

**Bear River Resource Conservation and Development
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, April 13, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room of the USDA Service Center**

Attending:

Mick Atkinson	Scott Ferguson	Cami King
Dallan Nalder	Lloyd Rasmussen	Lynn Lemon
Mountain Kunz	Jay Hardy	

Excused:

Tom Weston	Bill McMullin
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Welcome and Minutes

Dallan welcomed all to the meeting. Mountain was introduced to the council. He is a commissioner from Bear Lake County. Mick motioned that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as written, Lloyd seconded, and the motion carried.

Report on IRCDA Meeting

Mick and Dallan reported on their attendance at the Idaho RC&D Association (IRCDA) meeting in March. Mick discussed the things that he was able to learn about abatement districts. He reported that Idaho had 16 deaths from West Nile virus in 2006. Several hundred were reportedly infected. Other council members emphasized the importance of spraying after dark and treating ponds. They were able to better acquaint themselves with the state organization. The IRCDA will meet again on Sept. 25 & 26.

Non-profit Management Training

A Non-profit Management Training will be available for any board members to attend in Park City on May 14-16 or May 17-19. Because of a grant, the council and staff may attend it for free. Scott is attending. Cami had the training last year. The board wanted to know if our current grant amounts would require a federal single audit, and recommended that a regular audit take place in the near future. They asked that the staff find out what the cost would be.

Letter from Orrin Hatch

Dallan reported that, as agreed upon in the February meeting, members of Congress from Idaho and Utah were each mailed a letter from the RC&D board encouraging them to continue funding for the RC&D program. A response was received from Utah's Orrin Hatch confirming his continued support.

Coordinator Report

Scott shared with everyone a copy of the final Annual Report for 2006 for the Bear River RC&D. The amount for the Hazardous Fuels Reduction grant was in question and has been corrected. The Annual Report will be available for the public inspection on the web site, www.bearriverrcd.org.

Five home owners in Cub River, Franklin County, Idaho have applied and been accepted to receive hazardous fuels reduction work through a grant obtained by the RC&D. This service is greatly needed and will serve as an example to other home owners in the area. Lynn asked why the trees were not completely removed from around the buildings shown in the annual report, citing that he believes that Utah law requires a 50 foot clearance. Scott assured him that the fire professional that we are contracting with will use the needed formulas to leave only a safe amount of foliage. The grant was obtained for the Idaho Department of Lands.

Scott reported that the bag of woad mini-grants have been awarded for \$1570 to Caribou, Cache, Box Elder, Franklin, Oneida, and Bear Lake Counties. This money will supplement the much larger funding that typically exists in some of these counties. This is the first time that the Bear River RC&D has been able to supply these mini-grants and the money was obtained from Utah NRCS.

Financial Report

Cami gave the financial report which included a balance sheet, reconciliation reports, and bank statements. A check register was also supplied. Lynn motioned that the report be accepted and Lloyd seconded. The motion carried.

The 990 tax report for 2006 has been prepared by Cami. Dallan signed the report.

The U&I Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) has produced a 10 minute educational DVD to let state lawmakers know about the accomplishments of their organization and the need for continued support. Each council member was given a copy of the DVD. A 38 minute version of the DVD is also available upon request. The U&I CWMA consists of Weed Supervisors from Bannock, Box Elder, Cache, Franklin, and Oneida Counties. New weed grants for 2007 for the U&I CWMA have been awarded for approximately \$193, 000. The RC&D will oversee the fiscal management of these grants.

The Utah Weed Supervisor Association (the parent organization of the U&I CWMA) has an advertisement that will be airing during *Roughing It Outdoors* on Channel 2 on Saturdays at 11:00 p.m. These educational efforts are felt to be an important part of controlling noxious and invasive weeds.

Council members were supplied with a contact sheet listing each member on the board. Montain suggested that Vaughn Rasmussen be added to the list, since he may attend for Bear Lake County from time to time. A photo of the board members in attendance was taken. It is posted on the web site www.bearriverrcd.org.

Council members were reminded that they can take a 14 cents per mile deduction on their personal taxes for travel in behalf of the RC&D if they have not been otherwise reimbursed for their mileage.

Two new grants for Technical Service Providers (TSP) will likely be ready for signature before the next RC&D meeting. Cache and Box Elder counties will be supplied one worker each to assist in various NRCS conservation grants. The RC&D will manage the payroll, oversee the fiscal management of the grants, and will receive 10% of the total grant in return. Lynn remarked that this arrangement has worked well in the past and moved that the TSP contracts be signed; Jay stated that he has personally benefited from their services in Box Elder County and seconded. The motion carried.

Mick asked the council to approve a raise for Cami. He recommended she be paid equivalent to a federal government employee at grade 6, step 4 or \$16.96 per hour. This will be in effect the first full pay period of April, 2007. The board approved the motion.

Mick asked if the next meeting of the council could be held at his home in Riverdale, Idaho. The board agreed and the date was set for June 14 at 1:00 p.m. Dinner will be served.