report, October 31, 2018 2. FY 2019 Monthly Report, November 30, 2018 3. FY 2019 YTD Financial Summary through November 30, 2018 <u>ACTION:</u> Approve	Yadon

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission consideration

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice: Dec. 7, 2018

*#	c.	ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT <u>ACTION</u> : Approve ongoing participation in the University of Idaho's Rinker Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Board and Authorize Administrator to Sign Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding to Serve as a Member of the Rinker Rock Creek Advisory Board.	Murrison
NON-ACTION ITEMS			
	4.	ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT.)	
#	d.	BOARD DISCUSSION Review and discuss November 13, 2018, Joint Board Meeting with the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD), Commission Listening Session <u>ACTION</u> : None, for information only	Murrison
#	e.	2011 PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT Review and discuss existing and possible revisions to Partnership Agreement with IASCD, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Idaho District Employees Association in preparation for January Joint Board Meeting with IASCD <u>ACTION</u> : None, for information only	Murrison
	5.	PROGRAMS	
#	a.	DISTRICT MATCH ALLOCATION Review IASCD Emergency Resolutions and discuss potential responses to be communicated at Joint Board Meeting in January 2019 <u>ACTION</u> : None, for information only	Trefz
	b.	RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE <u>ACTION</u> : None, for information only	Hoebelheinrich
	6.	OTHER REPORTS <u>ACTION</u> : None, for information only	Commissioners, Staff
POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS			
	7.	EXECUTIVE SESSION <i>Executive Session is closed to the public. Under the relevant Idaho Code Section(s) noted below, any Board action will be taken publicly in open session directly following Executive Session.</i> <u>ACTION</u> : Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Codes § 74-206(1)(d) for the purpose of discussing a loan application and § 74-206(1)(f) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated with legal counsel. <u>Roll Call Vote</u>	Chairman Wright
	a.	RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM The Commission will convene in Executive Session to consider approval or denial of a loan application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loan Application #A-730 <u>ACTION</u> : For consideration and possible action outside of Executive Session	Hoebelheinrich
ADJOURN <i>The next Regular Commission Meeting will be a Joint Board Meeting with the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts scheduled for January 14, 2019, at 2:00 pm MT in Boise, Idaho.</i>			Chairman Wright

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission consideration

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice: Dec. 7, 2018



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

322 E Front St, Suite 560 • Boise Idaho 83702
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Thursday, October 11, 2018
10:00 am – 1:01 pm MST

Location:

Idaho Water Center
322 E Front St, Suite 560
Boise, Idaho

Draft MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Norman Wright (Chair) (teleconference) Cathy Roemer (Vice-Chair) (teleconference)
Dave Radford (Secretary) (teleconference) Erik Olson (teleconference)

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Teri Murrison Crystal Rosen
Corrine Dalzell Rhonda Yadon
Maria Minicucci

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Shantel Chapple Knowlton, Office of the Attorney General (teleconference)
Bruce Sandoval, NRCS (teleconference)
Benjamin Kelly, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (teleconference)

ITEM #1: WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners David Radford, Cathy Roemer, and Erik Olson were present. Commissioner Trebesch was absent.

ITEM #2: PARTNER REPORTS

Action: None taken

ITEM #3a: AGENDA REVIEW

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *move action item #4a to the position of Item #3b in the agenda and also to correct the typographical errors in item #7 as advised by staff*. The motion was made on the good faith basis that the need to reorganize the items on the meeting and correct typographical errors was not foreseen and the minor changes did not affect the substance of the agenda items. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #3b: MINUTES

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *approve the August 30, 2018 minutes as submitted*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #3c: FINANCIAL REPORTS

Action: Commissioner Olson made a motion to *approve the Financial Report for the month ended on August 31, 2018*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion to *approve the Financial Reports for the month ended September on 30, 2018*. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Commissioners Wright, Roemer, and Olson in favor and Commissioner Radford abstaining from the vote.

ITEM #3d: ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *approve the Commission Response to FY 2013-2016 Management Report and authorize Chair to sign letter accepting report*. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #4a: DISTRICT SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *approve FY 2019 District Match Allocations as recommended by staff with the provision that the approval to match the fair booth donation as claimed from the Franklin SWCD be on the condition that the letter of support from the Franklin fair board be received by end of business day on October 11, 2018*. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #5: OTHER REPORTS

Action: None taken

ITEM #6: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(f) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation or*

controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated with legal counsel and Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) for employee review. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Meeting recessed at 11:48 AM.

Meeting reconvened in Executive Session at 11:52 AM.

Executive Session ended at 12:59 PM

No action was taken.

ITEM #7: OPEN SESSION and ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 PM. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Post Falls on November 13, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Radford, Secretary

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Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

322 E Front St, Suite 560 • Boise Idaho 83702
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Wednesday, October 17, 2018
8:11 AM – 8:15 AM MT

Location:

Idaho Water Center
322 E Front St, Suite 560
Boise, Idaho

Draft MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Norman Wright - Chair (teleconference) Cathy Roemer - Vice-Chair (teleconference)
Dave Radford - Secretary (teleconference) Erik Olson (teleconference)

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda Yadon Corrine Dalzell
Crystal Rosen

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Shantel Chapple Knowlton, Office of the Attorney General (teleconference)
Mike Somerville, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (teleconference)

ITEM #1: WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 8:11 AM.

Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners David Radford, Cathy Roemer, and Erik Olson were present. Commissioner Trebesch was absent.

ITEM #1a: AMENDED FY 2020 BUDGET REQUEST

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion to *approve the amended FY 2020 Budget Request*. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #1b: OTHER REPORTS

Action: None taken

ITEM #2: ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 AM. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Post Falls on November 13, 2018 at 4:00 PM local time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Radford, Secretary

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DRAFT



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

322 E Front St, Suite 560 • Boise Idaho 83702
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Thursday, November 8, 2018
9:06 AM – 9:50 AM MT

Location:

Idaho Water Center
322 E Front St, Suite 560
Boise, Idaho

Draft MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Norman Wright - Chair (teleconference) Cathy Roemer - Vice-Chair (teleconference)
Dave Radford - Secretary (teleconference)

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Teri Murrison Terry Hoebelheinrich
Corrine Dalzell Crystal Rosen

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Shantel Chapple Knowlton, Office of the Attorney General (teleconference)

ITEM #1: WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners David Radford, and Cathy Roemer were present. Commissioners Olson and Trebesch were absent.

ITEM #1a: AMENDED FY 2020 BUDGET REQUEST

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *adopt the proposed rule for Docket No. 60-0501-1801 Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development Program as posted in the October 3 2018 Bulletin as the pending rule.* Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #1b: CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CONTRACT WITH SITKA TECHNOLOGIES FOR POTENTIAL ENHANCEMENTS TO PROJECT TRACKER

Action: Commissioner Radford made a motion to *approve and authorize administrator to sign an amended contract with Sitka Technologies in the amount of \$13,750 for enhancements to Project Tracker*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM #1c: REPORTS

Action: None taken

ITEM #2: ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Post Falls on November 13, 2018 at 4:00 PM PT.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Radford, Secretary

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TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, ROEMER, OLSON, AND TREBESCH
FROM: RHONDA YADON, FISCAL & HR MANAGER
DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2018
RE: FINANCIAL REPORTS, FISCAL MATTERS

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Attached for your review are the Financial Detail Report for the fiscal year-to-date as of October 31, 2018 and November 30, 2018. We are 42% through the year as of the end of November. Following are the percentages of appropriation expended for our agency as of November 2018: Personnel is 41.0% spent, Operating is 56.3% spent, and Capital Outlay is 53.2% spent. The Financial Summary Report for the year-to-date as of November 30, 2018, which includes expenditure projections, will be available at your meeting. The statewide financial reports were not be available for me to compile our financial reports until December 6, 2018. For those of you that will be attending the meeting remotely, I will have the report emailed to you by the end of the day Tuesday, December 11. Overall, I believe that we are in good financial standing.

FY 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

We were recently notified by the Division of Financial Management that we need to include mandated additional costs in our FY 2020 budget for our agency’s portion of replacement of the State’s core network equipment (\$2,011) and mobile device management and security (\$11,377). This is a total increase in our budget of \$13,388, so our total FY 2020 budget request is for \$3,705,688, which is an 11.5% increase from our FY19 budget.

STATEWIDE SYSTEM CHANGES

As of December 10, 2018, Division of Human Resources is changing their hiring system software to NEOGOV. I am attending training to learn how we will post job openings going forward and will help managers make the transition when necessary. This is a much more user-friendly program, so I do not expect the transition to be difficult. This is a software program that is most commonly used by other states and federal and local governments.

COMMISSIONER HONORARIUMS

Below is a schedule of the honorarium balances as of November 30, 2018. Included in the schedule is the days and amounts budgeted for each Commissioner for FY19. We are in good standing with the travel budget for Commissioners as we have spent 32.9% of the honorarium allocation and 46.7% of the operating allocation to date.

Commissioner	Days Budgeted/ Traveled to Date	Benefit Costs included in Honorariums	Honorariums Budgeted	Expended to Date	Projected Balance/ (Overage)
Wright	30 / 14	\$132	\$1,632	\$757	\$875
Roemer	20 / 8	\$88	\$1,088	\$438	\$650
Trebesch	10 / 0	\$44	\$544	\$0	\$544
Radford	20 / 5	\$88	\$1,088	\$272	\$816
Slichter/Olson	20 / 6	\$88	\$1,088	\$325	\$763
Totals		\$442	\$5,442	\$1,792	\$3,650

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve financial reports

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Attachments:

SWC DETAIL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2018

ITEM # 4b-1

GENERAL FUND & OTHER FUNDS	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			TRUSTEE & BENEFITS			CASH			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current Month	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current Month	BALANCE	BEG CASH AT 7/1/18	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current
FY19																
NDEX																
7101 MANAGEMENT ADMIN	353,750	112,966	240,784	44,350	22,356	21,994	1,028	657	371				399,128		135,979	263,149
7111 MANAGEMENT BOARD	5,250	583	4,667	9,400	2,883	6,517							14,650		3,466	11,184
7201 FIELD STAFF	457,600	148,261	309,339	80,671	57,887	22,784	1,168	405	763				539,439		206,553	332,886
7301 PROGRAMS	248,500	79,505	168,995	29,349	27,228	2,121	708	361	347				278,557		107,094	171,463
7310 DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS										1,103,200	1,103,200	0	1,103,200		1,103,200	0
7320 DISTRICT CAPACITY BLDG										150,000	150,000	0	150,000		150,000	0
7350 CREP	150,400	46,096	104,304	23,530	16,648	6,882	296	109	187				174,226		62,853	111,373
TOTAL GENERAL FUND 0001	1,215,500	387,411	828,089	187,300	127,002	60,298	3,200	1,532	1,668	1,253,200	1,253,200	0	2,659,200	0	1,769,145	890,055
		31.87%			67.81%			47.88%			100.00%				66.53%	
7315 FEDERAL GRANT-NRCS TRS	15,800	3,007	12,793										14,568	3,081	3,007	14,642
7316 FEDERAL GRANT-NRCS CTA	169,000	54,806	114,194	17,500	6,401	11,099							55,821	49,917	61,207	44,531
7317 NFWF GRANT	86,800	27,066	59,734										3,824	19,711	27,066	(3,531)
TOTAL FEDERAL FUND 0348	271,600	84,879	186,721	17,500	6,401	11,099	0	0	0	0	0	0	74,213	72,709	91,280	55,642
		31.25%			36.58%										Borrowing Limit	(40,000)
															85.37%	15,642
7325 SWC PROFESSIONAL SERV				30,000	1,225	28,775							24,727	5,142	1,225	28,644
TOTAL DEDICATED FUND 0450	0	0	0	30,000	1,225	28,775	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,727	5,142	1,225	28,644
					4.08%										4.10%	
LOAN FUNDS	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			CASH			BALANCE SHEET			
FY19	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BEG CASH AT 7/1/18	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	NOTES RECEIVABLE 7/1/18	LOANS PAID OUT, COLLECTIONS /ADJUSTMENTS TO DATE	NOTES RECEIVABLE End of Cur period
7351 RCRDP LOAN ADMIN	168,300	48,101	120,199	147,300	64,503	82,797	500	438	62	6,656,334	135,524	169,289	6,622,569	3,056,384	56,212	3,031,601
TOTAL RCRDP ADMIN 0522-01	168,300	48,101	120,199	147,300	64,503	82,797	500	438	62	6,656,334	135,524	169,289	6,622,569		(80,995)	
		28.58%			43.79%							2.49%				
7361 REVOLVING LOAN - DEQ				30,000	17,356	12,644				29,777	13,014	17,356	25,435	352,968	0	343,340
TOTAL DEQ LOAN 0529-16	0	0	0	30,000	17,356	12,644	0	0	0	29,777	13,014	17,356	25,435		(9,628)	
					57.85%							40.56%		ADV FROM PAYMENTS/ADV FROM	TO DATE	END OF CUR PERIOD
														301,436	(3,854)	297,582

SWC DETAIL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2018

ITEM # 4b-2

GENERAL FUND & OTHER FUNDS	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			TRUSTEE & BENEFITS			CASH				
	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current Month	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current Month	BALANCE	BEG CASH AT 7/1/18	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	
FY19																	
INDEX																	
7101 MANAGEMENT ADMIN	353,750	147,417	206,333	44,350	24,129	20,221	1,013	657	356				399,113		172,203	226,910	
7111 MANAGEMENT BOARD	5,250	1,612	3,638	9,400	4,375	5,025							14,650		5,987	8,663	
7201 FIELD STAFF	457,600	193,127	264,473	80,671	60,330	20,341	1,168	405	763				539,439		253,862	285,577	
7301 PROGRAMS	248,500	103,557	144,943	29,349	28,370	979	723	361	362				278,572		132,288	146,284	
7310 DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS										1,103,200	1,103,200	0	1,103,200		1,103,200	0	
7320 DISTRICT CAPACITY BLDG										150,000	150,000	0	150,000		150,000	0	
7350 CREP	150,400	60,231	90,169	23,530	17,142	6,388	296	109	187				174,226		77,482	96,744	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND 0001	1,215,500	505,944	709,556	187,300	134,346	52,954	3,200	1,532	1,668	1,253,200	1,253,200	0	2,659,200	0	1,895,022	764,178	
		41.62%			71.73%			47.88%			100.00%				71.26%		
7315 FEDERAL GRANT-NRCS TRS	15,800	3,996	11,804										14,568	3,081	3,996	13,653	
7316 FEDERAL GRANT-NRCS CTA	169,000	70,103	98,897	17,500	6,405	11,095							55,821	49,917	76,508	29,230	
7317 NFWF GRANT	86,800	35,613	51,187										3,824	19,711	35,613	(12,078)	
TOTAL FEDERAL FUND 0348	271,600	109,712	161,888	17,500	6,405	11,095	0	0	0	0	0	0	74,213	72,709	116,117	30,805	
		40.39%			36.60%										Borrowing Limit	(40,000)	
															108.60%	(9,195)	
7325 SWC PROFESSIONAL SERV				30,000	1,225	28,775							24,727	5,195	1,225	28,697	
TOTAL DEDICATED FUND 0450	0	0	0	30,000	1,225	28,775	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,727	5,195	1,225	28,697	
					4.08%										4.09%		
LOAN FUNDS	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			CASH				BALANCE SHEET			
		ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month	BALANCE		ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE		ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current	BALANCE		BEG CASH AT 7/1/18	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	NOTES RECEIVABLE 7/1/18	LOANS PAID OUT, COLLECTIONS /ADJUSTMENTS TO DATE	NOTES RECEIVABLE End of Cur period
FY19																	
7351 RCRDP LOAN ADMIN	168,300	63,471	104,829	147,300	70,165	77,135	500	438	62	6,656,334	252,871	190,321	6,718,884	3,056,384	56,212	2,938,781	
TOTAL RCRDP ADMIN 0522-01	168,300	63,471	104,829	147,300	70,165	77,135	500	438	62	6,656,334	252,871	190,321	6,718,884		(173,815)		
		37.71%			47.63%											2.75%	
7361 REVOLVING LOAN - DEQ				30,000	19,856	10,144				29,777	12,868	19,856	22,789	352,968	0	343,340	
TOTAL DEQ LOAN 0529-16	0	0	0	30,000	19,856	10,144	0	0	0	29,777	12,868	19,856	22,789		(9,628)		
					66.19%											ADV FROM PAYMENTS/ADJ TO DATE	ADV FROM END OF CUR PERIOD
														301,436	(3,854)	297,582	
																46.56%	



IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ITEM #4c

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, ROEMER, TREBESCH, AND OLSON
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
RE: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

In March 2016, your Board authorized me to serve on the Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Committee with various federal, state, local, nonprofit, association, and individual members. The goal of the Rock Creek Ranch is to:

Establish a sustainable rangeland research and education facility in the heart of Idaho where ranching, recreation, and conservation intersect. The facility would be home to a collaborative partnership for important and up-to-date research on 21st century ranching and conservation practices. While providing for public access and recreation, the facility also will serve as a podium for education on conserving fish and wildlife habitat and enhancing livestock production on Idaho rangelands.

Key funding from the NRCS Sage Grouse Initiative and a substantial gift in land value from the Harry Rinker family made the purchase of the Rock Creek ranch possible by the Wood River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy. The NRCS acquired Grassland Reserve Program easements limiting development on the Ranch and protecting sage grouse habitat. In making their gift the Rinker family stated they wanted “to leave a legacy of open space and wildlife habitat for the public of Blaine County and Idaho”.

Through many discussions over nearly two years, a list of important values were considered, including fish and wildlife habitat conservation and restoration, managed public access (primarily hunting, but hiking and biking was also considered), maintaining a working ranch, and conducting research and education activities.

The University of Idaho, Wood River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy developed a partnership to guide activities at the Rock Creek Ranch pending a transfer of the Ranch to the University of Idaho, and established a broad collaboration to achieve the goals of Research & Education, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Public Access and Working Ranch.

Late last winter, I was asked to serve on a transition team to help draft an MOU and Charter to guide the integration of ongoing collaborative advisory input to the University. That process has proceeded for the last 7 or 8 months and the land transfer is now pending.

I have been asked to continue to participate in advisory efforts as a member of the Rinker Rock Creek Advisory Board Steering Committee. My participation does not include funding or any contribution of Commission resources except periodic ongoing meeting attendance and participation.

Authorization to participate in the Advisory Board and Steering Committee and to sign a non-binding MOU governing Advisory Board involvement is requested. A draft of the MOU is being developed and our Deputy Attorney General will review the final document prior to my signing.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approve ongoing participation in the University of Idaho’s Rinker Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Board and Authorize Administrator to Sign Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding to serve as a Member of the Rinker Rock Creek Advisory Board.

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IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ITEM #4d

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, ROEMER, TREBESCH, AND OLSON
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
**RE: BOARD DISCUSSION ON NOVEMBER 14, 2018, JOINT BOARD MEETING WITH IASCD,
COMMISSION LISTENING SESSION**

Attached is an electronic transcript of the November 14, 2018, Joint Board Meeting with the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD) for your review and discussion. Please note that the recording is quite lengthy and the electronic transcription software tends not to accurately capture all statements and does not identify particular speakers (we have attributed comments to staff and ISWCC Board members where possible).

In addition, the following topics were discussed at the November 14, 2018 Commission Listening Session which followed directly after the Joint Board meeting.

- Don't require so much reporting with such short response times.
- Keep district supervisors on the email lists.
- Award technical assistance (engineering and planning) along with schedule and time frame for work to be performed.
- Relax requirements to request a change of technical assistance hours. Award total number of assistance hours for districts to use as they see fit. We don't want to use up staff's discretionary hours. Districts are supposed to be in charge of doing things and when the Commission [directs their staff], it breaks down the system. Staff works for us. We can report on accountability to you on how we used them. We don't always have the option of saying we want a plan for something down the road and want to use this individual for this number of hours. We are responsible and won't waste this person's time. When you don't do that, you put us in a position of being unimportant.
- Discussed Ada SWCD's request to utilize technical assistance hours to promote farmland preservation.
- Don't make staff's documentation paperwork too complicated.

Both of the above will help the Board develop potential topics and communication patterns to be addressed for further discussion at the next Joint Board Meeting with IASCD in January 2019 in Boise.

REQUESTED ACTION: None, for information only

Attachments:

- November 14, 2018 Joint Board Meeting Transcript

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- TMurrison: And um, ~~M~~Mr. Chairman, I'm starting the record button. Please speak loudly because this is what we've got.
- Chair Wright: Okay. Thank you for all being here I think it is very important for all of us so that we'll have a quick introductions. I know everybody knows everybody just about, but our newest member, Eric Olson may not. So go ahead and start.
- Comm Olson: Yeah. So my name's Erik Olson. I am a producer from Boundary County and I sat on the boundary soil and water conservation district for two years. I got asked to do this so here I am.
- Dir-Daniel: I'm Tom Daniel, with the boundary county soil and water conservation district and on the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District Board.
- Dir-KunEAU: ~~I'm Richard~~I'm Richard Kunau and I'm from a West Cassia soil and water conservation district. And I'm the division 4 representative for IASCD
- TMurrison: Are you, are you able to hear Shantel?
- SChappleKnowlton: Hi Teri, yeah, I can hear pretty well.
- TMurrison: Great. Thank you.
- Comm Roemer: Cathy Roemer from Jerome County. On the Commission, division 4.
- P-Tillotson: Kit Tillotson, a supervisor on the Portneuf board and the president of the IASCD.
- D-Becker: Steve Becker. Nez Perce Soil and Water ~~Conservation~~Conservation District. Chairman. Vice-chair of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts. Representing the division 2.
- BKelly: Benjamin Kelly, IASCD executive director.
- D-Woodard: I'm Matt Woodard. I'm the chair of the east side, so water conservation district in Idaho Falls. I'm also the director for division six for IASCD.
- D-Sommerville: My name is Mike Sommerville. I'm a vice chairman of that canyon conservation district and also on the IASCD board.
- Chair Wright: Norman Wright with the soil and water conservation commission.
- DTrefz: Delwyne Trefz. I work for the soil and water conservation commission out of Boise Office.
- TMurrison: Teri Murrison. Out of the Boise office.

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Chair Wright: And Shantel is on the phone. Is that the only person on the phone, Shantel? (pause)With that, looking around the room. There's three commissioners here. Mr. Olson, Ms. Roemer, and myself. So therefore a quorum is present.

TMurrison: Would you like me to call the roll Mr. Chairman?

Chair Wright: You can call it if you want.

TMurrison: Thank you. Commissioner Norman Wright.

Chair Wright: Here

TMurrison: Commissioner Cathy Roemer?

Comm Roemer: Here

TMurrison: Commissioner David Radford? (No response) Commission Comm Olson?

Comm Olson: Here

TMurrison: And Commissioner Jerry Trebesch? (No Response) Quorum is present.

Chair Wright: As far as that goes, everybody sees on the agenda. If there was anything we needed to at this time? Going on ahead, I'm just wanting to talk about a future federal state conservation partnership goals and objectives. One thing that we brought with us is everybody's got a copy of our strategic plan and just emphasizing what our goals are as far as the commission goes and our mission statement there. It talks about that we facilitate coordinated non-regulatory voluntary and locally led conservation. By federal, state and local governments, includes Idaho conservation districts and other conservation partners, improving the soil water, air, plant. And animal resources. Do districts have an overall mission statement? He's digging through...

P-Tillotson: We did. Purpose - mission statement. So conservation district is to be the leading organization for providing action at the local level to promote wise and beneficial conservation of natural resources with the emphasis on soil and water. That's our latest mission statement.

Comm Roemer: Mr. Chairman, I have one question. I did read your mission statement, but my question to you was does your vision, would that equate to a strategic plan? Because the vision on your website was conservation development statement. That was just a question I had, was looking for something similar and that looks like it might be similar to a strategic planning. I wasn't sure how you viewed that.

Unknown: I think the way those were written, ~~if~~ I can speak for the Chairman, Vision Scope statements are really a broad statement which it's hard to determine what the extent of

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it is until you get into the mission statement. So that Vision Statement wouldn't be the strategic plan. Just a broad statement

Comm Roemer: The precursor maybe to a strategic plan. Perfect. Thank you.

Chair Wright: : Now you know, a partnership that we've got working at the present time or the vision is, is um, where, you know, we've got us as a state partner, a you as a county representing the county partners and then obviously we're missing one that; and I don't want to short change anybody else. But we're missing one that's not here in that Curtis with the NRCS and I don't want to. That is our quote unquote a normal part, not normal, uh, are based partners. How's about base? Because as we all know that to make conservation work in Idaho and what we've all done is incorporate other members that might be specific to your county or in some cases the whole state, and then you'd have to broaden it out and go with the right gamut and range and every time that we think that we find that we have all the partners about time, one of the districts come up and say, oh, by the way, how about x, Y, z? They've been helping us out and they become a partner. So our partnership has been growing, but it's probably a lot specifically via county, but our local partnership, the three of us, three agencies obviously probably have about the same goal, the same mission, but as we all know is we go about it differently with the idea that we end up with the same results. Well, just like everything else. Once in a while those results are how we get there sometimes we don't always paved the path very well. We stumbled over the rocks and once in a while we stumble on the rocks and fall in the bushes and I think that we all can gain by saying, okay, that didn't work so good. Maybe we picked ourselves up and dust yourself off and reposition ourselves and go forward. But that's probably where we are right now.

Comm Roemer: Mr. Chairman, I have one more question. Maybe. Well maybe I'll have more than one, right now just have one. So based on what you've talked about, partnerships and that sort of thing, looking in your vision statement, I'd have to go back and look. I think it was number eight, but, and Benjamin, you might know. You referenced that the Association supports the Idaho Conservation Partnership Statement of Cooperation. Where is that, it's stated in your vision statement. I think I saw the date 2003 maybe. It's so antiquated.

(Unintelligible dialogue with several people.)

Unknown: Yeah, I think it was. I think it was Miller or... (Unintelligible)

TMurrison: And it's important, so yeah.

Comm Roemer: Sometimes it's good to reference back.

Unknown: No, that was when a Chairman Bronson, and I believe it was [his] last year.
(Unintelligible dialogue with several people.)

Dir-Daniel: I think we were at the Riverside.

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Unknown: Yeah, and I mean I think I'm thinking maybe 2009 or 10. So this is 18 .Even-odd years we're in Boise, so it might've been about 2009.

TMurrison: I can look on our... I- Do you know where it is? Delwyne will find it for you.

DTrefz: I know a hard copy is in my file folder. I can look for the electronic version. You can get that to you.

Comm Roemer: It just. The way it stated, it sounded like it was a very important statement. I thought it probably (unintelligible)

Unknown: Yeah, probably 90 percent of us have not seen it or don't remember what it looks like. Meaning if it was 2009, there would be two of us on this board that has seen it.

Comm Roemer: Okay well thank you.

Unknown: And the other two of us probably don't remember. A lot of that.

Comm Roemer: I can relate to that.

DTrefz: Mr. Kevin, can ask Cathy to restate what the name of that document is, how it's referenced?

Comm Roemer: Yeah, the Idaho Conservation Partnership statement of cooperation.

Dir-Daniel: We gonna talk about the memorandum of agreement.

TMurrison: That's what I thought it was referring to, but that's. It's a different name. It's a totally different name.

Comm Roemer: I don't know the background. I just saw that and I thought, oh, that's an interesting document supporting your vision statement.

TMurrison: And we can find that and send it out to everybody.

P-Tillotson: So where do we move into folks? Where are we? Where are we headed?

Chair Wright: What do you envision, what we're headed, or stumbling block that you understand?

P-Tillotson: What has clouded the picture as you understand it? Well, communication is huge one and the... sometimes the lack thereof, and sometimes- I don't want to say ... Maybe the misinterpretation and the whole picture, I feel, has sometimes been not communicated properly. That would be our most recent one. Historically, there's always been stumbling blocks. We get that with 12 personalities. Trying to come together to a common goal. Communication is a huge one.

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Chair Wright: Which, you know, every average a problem, managerial problem I've been into, bottom line is it's all said and done. The number one problems you have the communication. And uh, as we all know, we hear from you just got to mention 12 different points of view and all of our points of view or a little differently. So what one person thought he said 11 other people may not have heard that and that just an old story that's going on forever. So you're right, Kit, a communication is definitely a great problem. Uh, the question is, is how we clear it up. If you ever find that magic button, let me know because we'll make millions on it if we can sell it. But in the meantime, how do we find ways to say okay, what did, what did you think of where we went wrong and how can we better communicate with each other? Part of the problem or part of the dilemma is from our standpoint and almost say condition standpoint, um, it is difficult this day and age for me to make a decision and then call Comm Olson and then call Cathy and call Dave and call Jerry. It's called daisy chain. And that's against open meeting anymore. The only way that can work, I don't want to say that can work, but the only way that that can work to a certain degree is, is, uh, we can converse with Teri. Teri then can make those phone calls and talk to him because she's not a voting person, but it's difficult for us and a separate meeting type deal is to make those decisions is because to keep everybody informed, that's the only way can work is through a clearing house where central point to Teri's emails to all the rest of them are phone calls, but it definitely slows up the process, but that's one of the stumbling points from ours. Yours is easier. We can. We don't get the opportunity to operate that way. So Teri basically is our clearing house and so you know, you guys are set up a whole lot differently. That's a question that I've got right now that we've talked about is Benjamin, you're clearing house or as the president and clearing house who, instead of us making seven different, six different phone calls, who do we talk to or who can Teri talk to. Can she talk to Benjamin? I mean I'm just asking that question. How can we clear that up to where we know what's the rest of you know, what's going on too?

Comm Roemer: Just to clarify though, Benjamin, isn't an association board subject to open meeting laws as well?

BKelly: We are a private organization.

Comm Roemer: Oh. Okay. Okay

TMurrison: Mr. Chairman. So, um, it sounds to me as if there's some precipitating events in the communication breakdown and rather than refer generally to communication issues, can you give us some examples?

P-Tillotson: So, well yeah, I mean I think everybody knows the latest example and it's in regards to the budget request and when you, when we was presented with a budget request, there was items within that budget requests that some of our board disagreed with, but in, in the, that was the minority though. So in the interest of partnership, our board moved to, to support that budget as presented. And then somewhere along the line, well then after that there was emails about what do you guys, are you guys wanting to do anything for trustee and benefits and we didn't respond to the email. We've

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responded voice communication. No, not at this time. We do not anticipate looking for increase to trustee and benefits for districts and these are the reasons why. And those reasons was laid out very specifically that we had talked with some legislators as friends and friends of conservation districts and they recommended to not come after general funds increase without some accountability measures tacked to it, such as a WQPA or a project monies and stuff. And so that's, that's where our direction was that it was asked that we put that in an email and I didn't feel like it needed to be in an email that we have already supported the budget that was presented to us, unanimously, with the parameters set forth. And then so we wrote our letter, we sent it out and the next thing I see without any further notice is the commission is requesting the \$284,000 increase to their budget. And our ledge tapped right onto it. I was livid because we didn't agree to that. We did agree to support that increase that increase come to the commission without all of the background information as to why we didn't support that. And I understand the commission, commissioners, I believe it was, I believe it was Mr. Radford made the motion to ask for that money and folks, it's not the fact that we don't support growing districts. I'm sorry, I got to slide just a little bit because I can't see anybody out there now, but it was in the other window (Unintelligible dialogue with several people.) So that that's, that's the latest one that honestly, that was a huge, huge one that was a, that was a back door effect that our boards should have had the opportunity to look at the revised budget and say, yes, we're okay with this, or no, we want our letter back or whatever. But it just went. They got our letter, the budget was changed. Our, our letter specifically said as presented to us and there was reasons for that and then it got attached not as it was presented to us. And so we got a letter out there and support the budget and the legislature see that and now we've got to go as a team. Somehow we got to go to work and explain to those legislators why we are supporting something that they recommended we didn't and but what we're still wanting their help to move districts along. So we got mud on our face as an association with our legislators.

Comm Olson: Okay. The question I have is why did the, why did the legislatures let legislators tell you not to request the money?

P-Tillotson: They're. They're wanting to see accountability measures out there to be accountable back to their constituents as far as you don't want to just throw money into the districts. Just, just for general grow general fund. They want to see, the legislators want to see projects on the ground. That's what they're telling us. They're one. That's how they are accountable for the money that they're spending, that they're allocating to districts is the paybacks are projects and conservation and just a general fund increase. Uh, it's a little harder to track for where that money was spent. And you know, they've got healthcare, they got education, they're all pulling their strings and they're all. So they're just trying to show some accountability and justification as to where that money is spent. Now that being said, I think we've come up with a pretty good plan for defending what we're asking because we of course are still supporting this budget as a partnership where we're going to move through that. And I've talked with Norm a time or two about this. I've talked with ~~Mr~~Mr. Radford to I think Benjamin and Teri's talked. I mean, there's been some conversations and I think the way that we move forward is, you know, we're

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holding that we're going to hold the legislature legislators somewhat accountable to the statute because we're not asking for anything that is in statute but that don't take away when we went to our legislators for advice on what they thought we should be doing to promote the districts that we did the exact opposite from what our friends in the legislature recommended to us. And it wasn't by our choice.

TMurrison: Mr. Chairman, I want to say I can see why you're frustrated. Um, I think that part of it is a confusion about how we typically use your letter and in every budget in the past we have ah, I don't believe IASCD has addressed the rest of the commission's budget and said support or not, we just ask for a letter stating what you recommend. It's included in the, in the trustee and benefits fund. And so when we got the letter this year and what it said was we support the commission's budget within the parameters of what was discussed in June. So I, I put together that lengthy transcript of the exact comments that were made, uh, at that meeting because I couldn't remember what that meant. Uh, and so, uh, that was presented to our board and they got the revised numbers like a week before, a couple of days before because we were still trying to figure out what could be done. Um, so I understand that, um, the letter that you wrote, it referenced the rest of our budget and I know that there were members on your board that were not supportive of our 1/4th of a person because we talked about that. And one of the things you guys agreed to do is just not mention it and, and I said, that's really great. Um, but when we asked for a letter from IASCD, it specifically relates to what we should ask for to go into trustee and benefits. So I think that was partially driving some confusion there, was that broader letter.

D-Becker: I want to give a little background for Commissioner Olson. I mean the new guy on the block. We need to go back several years of when we would go first couple of years we were on board. The association has always gone to the state legislature and requested the full two to one match. This was even prior to them changing the statute of where they capped our funding and \$50,000 per district. So I mean back in the day that was, they did that all the time and I mean it was every year and it got to be. Everybody felt like they were just beating a dead dog because they're mad. The commission would put in a recommendation for two to one match. The governor would zero it out. That would be the end of it. One winter as a board we got running where we were really, really frustrated. We said, well this is, this is why do we keep doing the same thing over and over and over again and we get the same result, the zero. So I would talk to some people in Boise. It's a really good hallway conversations one winter and we said we need to do something a little different. So the first, the first thing we got is, is maybe you're asking for too much. So then that following year we asked for the \$50,000 which are accessible with that. The following year did we ask for another \$50,000 equally distributed amongst the ~~districts-districts?~~ So the districts that were bumped up against the cap that they were actually getting some scratch in the game. So. So that was granted then getting told by someone more legislative branch, you know, maybe we ought to let her back off that we better. Let's try a little bit different avenues. So I mean, so that's how. These have come around. Just last year after the June meeting, I mean literally I met, I probably visited with seven or eight legislators, friends of ours and point blank, I mean they didn't want to just be putting money up there to, for general

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operations for districts they want to get back to where it's, it's project driven. We've been down that road with them the last couple of years and we just haven't been able to gain the traction that we, we really felt that we needed to get, you know, you're a bill. We put in the request for the million dollars. (Unintelligible) We were given some pretty good assurances by the legislature that, that could be. They pretty well felt, but that could be forthcoming. Um, we've. And then this is another, probably a breakdown in communications last year. I mean these are these things happening. If we're, if we're going to talk to the legislators and wherever we're going, we're trying to be supportive with the commission's budget and work and work. I mean it's tough because we're burning some of our political capital doing this and it really makes us kind of not look so good if, if we're not all on the same page in the playbook all the time and I realized that it does, that it does happen. I mean, and that's one of the reasons I mean to just like I gotta get it out. I got to just say it because what's been killing us the last couple of years on state legislatures, they've told us they don't have any problem with given us project funding. There's people that support that, but they are not going to support any more employees. Now, I run a very substantial business myself for a \$500,000 increase in my budget. I mean, I don't. I'm not going to go hire any more employees. I'm going to do with what I've got. And, and we've, we've, we've, we've got to get past that every time the district, and I don't care what agency it is, state agencies cannot just continue to build employees, employees, employees. In that case in point. IDWR, why are they should have got a million dollars for flood prevention. It was a brand new program. They wrote the rules, they got it on the ground and the money was all allocated by the end of September. Now, they did that without any additional employees. So we've, we've got to figure out a way that when we make these requests for project funding we can do it with the staff that we have in a thought that's where we were last year with the walk ball, but evidently that hit some stumbling blocks. So that's really kind of, you know, kind of some background information and some of the issues that I've seen for more on this side of the boat of it. It's frustrating when we have support from the legislation. Then like Kit said, sometimes their votes changed during the session too because I mean they've got, you know, last year then all of a sudden they had to have a tax cut and we had to have. I mean, and then Senator Joe Stegner told me a long time ago, he said, ~~if~~, if it's not roads, prisons or schools. You're going to be way down the list and it's tough. It's just tough, man. I'm done.

Chair Wright: I've got a couple of three things that you both reiterated there and saying the accountability and they want project monies. That works great. If you have an office open, if you keep cutting down to administrative wise, just like one of your counties make comment right there at the Division 2 meeting if they don't gain more their closing their doors. If we close the doors, if you close up the door and your county office for the district is projects, don't get done that district nothing so mistake, stand point. If we don't have anybody there or can't afford to play by even half time there, the idea of project money, given that the project money was nobody around them isn't going to work and you've got districts, as you well know, there are in that boat right now that they're looking at is trying to figure out how they can go. Now, I'm not saying that there are lily white. There's nothing they can do. There is the wants to. Why comes right down to that bottom line dollar, they need some money to keep the doors open, to keep

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somebody hired there. Now you didn't talk about combining districts and all that and good luck with that one sometimes that get you over good Brownie points. So I think there's a lot to be said about what you're saying is, is that there's that accountability saying, if they don't have the door open, the conservation when you're done, period number two there. I like to point out is when we go back to June and looked through those minutes or those conversations we had, you had a question. There is, is how soon do you need letter? It was comment made. It's be nice to have it by the first part of July and that was a June meeting. And then, uh, they said, well, we could have done by ~~mid July~~ ~~mid-July~~. Uh, that letter of any type of support or anything didn't come to us to the last, very last of August. And we are turning our budget in within a day after that. So timing was very critical at the time. If we had gotten a letter a month sooner. Where you had a chance to act upon it? Yeah, we wouldn't have a chance. So there've been some top more times and talk about this there. Okay, why are, what are we doing here? But the last minute it closed out some of our options. (pause) Now. Now the third thing I'd throw out there is no people that, you know, if I'm running the agency that's got a multimillion dollar budget and got 280 poise like DEQ does. If I get a half million bucks off my lap, it's basically not much. We've got an employee of 17. You drop a million dollars and still have to abide by state rules. Just because we get the money doesn't mean that we just get to put it out your way. Certainly there's a whole set of friggng regulations the state makes us jump through and it takes time to jump through those rules. The last time around when said we could do it for a quarter of a person. That was it. What time you get grants the money off the top's usually 10 percent. That's pretty common. We weren't even that. We were about six and a half percent to run it, so we cut it back as much as we could figure out a way to do it, but if we get the money and don't follow the rules, what good's that do? We'd lose it real quick, so there's ~~a thethe~~ other side of it saying, how do we operate? You don't want us to. That's fine. You get some money and you can fight for 319 money with everybody else and see how it turns out. It's a lot less hassle for us if you do, but I don't think that's real good for the districts because that money goes to anybody and everybody and you have basically no say who gets, if we are ~~...unintelligibleunintelligle...~~ program will be set up the program locally to meet your needs. That's within the purview. You'd have some say about it, but of it goes to DEQ good luck. Different perspectives. That's what it gets right down to. That's right. Back to what you were saying earlier with communication.

Comm Olson: Well it seems to me like what needs to be done more is to tell the story better, to show the projects, to show the progress. You know, it's not just about projects on the ground, it's about everything else that happens within a district office and needs to be told, better, to every legislator so that they get it. I mean that's the bottom line of all of it and put all the stuff that happened in the past. I mean, it's just got to stay there. We got to move forward and have a partnership. And be a team that's just what has to happen. Or like he says, we stumble, we fall, and we're done.

Comm Roemer: So Comm Olson, I, you know, I, I agree with you, but I'd like to come back to what you have said and I think you had sent us the accountability factor with people that you feel you're probably most accountable when it comes to these requests and whatnot for dollars is the legislators. So what are some of that they're telling you that you can say

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they want more accountability? In what? What, what, what are they saying specifically that they're not seeing? That they need to see? All the partnerships can produce?

D-Becker: Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Roemer, I guess what are the things that was today here and it's, and it's not, it's not accountability that they're not, that they're not already getting. I mean that's, they're, they're, they're, they're getting it. They don't want the money just to go out into straight district general operations, which means that the district could use that however they see fit in the states. Don't really do that. I mean because now districts have to put their, put their budgets on the LSO portal is, that's the right terminology I get. I mean that is really one of the things that really got. I mean I think they appreciate that. I mean that that's really the accountability side that we're getting. It's not that they're, they would just, they feel that they get a better bang for their buck if it's tied to a specific type of project work. Is that...?

Comm Roemer: I mean, I understand that. Thank you.

D-Becker: ~~M~~Mr. Chairman. I kind of a tack on yours about, you know, if the district's not keeping their doors open, we've got to be careful to with to the legislature. I mean, Comm Olson, we and we do need to move forward the State of Idaho, the one way you're only ever going to get, be able to get more money as the pie's not any bigger, so you've got to figure out to make it with it's a net zero. Anytime you come across with them that it's a net zero transaction, whether it's you know, attrition of employees and they one to that block of money and we're going to move it up or down to T and B or we're going to do as long as it's not a cost them anymore, they're usually okay with that. If you do, if you're just reshuffling it around. I mean I think. I think moving forward that's some of the avenues we might need to go to that would free up some more technical money for districts that XYZ district that's not quite. Maybe just having a hard time keeping their doors open. Maybe them and their next door neighbor could actually then use that increase in their funding to actually hire some of their technical needs that they have. Or maybe they could say, well, let's just hold off. Let's just wait, save that money for another year and then boost it up. There's, there's, there's some, there's some ways to accomplish that. And, and districts our districts around the state, they've got to take some of the, they've got to take some of the credit themselves that they're not performing the way that they should have that. I mean there's 50 districts. Everybody operates a little bit differently. That's one of the biggest things. We have struggled with it since, uh, since the dawn of time. We look back at our minutes from our district and I mean that the, the years changed, but the problems haven't ever changed. It's always been about money and it's always been about supervisor engagement and those kinds of things. And those two things and I think they're good. We're going to struggle with those forever, but we have to figure out a way that we can effectively get the money during the districts. That's something that I think is the need you work on this winter. Really trying to figure it out. How to get there. I mean, we're going to have a new administration. We're going to have, I mean the election just happened, we've got a quarter of the legislature that is new. I think now's the time that we can start working on some of this.

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TMurrison: So ~~Mr.~~Mr. Chairman, could I ask a clarifying question? So a little background when a couple, about five, six years ago we foresaw with the resources that we had that district expectations hadn't adjusted to our decrease in people and money and so Delwyne and other members of the leadership team did a comprehensive inventory of how many hours we could allocate to programs and to districts. And we came up with about a 50/50 split. Districts got 50 percent of their hours and the other programs that were required to, to do TMDL implementation plans for example. Um, so my concern with what you're talking about is, is essentially you're talking about cannibalizing technical assistance services that other districts are getting to pass that money down to trustee and benefits, which means if you're talking to engineers, Bill and Allan gone and, and that's maybe, maybe \$100,000. And that's going to go \$2000 to districts now. I think you need to think that through really carefully and talk to districts and see are they willing, you have capacity, but a lot of them really depend on the capacity that we provide. We have 11 field staff around the state, so if you want to take our resources which go to serving districts, which one of those field staff positions do you want to cannibalize and which districts do you want to remove technical assistance from so that you can give out more money. That's what you're talking about. We don't have. We don't have the ability to even to even administer WQPA without at least a quarter person. We've done the math, we've looked at everything and we know we can't do that so our position as the board and staff has been, you know, if we can't do it and we aren't going to get money, then it probably needs to go to DEQ who's also having trouble doing it, but those are some tradeoffs. If you're talking about taking away districts' technical field staff, we - except for some of you districts - we are their technical field staff. For a great majority of the districts. Who are you going to take it away from?

D-Becker: Well, I get that point, but it's also part of. We've got it. Eventually districts have got to build that capacity.

TMurrison: Yep. I agree.

D-Becker: And they can't build that capacity by being able to always hit the easy button. No, it still goes back to the same old chicken and egg story. It goes back to you. You got to have a district, you got to have a district board that's engaged and active and wants to get the job done and it's not just interested in having a coffee and donuts once a month and we can beat that till the cows come home. I mean that's just the way it is. They just, they don't want to change, but they have to because if they don't change, they have a legislator in their district that sees them doing that in there and then these going home, why would I want to give you guys even more money? And that goes back to kinda the accountability issue. There's some of those legislators to realize that the districts they have in their own areas are or are not going to say they're not doing what they're supposed to, but they could do a lot more with what they had if they get out and do it. And I, and I know that it's hard to get there. I mean the best Soil and water conservation district we did, we didn't get there overnight. I mean, it took a lot of hard work and a lot of effort and I mean everybody's that way, but we have to get, we have to figure out a way that all the districts can, can get to that level and it starts at the supervisor level. I mean, we will. It's just.

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TMurrison: So let me give you an example of what that means for a district that's engaged. Let's take Adams District for example. We have, um, as part of Project Tracker that we're just rolling out now. We have attached a dollar figure to personnel and, and operating expenses to provide engineering and to provide technical assistance. So over the last three years that we have it in Tracker, now, um, we have delivered \$27,000 worth of technical assistance to Adams. And so if you take that from Adams and they're not, they're not a Nez Perce, they're not, they're trying, they're building up. They're becoming, if you take that away from them now, are the \$2,000 they're going to get from cannibalizing our staff and resources, ~~are~~ ~~and~~ ~~are~~ they equal to that \$27,000 in technical assistance? It's going to affect districts like that that. We agree that there are districts that all they want to do is have coffee. They don't, you know, there's 10 that never. Even if we say we have \$50,000 per capacity building, write us a letter and we'll send you a check. There are 10 letters we don't get so. But there are others who received a great amount of technical assistance that you've got to think about what you're proposing. You gotta think, how are you going to transition today to where you want to be and how are they going to get from there to there? I'm not sure how that happens.

Long pause.

Chair Wright: : You know what, you know ah to Steve Becker, we're talking about or seen up there talking about, if you think about other agencies, let's talk about Idaho in general. Uh, you look around and some counties, no matter what they do, they're still a poor county. I don't think Clark County is that really going to get that on the watch list and the smallest county as population goes and still owes them relationship because people don't want to live there. There's not a darn thing you can do about it. Sometimes you can say, well gee, let's get a big business in there and put it in there. And they don't want to move there because word at the counties were like that. Every agency has the same problems. And Steve's right. It's down to the person. Sometimes all you need to spark plug just one and miracles will happen. All of us don't have fish money, uh, which was helped obviously helped you guys a lot and some of north Idaho. We don't have ~~a~~ other bodies out there probably. So the question is probably not how do we cannibalize? How do you assist those districts some, as you pointed out, I'm not gonna say names because I don't. There's no way in the world I'd do that. First off is the second thing is that's dangerous, but the first thing is with understands. How can we bring some of those counties or districts along. Now, it's nice to point fingers; say that you got to do better, but how can we help them? They're strong districts in every division. Very strong districts. ~~is~~ it time to sit down in each of the divisions and say, Hey, so and so we can see you're struggling. How can we as a neighbor, district help you? Now you're right, some of them will do like this action. Say, leave the hell alone, but I'll bet you half of them or better if you go in there with the right attitude saying, can we help you? How can we help you? Can we work together a project? Maybe there's a partnership where do to help build those districts and I'd love to see those districts. All of you are at least 30 of you strong enough to where you don't need us. That's great. Turned the money into trustee and benefits and call it good and go on. But the meantime, we gotta figure out a way to build those districts. I don't think the idea is to kick them by the wayside is

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probably are saying, hey, you're not going to make it so we'll pass you up. I don't think that's the way to do that. How can we individually, each district important Portneuf is strong, East side, West side. I mean you can go right down a Canyon strong, Ada by God Ada, runs all over, uh, you know, Boundary's strong. There's, you've got lots of area, Richard, there's strong counties now everywhere, but there's also weak ones. Can we join together with them or a project to try and get signed? They're gone. I mean, is there a way, and we can throw all of our resource and we can talk to say, okay, can we do a joint project in your county and help you out? Okay, if we come in and help you then commission, can you come in and help us work technical? NRCS, can we get some EQIP money or something there? It helps stimulate then go to DEQ and say, how can we work some money into there to where we can get those guys to see there's a light in the tunnel. It's nice to tell you do better and they don't even. Some of them don't even know how to start and so they don't have their coffee, doesn't call it. Sometimes they'll. Maybe there's somebody in there. I'm sure there is. Is there a project we can do together and help them out and maybe get an. I can do one. It doesn't work well. You try, try more. I don't know is that we're a partnership to come in and say let's try and lift up when just sample and see if we can work on the spot. But think about your own area. You're right next to you. Probably a district that's not doing very good. Is there a way to help them to where maybe they can see the line?

P-Tillotson So you know that that has happened and it works. I mean Portneuf have partnered with Caribou on a project. A Caribou has bounced and this is an up and coming growing district and then, so yeah, that, that mythology can work, but you still got to have the right or why you gotta have you gotta have the right. Uh, what's the word I want to use? Willing participants - to want to make that happen. Hmm. I'm not sure that. I'm not sure that every district has the uh, what's the word? The drive. I don't want to say the drive, but it has the ability to maybe get the kick start going even if even if it's there and I would fix that. That's, that's been probably the number one stumbling block that I've kind of encountered with districts from the time I was 40 before I started as the president is if there's a problem and a district, nine times out of 10 you can roll that right back to supervisory engagement, whether it's projects, financials, whatever. Are they out talking to their counties? Are they out selling ourselves to the counties or cities? Are there other, outside of the partner box, outside of the box partners, if they were engaged, would it better? Would it, would there county the district be struggling as hard? There's lots of things out there that probably can be changed or did better on, but I don't think that is really where this conversation started. We've, we've digressed down a rabbit hole here.

TMurrison: Maybe could we go back to communication? (Unintelligible dialogue with several people.) So, um, because I'm a large part of communicating with IASCD, I need to understand some effective ways of communicating with you. Um, we, uh, we sent you public records request. I heard you didn't read it. We, you, um, uh, our agendas are public. They're on the, you know, you don't read the attached stuff. Is there an effective way to communicate with your board that I just don't understand. It's what you need because I'm sending written stuff out, but obviously it's not getting to you.

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P-Tillotson Well, number one, we do read it. We may not, we may not get every word for word red, but I mean, one of the, one of the things, one of one of our big hiccups was something that we read on the agenda when it, when it had to do with the match allocations going out, what a year ago or year and a half ago, nobody would. Nobody in this arena, meaning that including the district was aware of. So we do read the email. I don't necessarily read everything that comes out. If I asked specifically for something like that, I read it, unless there's a reason that there's not maybe specifically for me.

TMurrison: Well, I want to be able to provide you that information that you obviously want to get from us. That's my job. So I haven't been able to find the right medium or the right method that's effective. Um, we, we were going to be notified of your board meetings. We haven't got a notice of that for a long time. Um, so tell us, you know, tell us how we communicate effectively with you and will make every effort if we have the resources to do that.

Unknown: ~~M~~Mr. Chairman.

Chair Wright: Yes.

D-Becker: (Miscellaneous conversation amongst several people.) I'm just following along and reading the, your agenda and the attachments and I, I, you know, I read them because you have the Tracker and you know who's reading. and I used to say, and this is another specific issue, the communication a year ago when the issue with the district came up that you put on your public meeting agenda and it was buried down on the attachments. That was the very first time. Well I, I read it and I called Kit, told me what was. I said you need to get on, you need to read it. It moving forward. Communication wise, if there's something like that that's happening, we shouldn't have to read about it in your agenda and the attachments of the agenda if they're, if they're, if, if you're having, if you're having that kind of issues in the district. In my mind it should come from Chair Wright. He should've called Kit and said, Kit, we're having some issues. This is what's transpiring. That should have. That should have been communicated right off the bat because I think we put a lot of heartburn that everybody has now over what went on down there. Yeah. Regardless of legal that, that, that, that should have been communicated. Uh, and I'm, I'm kind of disheartened that you guys have not been getting. I mean, if you're, if you're, if you're missing our meeting notices.

TMurrison: We haven't gotten one for a long time.

D-Becker: We just want, we don't meet that often, but we haven't had a meeting in...

TMurrison: Because we had this conversation before and we committed, Chair Wright and I, to participating and we did for the one or two that we got and then we stopped getting them.

P-Tillotson We haven't had a meeting. We meet three times a year.

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- TMurrison: Yeah, we did. We haven't, we didn't get anything.
- P-Tillotson You didn't get the June meeting? Well we had to joint meeting.
- TMurrison: But you also had ~~ana~~ meeting, right? Conference calls I'm talking about in person. We get, we get those when we have joint meetings obviously because Benjamin and I go back and forth on what is on the agenda. Um, uh, I think the difficulty for us with the whole legal situation is that when there's an active investigation, there are places we are not permitted to go and we could not call and give anyone a heads up.
- D-Becker: That I did and I get that. But that should have been before there was an active investigation and you were having issues with them. You and you should have, we should have known about it before it got to the criminal investigation part because part of it could've been, it could, it could have been some of the issues could have been solved.
- P-Tillotson: Well the other part of that though is if you can put it on a public document, you can call me and tell me about it before it goes onto that public document that, that was kind of a, I mean you probably knew it was gonna go on that public document at least a day or two before it actually went on the document and went out. And there's another example where that communication maybe would have helped the blindside a little bit, but it just felt very, very well. The way I, it was very deceitful in, in, in is how I felt that it's buried down here in the agenda on a public document, so, so basis are covered. Uh, but you know, that's how, that's how the perception come across.
- TMurrison: And it honestly was not intended to be deceitful in any way, shape or form.
- P-Tillotson: Until that point in time. And I understand there's legal issues until that point. There was no awareness on any of our parts that there was even questions about what has transpired into now a legal issue. So....
- Chair Wright: When that broke or when that came about. The first time I knew about where we were at was when I got the agenda too.
- P-Tillotson: We did, well, why is that okay?
- Chair Wright: Let's throw out. This is not talking about that daisy chain deal. Who's going to call me? She turns around and says, oh, by the way, I want her agenda, ~~our~~ and our agenda tomorrow you're going to see it. This is the case.
- Unknown: That. But that should have been before any of that ever come to that Teri should have told you about that. A month before, two months, six weeks, whatever the date was. Because you two, it just seems to me, I, I'm, I'm talking not government here, this is what I do, I put my whole life is putting fires out you two, get in the car, you go visit with those people you take maybe maybe you take Teri too and, and you sit down and say what, what happened? What can we do a that solves 90 percent of all problems and it

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just seems to me since this has happened, we've had strife right here and that's the main cause

TMurrison: I think we've had strife for longer than that. You just maybe weren't aware of it.

Unknown: I've been, I've been in some of these meetings and, but that, that was huge.

TMurrison: Totally understand that.

Unknown: And then when the email went out and you don't ever send them an email, it has a negative word in it to more than two people ever. And that email come out and it went to everybody in the United States basically. And it was completely negative, completely negative to the districts, to you, to everybody. (Unintelligible dialogue.)

TMurrison: I understand. I think I wanted to, um, you know, refer to the fact that Shantel's on, on the phone call and Shantel I would invite you if we are straying into any areas that we should not talk about to speak out. Um, but that said, um, I understand that it blindsided, you understand that it was, um, it rocked our partnership. I understand that it rocked that particular district and that was, was never our intent to do that. We did the best that we could going through it, knowing that although this body is very, um, involved in district matters, that this body had no jurisdiction to address it. Once it was, under investigation, there was no role for us to confer with anybody and fix anything. None whatsoever. So we had to ride it out just like you had to ride it out. We couldn't explain anything. We still can't explain anything. We would hope that you all would send somebody to hear what, what we've heard. But that said, Mr. Chair. I mean, we didn't see that we had any other options, but to handle it the way that we handled it.

(Pause)

Chair Wright: We got told stay away. No contact.

Unknown: You don't know contact you guys told to stay away, but that was long after this thing should have been aired amongst all of us, long after that. This was going on a year prior to this. You even coming up with that.

(Unintelligible dialogue with several people.)

TMurrison: There was stuff we didn't actually. We didn't know about it until right before a second. No, no. We became aware of it what in August? July, September?

DTrefz: I believe it was the 30th of August. Just before the document.

TMurrison: Yeah, so it's not like we were mulling it over for years and trying to figure it out. It happened quickly.

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DTrefz: Mr. Chairman, It happened so quickly that when it is, I was doing a final review. My only review that year of the financial metric boards because I turned that responsibility over to Maria. I said before the DAWG meeting, I wanted to go through and see where everything. Right. When, when, when, when I saw what was going on, it was probably, it might've been 45 minutes, probably closer to half an hour. I did what my job is as, as a soldier of the commission, go to my boss. We, we shared with her what was what I discovered. She called Shantel, the attorney general's office and boom, we were shut down within 45 minutes. This is no word of a lie. We were shut down within 45 minutes of me having discovery would going on now. Now I'm not saying and Steve was here and he can confirm because he's been on the DAWG for many years, there's been something kind of smelly going on down there, but we were never able, you know, if I made talking to them, I didn't talk to you Kit and I didn't talk to Steve, but I've made a special trip in 2013 down to talk to them to Lyla about it. Lyla, you have to understand this just doesn't smell right.

SChappleKnowlton Sorry Delwyne, this is Shantel. I think given that they going to be in trial, the trial is going to be happening here next month. We need to not be talking about the emails, especially the details of what you talked about with her.

DTrefz: You're right Shantel. My apologies.

TMurrison: I would encourage you to send somebody to hear all the evidence for yourselves, but we, we can't. I can't give it to you. Thank you. Shantel.

Unknown: Okay. Well,

TMurrison: So I do. We understand how annoyed you guys are about it and we understand that it's not a comfortable situation for anybody and we're really sorry. We just don't see how we could do anything differently than what we did or that we would do anything differently than next time.

Unknown: So Mr. Chairman, as we all know, there's been several stumbling blocks as you call them over the last 18 months. I get that. We can't talk about the one. I think everybody in here gets sad. What should have or shouldn't have happened? We can talk about it. I get it. I just, I just don't know. Uh, I mean we've talked about communication. We've talked. I don't know where we go from here, but I can tell you we got go somewhere. Cause right now in Kit's opinion it weren't broken. We're not moving forward until there is a change. Whatever that change is, there's got to be a change because status quo in my mind is unacceptable.

Comm Roemer: ~~Mr.~~Mr. Chairman, I have a question. So when you say we're not moving forward, there's got to be a change. Status quo isn't cutting it. Basically. Those are my words. Could you cite some potential solutions that maybe you have thought of to move beyond? I'm sorry, can you bring a solution, the table that maybe it would be workable and the in improving the partnership? What maybe two examples.

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Unknown: I would love to honestly, commissioner, but I don't know yet. I don't know what that answer is. I just know what hasn't been working and a big one is our communication, so probably, probably the commitment to continue to communicate would probably be the first step. Whether it's bad or good because I know we ain't going to move forward without it, but we all need to understand we're kind of a critical mass in Kit's mind.

Chair Wright: Steve and Kit. We, as we've talked about, we basically talked about this at our meeting and it's, you know, it's been full disclosure because that's when, you know, we haven't talked to each other before the meeting or anything else. We get the agenda and said, okay, that's what's on there and we're talking about this, uh, you know, we have, we've invited and, and I know it's difficult sometimes to send a board member there and be on the phone, may be multiple because I know my, you know, was the designee and sometimes I don't give a darn how well we plan things, you know, problems come up. But is there a way that we can secure that during that board meeting either on the phone or in person that you have a representative there because that person can take that information back. I mean we've talked about the Franklin County deal in detail. What we could at our board meeting, we talked about the distribution at a board meeting and, and we'd be more than happy to field questions, comments, the time taught, bring up your concerns, but be nice to have that person or persons there.

D-Sommerville: Well, I'll speak, I'll speak to that and uh, and apologize when I came on the board and was assigned commission liaison responsibility. I didn't know we were circling the wagons so we could all shoot inside. (laughter)

TMurrison: That's a great comment. Thank you.

D-Sommerville: Partnerships fail when we do that.

TMurrison: Right.

D-Sommerville: And I would apologize because I knew how important it was, but it seemed like an, I'd read the emails, I read everything you send out, but you, your, your agenda consistently has a break for executive session. We'll, I can't drop my work and run over to Boise from Nampa and sit for an hour and then wait around for two hours when, when you break. So I called Benjamin and he says, well, it might not be that important if they're, if they're doing that. So, so I'd call in and um, and then you followed your agenda right down. But, uh, I, I guess I see that as kind of in a way circling the wagons and shooting inside. You know, we're, we're not really helping one another too much on both sides. I, the way I see it. And again, I'm an, I'm a newcomer at this, although I've worked in Idaho for many years and work close with the commission and the association. So I, you know, I commit to do a much better job than I than I've done. I'm good, I'm good. I'm a good person to kick around. (Unintelligible dialogue with several people.) But I'm not going to shoot him inside. We may talk direct about things we don't like, but it's not going to help or partnership to do that. And uh, I think it's healthy to air all this out. But I think our customers are all the same people then because of that, we cannot afford to be jockeying for power if that's what it is or anything like that. Matt has been around a long

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time and I've heard him comment about that. So a really think we just need to get past as much as we can, I promise to do better. And, and then, uh, and I don't, I don't know, Kit, how the communication. I know I'll do a better job. I'll come out of the commission meeting report directly to you or, or Benjamin. And I know that'll help a lot of that. Uh, so, uh, but I think there's a, I think the big elephant in the room is, probably hasn't even talked about it. So while I'm talking, we hear consistently among the districts, um, the problem of, of required documentation from the commission require documentation from the, the IASCD, the wanting them to do more with less. And we've talked this morning early about the districts that are losing employees and they are enabled that to keep them the same thing you said, Chair Wright. And so I think we've talked about some on the board. I think if we're going to require any documentation and above where we are, we need to talk about that because we hear that so much from our districts who, who don't have the where with all to respond. And I think if we hey, it's required that the, uh, the Governor's Office needs this, that, whatever. Then we go forward with one voice, you know, and you know, it's nothing. We can't do anything about this. It's required go down the road. But I don't think we're doing that. I think the notice comes out to complete this report by a certain date and, and districts just start up what they started up, we all know how it happens, but we need to be able to explain why the more documentation is needed and uh, somebody help me out here, I think, I think that would go a long ways if we, uh, before it comes out of we can explain, help you or you help us depending on who's, who's putting something out. Um, this was coming out, here's, you know, it's prepare for it, it's a month away or whatever and I think that would a drop in these, uh, requirements in the emails and just, you know, hitting the button and they go to all 50 districts that just causes turmoil out there. And, and people that want to want to pick on the partnership really have a free for all with this.

TMurrison: I, I appreciate that. I think that's really valid point. I think that we have all of the documentation in order that we're going to ask for and if certainly if there's any more we're going to add to it. We're going to come in and talk about it, but in June, June at the joint board meeting every year we present any changes to the reference guide and that's after it's been through an appointed group for discussion. So, um, there have been changes, but I don't anticipate any additional.

Unknown: What's the name [Delwyne], whatever that is that you have meet with you. I don't think that group functions.

TMurrison: It only functions once a year and this group helped help define that, but I do want to go back to, because you mentioned the circular firing squad and, and you are exactly right. We are all serving the same customer and our goal and our mission is to facilitate voluntary conservation on the ground. And so I'm going to make you aware of a couple of situations where we had the circular firing squad that's been firing at us. Okay. So what we're hearing from my colleagues out of state is that there are conversations taking place where, um, we're going to be taken out. I'm going to be taken out. The commissioners are going to be taken out. They're very specific threats against the commission. So we need to get past that. We need to get past the point where we don't

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know if the rest of your board has talked about direction. We only know that Kit and Steve are bringing it forward and maybe the rest of you know it. Maybe you don't. So we, and this is really gritty, okay, but this is the circular firing squad that things are being said that not everybody is aware. We tried for a month before the Kennewick thing to get a mediated discussion between the partners. Curtis wanted to do it. We wanted to do it. When we asked you guys to do it, you didn't have time. You said you'd have an hour to do it before the Kennewick thing. That's not gonna work. We really want to communicate. We want to make this partnership work for all of us, but you guys got to meet us halfway and we got to be board to board. We can't be Chair ~~Wright to Wright~~ to Kit or Steve to, you know, we've got the full five. We need to be honest with each other and forthright and work together because this road leads to another interim committee and none of us wants that. We want an effective partnership where we can trust each other. Curtis has told me he distances himself from the commission because he doesn't want to experience what comes from IASCD if he doesn't. Benjamin doesn't even hardly say hi to me anymore when you guys are around. This is not working and we need to figure out how to communicate and how to be honest and how to be on the same page or we are going to lose it all and none of us wants that, so I am committed to overlooking all of this stuff. As long as we put everything on the table, we say, you have some reasons to be upset with us. We have some reasons to be upset with you. That's in the past. We're going to talk to you during the legislative session. We're going to tell you what we think we ought to do. We're going to be honest and open with you and we're not going to try to take you out. That's what I want to hear, and we can work on the communication and I will communicate with anyone I'm told to, but this needs to be out there. This is the elephant in the room. It is not just not hearing about meetings. It is not just getting multiple emails. It is a long established relationship that has got to change.

D-Sommerville: Oh Chairman, I'm the newest one. I really have no idea. I know so just keep it that way, but I do agree with you on that. On the cleaning up for communication on personally committed to working on that made you think, you know, definitely chairman.

Unknown: You want to go ahead and. My purposes, we need money to the counties and that's conservation. That's totally what I want to see. We need to be together in partners to do.

TMurrison: Yep. I agree.

Unknown: Mr. Chairman, first off, I'd like to apologize for just spouting out a minute ago that was rude of me and I'm sorry I'm becoming you quiet. Kathy. I same thing all the time, so don't.

Unknown: I think we're. We're talking and that's, that's, that's a good sign. So I think that's a good step forward.

D-Becker: Mr. Chair. I a couple of brief comments. Commissioner Roemer likes to kid about solutions to the problem. One of the solutions that I saw that actually was struck her being. I like that you talk to Kim, it touched to you. I mean, but that's, that's a good thing

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*Please note, due to online technology, words may not be accurate. Persons wishing to listen to the recording should contact the Commission at 208-332-1790.

Electronically Transcribed* Joint Board Meeting Minutes
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2:00 pm, November 13, 2018

because I think a lot of times we don't have enough conversations back and forth between the two chairs. I mean, I think that's a good thing and response to the comment you made when you were making your opening remarks. But no, we're all, we all have the same goals and missions and we do and we don't. There's gonna be times where we were. Where were you guys who've been legislated to do x, Y or z may not be the total interest of all the districts were going to disagree over there. We're going to have disagreements within ~~ours~~ours. He asked because a lot of times farm programs not best in the world for districts. I mean there's, there's going to be tied to that and we have to be a winner that. And we're going to. And we're going to have issues. It's going to happen, but if we're not willing to sit down and talk about it, then you just get worse and worse. And I think this is a good point moving forward. I mean there's, there's got it, you know, and then it's communicated because I run my business is a family run business and I mean if you've ever had to run a family run business, then you want to talk about communications and get your feelings hurt. And I mean it's tough. Do you ever have to do and that. And that's one of the hardest things of that is it's communication. I have a brother and a cousin and I mean sometimes I want to just to strangle. I mean, and it, it. And, and you have to learn that at the end of the day, your first job is to get our farming done and we need to carry on her business. Business has got to be business, the family's got to be family. We're not always going to get along and agreed, but we can. We can agree where we need to agree that we're going to disagree and where we're going to disagree and that's where we're going to have the issues was how do we resolve the conflict when we're in a disagreement and then I think that's part of would be part of the solution is to figure out how we can.

Unknown: Right

D-Becker: And how we can try to have conflict resolution and another and another thing that we have some issues with periodic chart. You just said, well you guys were too busy to meet before the conference maybe. Well there's been times where we wanted to have meetings on Sundays. I don't. We get told that all the commission can't meet on a Sunday because they'd have to have, bring all their employees and then we. But we do it. I mean but. But we've both. There was a couple of times where we wanted to meet on a Sunday. A year ago was in the middle of the summer. We got until of them cost you guys too much money. So I had to take a day off of work to fly to Boise and I don't get paid for that. So I mean there's times that you, because you get paid by the state of Idaho. Curtis gets paid by the federal government. If you guys want to have a meeting in Boise, we're completely 100 percent so you have to be kind of conscious of our time. Probably a little more sometimes important. I mean because we have, I mean our jobs jobs. Sure. And I think sometimes we forget that because there has been times over the last seven, eight years where we've wanted to have meetings on Saturdays and Sundays and had been told no, we can't do that. So there's, there's time restriction sometimes. And then the DAWG, Kennewick, I mean [unknown].

P-Tillotson: Every, every one of us is involved in production agriculture one way shape form or another middle of September. Yeah, we're going to be busy.

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- TMurrison: I mean...
- D-Becker: [inaudible] you got, you got sick and you couldn't have come any time
- T-Murrison: ...way to mean. So those are the kinds of things that are just gonna. I mean they're going to happen. And we've got to work out how to move past them and get over it because Mike said, you know, our customers are the same. So let me go back to, um, your statement about working this legislative session to move some funds down to districts. I need to know, we need to know from the whole board, is that this board's position, are you intending this legislative session to go and advocate for that as a board? Are...
- D-Becker: Our position is we're going to go and support the increase of the \$284,000. That's what we're moving forward with. As we stated in our letter. That's what we're doing.
- TMurrison: So if in the course of conversations the topic comes up, is that something that this board is going to support as a board having spoken with districts before you do it? Or are you just gonna kind of flow with it? I want to know what your process is to move from the will of the board to direct Steve and Kit in legislative session because we know that the governor is most likely not going to recommend. It's not. And so as you were down there talking, what kind of direction is your board giving you about where they want you to negotiate?
- PTillotson: Well, I'm thinking the way we taught earlier today is we pretty well fully expect the governor to historically zero. Right. But we will, we are planning on moving forward through the legislature and talking to and promoting that and see if we can't get it promoted through the same avenues. Did it in the past. We said we was going to support that and that's what, that's what this board has agreed to do and mend the fences and wipe mud off of our face and in the process. So yeah, we're good. We're going to advocate for the, the 284,000 or whatever that was. Whether it gets zeroed out by the governor or not. That I believe is what this board has decided to 2 to move forward with
- D-Becker: ~~Mr~~Mr. Chairman and I'm sure that I say if we another fire deal or some other project comes along, we can take two. We're still going to support the full budget.
- TMurrison: It would just be helpful for us to know if part of the strategy with the legislature includes cannibalizing some of the ~~commissions~~commission's resources to support.
- D-Becker: I don't think at this point. I mean at this point, I don't think that's it, whereas where we're at, but you got to realize there's, as negotiations start within the hallways and the offices of the legislature, there may be things that come up that we will have to decide that we're okay with or we're not okay with or whatever. Those may be. I don't know. But uh, we will keep. We will keep informed what is, what is being said, what is being looked that and kicked around this board I don't think has any intentions of being secretive about what we're trying to do because it is your budget that is going to go out

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to the districts. I don't know that we can really answer any farther than that because we just don't know what's going to arise out of the conversations.

TMurrison: So by the same token that your board didn't want to be blindsided. We don't want to be blindsided by that either. Can say so. It should be a call to Chair ~~Wright~~ Wright or to me to let us know.

PTillotson: I just, I just stated in a public meeting on recording that we would keep you informed as things arise.

TMurrison: Okay.

PTillotson: Ultimately I want, you know, I had a comment question of me when I first started, when we, when this first all come about of what's the matter. You don't want to see districts ~~grill-grow~~ and I was quite offended that we as volunteers do not spend our time to this ~~organization, that~~ organization that the costs of our family life and our family businesses to [unknown] districts grow. Our number one reason that we're here is to see districts ~~grow~~ grow. We all know that sometimes there's just, there's just, we have to play. There's there, there's boundaries. We have to somewhat abide by when we're counting on that growth coming from the taxpayers and who's accountable to them. So I don't think there's a person in here that is not here to see district succeed regardless of our avenues of doing it. Mr. Chairman, we could, we could beat this horse. ~~Tell us~~ Till it that comes back to life again, but I do know you guys have a listening session and I believe it's getting close to that.

TMurrison: It started six minutes ago.

Chair Wright: That's alright.

Unknown: Well this was a good listening sessions probably talking for the last 60 minutes.

TMurrison: So, we have a couple of other items on the agenda, one of which Mr. Elke put on here, but he's not here for that and then the joint meeting dates and locations, but we can certainly talk offline on that.

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**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

ITEM #4e

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, ROEMER, TREBESCH, AND OLSON
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
RE: 2011 PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Attached are the signed 2004 and 2011 Conservation Partnership Statements for your review and discussion in preparation for the Joint Board Meeting with the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts in January 2018.

REQUESTED ACTION: None, for information only

Attachments:

- FY 2004 Idaho Conservation Partnership Statement of Cooperation
- FY 2011 Idaho Conservation Partnership Statement

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The Idaho Conservation Partnership Statement of Cooperation

We have independent responsibilities but are dependent on each other for the efficient, effective, and successful delivery of services and programs.

Jointly we will provide leadership to the State of Idaho on natural resource conservation issues.

Vision: A Productive Idaho in Harmony with a Quality Environment

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We share a commitment to:

- * Listen, anticipate, and respond to our customers' needs
- * Anticipate, identify and address issues
- * Decision making at the lowest appropriate level
- * Advocate ecosystem management – a holistic approach
- * Maintain and enhance our grassroots delivery system
- * Build our alliances to expand our partnership
- * Foster economically viable environmental policies
- * Enhance, maintain and conserve our natural resources and environment

State



President

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts

We pledge to work together by:

- * Advancing and practicing teamwork
- * Involving each partner in the decision making process as appropriate
- * Communicating, coordinating, and cooperating
- * Sharing training opportunities
- * Promoting mutual respect, support, trust and honesty
- * Sharing the leadership and ownership, the credit and the responsibility

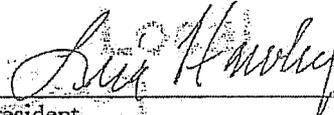


President

Idaho District Employees Association

We will improve our efficiency and effectiveness by:

- * Putting quality first
- * Empowering people to make decisions
- * Demonstrating professionalism and dedication
- * Striving for continuous improvement

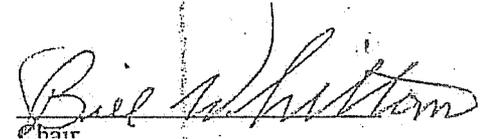


President

IASCSD Auxiliary

Leadership commitment:

The signatures of the organization leaders on this page reflect their endorsement of the vision and guiding principles detailed in this Statement of Cooperation, and their commitment to work together to advance natural resource conservation objectives throughout Idaho.



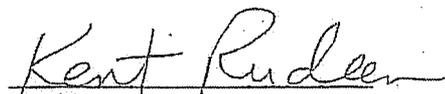
Chair

Idaho Soil Conservation Commission



State Conservationist

Natural Resources Conservation Service



President

Idaho RC&D Association

The Idaho Conservation Partnership Statement

We believe in strong, independently led conservation districts fully exercising their role to lead non-regulatory conservation efforts throughout the State of Idaho.

We seek to strengthen the delivery of non-regulatory natural resource conservation programs throughout the State of Idaho through an active partnership with Idaho's conservation districts.

Through our independent responsibilities, and working together, we will provide leadership to the State of Idaho on natural resource conservation issues and successfully deliver services and programs.

We share a common set of guiding principles to achieve our common goals. These are:

- Building alliances with Idaho's agriculture and natural resource conservation partners to expand the partnership, therefore strengthening the importance of non-regulatory, voluntary conservation efforts to enhance agriculture production and the protection of natural resources in Idaho.
- Working together to provide support to Idaho's fifty individual conservation districts, and supporting their non-regulatory efforts of natural resource conservation and protection.
- Promoting economically viable environmental practices to enhance, maintain and conserve Idaho's natural resources.
- Ensuring local control and decisions regarding natural resource conservation.
- Involving each partner in the decision making process when and where appropriate.
- Sharing the leadership, ownership, the credit and responsibility for natural resource protection and preservation in Idaho.
- Communicating, collaborating, coordinating and cooperating.

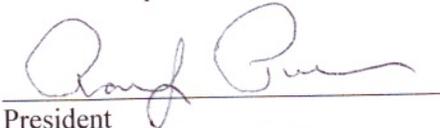
Functions of the Partners

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD) will represent Idaho's conservation districts as the primary entities to coordinate voluntary, locally led efforts to sustain and enhance Idaho's natural resources, and strengthen Idaho's conservation districts and thereby the non-regulatory approach to conservation. IASCD will be the unifying voice of member districts to state and federal officials, and assist districts in sharing their work and the need of protecting natural resources with other land owners and the public at large.

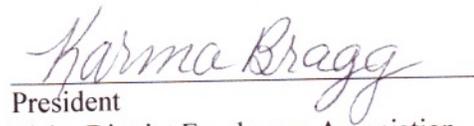
Idaho District Employees Association (IDEA) will increase the effectiveness of conservation districts by increasing the effectiveness of conservation district employees. IDEA recognizes conservation districts as the primary local entities to lead non-regulatory conservation efforts. IDEA supports conservation districts and conservation district employees by promoting professional development, communication, partnerships, and educational outreach.

Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWC), serving with the soil and water conservation districts as Idaho's primary entities to lead coordinated conservation efforts, will facilitate coordinated non-regulatory, voluntary, and locally-led conservation by federal, state, and local governments including Idaho's conservation districts and other partners to conserve, sustain, improve, and enhance soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources.

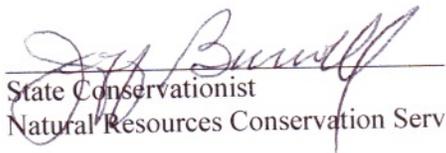
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will use 75 years of experience to work in assisting owners of Idaho's private land with conserving their soil, water and other natural resources. NRCS's expertise is available to the partners to educate local, state and federal agencies and policymakers. Their technical assistance will be based on sound science and suited to a customer's specific needs.



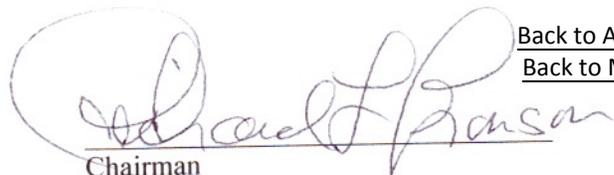
President
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts



President
Idaho District Employees Association



State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Chairman
Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

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IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ITEM #5a

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, ROEMER, TREBESCH, AND OLSON
FROM: DELWYNE TREFZ, DISTRICT SUPPORT SERVICES
DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2018
RE: APPEALS PROCESS FOR DISTRICT MATCH ALLOCATIONS

As you know, at the Idaho Association of Conservation Districts' (IASCD) November Board meeting in Post Falls, IASCD members approved two emergency resolutions directing the IASCD Board to work with the Commission to enhance communication and transparency of match funding (ER-18-01), and to provide an appeals process and special review committee for District match determinations (ER-18-02). A copy of both emergency resolutions is attached.

Commission staff and legal counsel reviewed the current appeals process in Rule for district match allocations and potential changes to that process. Based on that review, Commission staff is going to standardize the process for districts to respond to the DAWG's recommendation before the Board's final allocation decision and have that procedure set forth in the District Reference Manual.

Current Appeals Process

Currently, a district may appeal the Board's allocation decision by filing for judicial review in district court as provided in the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act. Section 3 of the District Allocation Rules, IDAPA 60.05.04.003, provides: "there is no provision for administrative appeals before the Board under this chapter. Persons may be entitled to appeal final agency actions authorized under this chapter pursuant to Section 67-5270, Idaho Code." Idaho Code § 67-5270 provides that "[a] person aggrieved by final agency action other than an order in a contested case is entitled to judicial review." Idaho Code § 67-5270(2). "A petition for judicial review of a final agency action other than a rule or order must be filed within twenty-eight (28) days of the action, except as provided by other provision of law." Idaho Code § 67-5273(3).

Change to District Allocation Rules to Provide for Administrative Review

Emergency Resolution No. ER-1802, passed by IASCD "supports an appeals process in which Districts have a 30 day period to respond to questions of denial before final allocations." The resolution also provides that the DAWG shall make the final determination and that "the appeal committee be made up of 1 IASCD director, 1 soil and water conservation commission staff person, 2 supervisors from other divisions and chairman to be appointed by the commission."

The appeals process provided in Emergency Resolution No. ER-1802 would be an illegal delegation of the Commission's statutory duty to allocate match funds. Under Idaho Code § 22-2727, it is the duty of the Commission to allocate funds to districts in accordance with that provision. Without specific legislative authorization, the Commission cannot disregard or delegate that statutorily assigned duty. *See City of Sandpoint v. Independent Highways Dist.*, 161 Idaho 121, 384 P.3d 368 (2016). Allowing the DAWG to make the final allocation determination and/or allowing an appeals committee comprised of district supervisors and IASCD leadership to review and potentially overturn a decision of the Commission would be transferring final decision-making authority to persons outside of the Commission. Under Idaho Code § 22-2727, the final decision regarding match allocations must be made by the Board.

An alternative option would be changing the District Allocation Rules (see IDAPA 60.05.04, attached) to provide for a process and time period for a district to request that the Board reconsider its allocation decision. Because each district's allocation effects every other district's allocation that process would need

to allow for notice to all districts of written requests for reconsideration and would need to provide for an opportunity for all districts to participate. Additionally, distribution of match funds would have to be delayed during that reconsideration process. Commission staff believe that the same benefits of an official reconsideration process could be achieved by providing for a clear process for districts to respond to the DAWG recommendation prior to Board approval, which would not require any changes to the District Allocation Rules and would avoid delaying the distribution of match funds.

Standardize Process for District's to Respond to the DAWG Recommendation

Commission staff believe that clarifying the process for districts to provide additional documentation and respond to the DAWG recommendation would increase transparency and address districts' desire to be able to respond to the potential denial of match claims. Commission staff is developing a standardized procedure by which the DAWG recommendation will be sent to each district with a set period of time for districts to review the recommendation before the Board makes its final decision on match allocations. Districts would be notified of the meeting date and time and would be given an opportunity to provide a written response, present additional documentation, and participate in the public meeting. All documentation and written responses provided by districts would be included in the materials the Board will review prior to making its final decision. Additionally, where the DAWG recommends denying a match claim, the district will receive a letter from Commission staff outlining the reasons the DAWG recommended denial of the claim and specifically informing the district that it may provide a written response and/or provide additional documentation for the Board to consider.

Commission staff are already working on a standardized process that will provide districts the opportunity to review and respond to the DAWG recommendation. This process will be incorporated into the District Reference Manual in accordance with our established procedure for revising the Manual, i.e., the process drafted by Commission staff will be reviewed by an advisory committee comprised of: 1 rep from IASCD selected by IASCD; 1 rep from IDEA selected by IDEA, and; 3 District Supervisors selected by Commission District Support Staff. Following review—and, if necessary—modification of the process by the advisory committee, Districts will have one month during which to review and provide feedback on the draft process after which Commission staff will write the final standardized process, incorporate it into the District Reference Manual, and distribute the revised Manual to Districts.

REQUESTED ACTION: For information ~~and possible action only.~~

Attachments:

IASCD Emergency Resolution ER-18.01
IASCD Emergency Resolution ER-18.02
IDAPA 60.04.04

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Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Committee Resolutions

Emergency Resolution No.: ER-18-01

Resolution Subject/Title: Enhance communication and transparency of match funding

Sponsoring District: Franklin SWCD

Date Submitted: November 15, 2018

District Contact: Franklin

Supervisors

Phone: 208-852-0562

Committee to Review Resolution:		
Resolutions Subcommittee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
Standing Committee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pass
		<input type="checkbox"/> No Recommendation
IASCD Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
		<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled

WHEREAS, a ISWCC financial and match report is required to document the value of local funds and services received by a district and are necessary in order to calculate the amount of matching funds to be allocated to each district; and

WHEREAS, District Supervisors must review the financial and match report and formally confirm that the information presented is true and accurate by signing and dating the ISWCC Certification Page; and

WHEREAS, ISWCC might take whatever steps it deems necessary to verify that information provided on district financial and match reports is true and accurate; and

WHEREAS, ISWCC might request additional documentation from a District, might directly contact local governments or organizations that the District claimed to have donated funds or services, and/or contact and obtain documentation from any other person or organization ISWCC believes is necessary to verify that information provided on financial and match reports is true and accurate; and

WHEREAS, when additional documentation might be requested from a District, ISWCC shall provide a deadline for the submission of the requested documentation and failure to submit the required documentation by the deadline shall render those specific funds ineligible for state matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the financial and match report is to allocate matching funds to a District and its

Supervisors to exercise their powers stated in Idaho Code 22-2722, and to that end sustain and enhance Idaho's natural resources through independently lead conservation districts fully exercising their role to lead non-regulatory conservation efforts

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports increasing the transparency of matching fund approval and denial process by disclosing of factors and sources of information leading to denial in writing, including clear and precise justification for denial of District match items, justification for denial of District match items that are currently or were previously approved for other Districts.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports the review of all possible denials from ISWCC by the District Allocation Working Group (DAWG) committee prior to final denials being acted upon by ISWCC, allowing the District Allocation Working Group to ask questions and provide possible alternatives.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports an appeals process for any District to respond to justification for denial of District match items

Passed

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Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Committee Resolutions

Emergency Resolution No.: ER-18-02

Resolution Subject/Title: Provide an appeals process for District match determinations before final distributions are made

Sponsoring District: Franklin SWCD

Date Submitted: November 15, 2018

District Contact:

Supervisors

Phone 208-852-0562

Committee to Review Resolution:

Resolutions Subcommittee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
Standing Committee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pass
		<input type="checkbox"/> No Recommendation
IASCD Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Failed
		<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled

WHEREAS, a ISWCC financial and match report is required to document the value of local funds and services received by a district and are necessary in order to calculate the amount of matching funds to be allocated to each district; and

WHEREAS, District Supervisors must review the financial and match report and formally confirm that the information presented is true and accurate by signing and dating the ISWCC Certification Page; and

WHEREAS, ISWCC might take whatever steps it deems necessary to verify that information provided on district financial and match reports is true and accurate; and

WHEREAS, ISWCC might request additional documentation from a District, might directly contact local governments or organizations that the District claimed to have donated funds or services, and/or contact and obtain documentation from any other person or organization ISWCC believes is necessary to verify that information provided on financial and match reports is true and accurate; and

WHEREAS, when additional documentation might be requested from a District, ISWCC shall provide a deadline for the submission of the requested documentation and failure to submit the required documentation by the deadline shall render those specific funds ineligible for state matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the financial and match report is to allocate matching funds to a District and its

Supervisors to exercise their powers stated in Idaho Code 22-2722, and to that end sustain and enhance Idaho's natural resources through independently lead conservation districts fully exercising their role to lead non-regulatory conservation efforts

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports an appeals process in which Districts have a 30 day period to respond to questions of denial before final allocations are made final. This process shall include the DAWG making a final determination.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the appeal committee be made up of 1 IASCD director, 1 soil and water conservation commission staff person, 2 supervisors from other divisions and chairman to be appointed by the commission.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports an appeals process for any District to respond to justification for denial of District match items

Passed

~~the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports the review of all possible appeals from ISWCC by the District Allocation Working Group (DAWG) committee prior to final denials being acted upon by ISWCC, allowing the District Allocation Working Group to ask questions and provide possible alternatives. That the appeal committee be made up of 1 IASCD director, 1 soil and water conservation commission staff person, 2 supervisors from another divisions and chairman to be appointed by the commission.~~

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**IDAPA 60
TITLE 05
CHAPTER 04**

60.05.04 - RULES FOR ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This chapter is adopted by the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission under the legal authority of Sections 22-2718 and 22-2727, Idaho Code. (3-29-12)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. These rules shall be known and cited as IDAPA 60.05.04, “Rules for Allocation of Funds to Conservation Districts.” (3-29-12)

02. Scope. These rules establish the procedures to be followed by the Commission and the conservation districts in the implementation of Section 22-2727, Idaho Code, providing for the allocation of state funds appropriated for distribution to conservation districts. (3-29-12)

002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.

There are no written interpretations of these rules. (3-29-12)

003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL.

There is no provision for administrative appeals before the Commission under this chapter. Persons may be entitled to appeal final agency actions authorized under this chapter pursuant to Section 67-5270, Idaho Code. (3-29-12)

004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

There are no documents that have been incorporated by reference into this rule. (3-29-12)

005. IDAHO PUBLIC RECORDS ACT.

These rules are public records available for inspection and copying at the department. (3-29-12)

006. ADDRESS, OFFICE HOURS, TELEPHONE, AND FAX NUMBERS.

01. Physical Address. The central office of the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, 650 W State Street, Room 145, Boise, Idaho, 83702. (3-29-12)

02. Office Hours. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Time, Monday through Friday, except holidays designated by the state of Idaho. (3-29-12)

03. Telephone Number. The telephone number of the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the central office is (208) 332-1790. (3-29-12)

04. Fax Number. The fax number of the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the central office is (208) 332-1799. (3-29-12)

05. Website. The Commission’s website address is <http://www.swc.idaho.gov/>. (3-29-12)

007. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of the rules contained in this chapter, the following definitions apply: (3-29-12)

01. Base Funding. Funds appropriated to the Commission to be allocated equally to the various soil conservation districts in a sum not to exceed eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) per district per year. (3-29-12)

02. Board of Supervisors. Governing body of a district as provided in Section 22-2717(25), Idaho

- Code. (3-29-12)
- 03. Certify.** To confirm formally as true, accurate, or genuine. (3-29-12)
- 04. Commission.** The Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission as defined in Section 22-2718, Idaho Code. (3-29-12)
- 05. Conservation District or District.** A soil (and water) conservation district as defined in Section 22-2717, Idaho Code. (3-29-12)
- 06. Financial and Match Report.** Documentation certified by the Board of Supervisors that: (3-29-12)
- a.** Itemizes local funds and services received by a district during the previous fiscal year; and (3-29-12)
- b.** Describes how state base and match funds were utilized during the previous fiscal year. (3-29-12)
- 07. Fiscal Year.** As set forth in Section 67-2201, Idaho Code, the fiscal year will begin on July 1 and close on June 30 of the following year. (3-29-12)
- 08. Five (5) Year Plan.** The plan prepared by each district as defined in Section 025 of IDAPA 60.05.02, "Rules of the Antidegradation Plan for Agriculture for the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission and Soil Conservation Districts." (3-29-12)
- 09. Funding Criteria.** Criteria considered by the Commission to determine the amount of base and match funding to be allocated to the conservation districts. Criteria may include district budgets, district budget requests, district programs and work plans, and district work load analysis. The following documents may be required on an annual basis in order to consistently apply the criteria to all districts: (3-29-12)
- a.** Five (5) year plans; (3-29-12)
- b.** Financial and match reports; and (3-29-12)
- c.** Performance reports. (3-29-12)
- 10. Local Funds.** Monies received in the previous fiscal year from local units of government and organizations for the general purposes of a conservation district. Funds received for special projects, used as required match for specific grants or projects, or on a fee-for-service basis will not be used to calculate match funding. (3-29-12)
- 11. Local Services.** Non-cash contributions received in the previous fiscal year from local units of government and organizations for the general purposes of a conservation district. Services received for special projects, used as required match for specific grants or projects, or on a fee-for-service basis will not be used to calculate match funding. (3-29-12)
- 12. Local Units of Government.** Any general or special purpose political subdivision of the state which has the power to levy taxes and/or appropriate and spend funds. (3-29-12)
- 13. Match Funding.** Funds appropriated to the Commission for distribution to conservation districts in excess of base funding not to exceed twice the amount of local funds and services received by each district in the previous fiscal year. (3-29-12)
- 14. Maximum Allocation.** The total of base funding and match funding allocated to any one (1) conservation district shall not exceed fifty eight thousand and five hundred dollars (\$58,500) in a fiscal year. (3-29-12)

15. Organizations. A group of two (2) or more persons structured and managed to pursue a collective goal on a continuing basis. (3-29-12)

16. Performance Report. Documentation summarizing conservation activities, projects, and programs implemented by a conservation district during the previous fiscal year. (3-29-12)

011. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO DISTRICTS.

01. Base Funding. The Commission shall determine the dollar amount to allocate equally to conservation districts on an annual basis. As soon as practicable after the start of the fiscal year, the Commission shall immediately distribute base funding to the districts that submitted the required documents during the previous fiscal year. (3-29-12)

02. Match Funding. Following determination of base funding, the Commission shall review and approve the additional amount of state appropriations available for proportional allocation to each district in match funding. The amount of match funding allocated will be based upon local funds and services received in the previous fiscal year by each conservation district for the general purposes of the district. Funds received for special projects, used as required match for specific grants or projects, or on a fee-for-service basis will not be used to calculate match funding. Once the required documents for match funding are submitted and determined to be complete, the Commission shall distribute match funding to each district as soon as practicable. (3-29-12)

03. Required Documents. The Commission may require submission of certain documents prior to allocation of base and match funding to districts. These documents may include five (5) year plans, financial and match reports, and performance reports. (3-29-12)

a. The Board of Supervisors shall certify in writing that the district has examined all documentation submitted and that the statements and representations in the documents are true and accurate. (3-29-12)

b. The district shall submit any required documents by a date established by the Commission. (3-29-12)

04. State Budget Requests. The Commission shall conduct a public hearing to consider the needs of the conservation districts on or before June 15th of each year, giving twenty (20) days' written notice of the hearing to each conservation district and to all other persons requesting notice of the hearing. The Commission shall hear and consider testimony at the hearing and all information submitted by the districts prior to submission of the annual budget request to the legislature and governor based upon the criteria of Subsection 010.09 of this rule. (3-29-12)

012. -- 999. (RESERVED)

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MEMO

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT, COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, RADFORD, OLSON, AND TREBESCH
FROM: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH, LOAN OFFICER
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2018
RE: RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Since August 14, the following activities have been conducted by staff:

Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated print advertising.
Loan Inquiries & Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 loan inquiries have been received since the last update dated August 14 (23 for FY19) 9 new loan application received (10 for FY19)
Loans Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 loans approved for FY 2019 (\$230,022) \$245,722 yet to be disbursed 4 loans denied 1 Loan Application Pending (Commission Review)
Loan Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69 loans, \$2,984,996 (end of October) One 30 day delinquency
Administrative Rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared and Submitted Administrative Rules Form to Division of Financial Management Submitted a Notice of Intent to the Office of Administrative Rules. Notice for Negotiated Rule Making Published in May and July Bulletins Prepared Discussion Paper on Proposed Rule Changes Negotiated Rule Making Meeting held on June 20 (1 comment) Second Negotiated Rule Making Meeting held on 7-18 (No Comments) Commission approved Proposed Rules Proposed Rules Published on October 3 Public Hearing Held on October 25 Commission Adopted Pending Rule on November 8 Notice of Adoption of Pending Rule to be Published December 5 Staff Plans Attend Rule Presenter Workshop on December 11 Staff to Present Rules to Germane Committees in 2019 Pending Rule Becomes Final & Effective If Approved By Legislature at 2019 sine die

ACTION: For information only

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