



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

322 E Front St, Suite 560 • Boise Idaho 83702
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IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Tuesday, January 16, 2024
9:00 am – 1:19 pm MST

Location:

322 E. Front St., Suite 560
Boise, Idaho 83702

MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Erik Olson (Chair)	Joan Cloonan (Zoom)
Mitch Silvers	Richard Savage
Blake Hollingsworth (Treasurer)	Karen Sharpnack (Secretary)

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

Delwyne Trefz	Brenda Charles
Melonie Ziegler	Meghan Brooksher (Zoom)
Sarah Quidgeon	Bill Lillibridge (Zoom)
Terry Hoebelheinrich	Loretta Strickland

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Devin Fielding, IASCD	David Perkins, OAG
Braden Jensen, IFB	Bob Flager, Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD
Karla Freeman, Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD	

ITEM #1: WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLL CALL**PRESENTED BY: CHAIRMAN OLSON**

Chairman Olson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Roll call: Chairman Erik Olson, Commissioners Mitch Silvers, Joan Cloonan, Richard Savage, Karen Sharpnack, and Blake Hollingsworth were present. Commissioner Wendy Pratt was absent.

ITEM #2: AGENDA REVIEW**PRESENTED BY: CHAIRMAN OLSON**

Action: None taken

ITEM #3: PARTNER REPORTS

Action: None taken

ITEM #4: REPORTS

PRESENTED BY: COMMISSIONERS & STAFF

Commissioner Hollingsworth requested to have commissioners placed on district mailing lists for future meetings and events.

ITEM #5: POTENTIAL FARMLAND PRESERVATION LEGISLATION

PRESENTED BY: BRADEN JENSEN

Braden introduced the HB377 going to Legislative session, the State authorizes the use of local governments to receive applications from landowners that are interested in establishing a land designation on their property, otherwise known as an agricultural protected area. The land designation would be in term for 20 years with an opportunity for auto renewal or absolve at term end.

ITEM #6: WATER QUALITY PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE UPDATE

PRESENTED BY: LORETTA STRICKLAND

WQPA has paid out 1.75 million in projects, 5 projects came under budget so we could fund two others, totaling 51 projects completed. Commissioners requested to add WQPA summaries to our ISWCC website, and to email project documents out to them directly.

ITEM #7: ENGINEERING REPORT

PRESENTED BY: BILL LILLIBRIDGE

Action: None Taken

ITEM #8: FISCAL AND BUDGET REPORT

PRESENTED BY: MELONIE ZIEGLER

Budget has been finalized and put in for approval, we are working on getting reimbursements out to all Commissioners. Due to the timeline, those reimbursements going out in 2024 for calendar year 2023 will show differently on all staff and Commissioner 1099. CREP manager, Rob Sharpnack, estimating about \$300,000 in match payments for fiscal year 2025. Our base is \$264,000 so we will have projects approved up to that amount and may need to request additional funding.

ITEM #9: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

PRESENTED BY: DELWYNE TREFZ

Budget hearing is at 8am January 18th, JFAC is now having a representative from LSO speak instead of individuals from each agency, we are required to have a power point presentation to submit during the hearing. The Budget hearing will be available to watch via zoom live or the recording will be available on the JFAC website. Chairman Olson and Commissioner Sharpnack terms are set to expire July 1, 2024, to be considered for reappointment, each member must submit a new application before the expiration of current term. Administrator Trefz presented how the governor would like all state agencies to approach the press if they call asking questions regarding sensitive issues.

ITEM #10: ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

PRESENTED BY: DELWYNE TREFZ

Action: None taken

ITEM #11: REPORT OF MOUs, MOAs, & AGREEMENTS

PRESENTED BY: DELWYNE TREFZ

In accordance with section 67-105 code all state agencies are required to report and submit any memoranda or understanding, memoranda of agreement, and agreements to the controller's office for publishing and record keeping. The code ensures transparency for all agreements outside the normal financial business of the state. legislatures will provide clarity on additional documents needed to be submitted with agreements.

ITEM #12: POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICT LAW

PRESENTED BY: DELWYNE TREFZ

Action: None taken

ITEM #13: MINUTES

PRESENTED BY: CHAIRMAN OLSON

Action: Approved August 17th 1st motion approved by Commissioner Hollingsworth, second by Commissioner Silvers, all approved.

August 30th 1st motion approved by Commissioner Savage, 2nd by Commissioner Hollingsworth, all approved.

September 21st approved with minor changes motion by Commissioner Silvers, 2nd by Commissioner Hollingsworth, all approved.

November 7th approved with minor changes motion by Commissioner Hollingsworth, Commissioner Silvers 2nd approved, all approved.

ITEM #14: RCRDP UPDATE & CONSIDERATION OF POLICY REVISION

PRESENTED BY: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH

Current fiscal year we have had 22 loans, 12 applications and 4 of those loans have been approved for a total of \$212,000. Currently, have 3 applications in process, two of which will be viewed at this time. As of January, there is 3.5 million dollars for a loan portfolio, currently \$58,000 is ready to be dispersed, there are no delinquent loans. The motion to increase the amount staff is authorized to approve without board action has been postponed.

ITEM #15a: EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENTED BY: CHAIRMAN OLSON

Action:

Commissioner Silvers made motion to begin executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d) for the purpose of discussing a loan.

Motion carried unanimous roll call vote.

Executive session commenced at 12:20pm
Executive session concluded at 1:19pm

Loan A-772: Motion to approve moved by Commissioner Savage, second by
Commissioner Silvers, motion passes.

Loan A-773: Motion to approve moved by Commissioner Hollingsworth, second by
Commissioner Silvers, motion passes.

ITEM #15b: RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PRESENTED BY: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH

Action: None taken

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 PM. The next Regular Commission Meeting will be
on February 20, 2024, at 2:00 PM MT in Boise, Idaho.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sharpnack, Secretary