

Bear River Resource Conservation and Development  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Thursday, December 8, 2005  
The Coppermill, Logan, Utah

Those in attendance:

Lloyd Rasmussen-Chairperson  
Lynn Lemon  
Mick Atkinson  
Dallan Nalder  
Suzanne Rees

Scott Ferguson

Heather Sisson

Cami King

Jon Hardman

Conrad Michaelson

Those not present:

Thomas Weston

### **Welcome and Minutes**

Lloyd welcomed all in attendance. Suzanne motioned that the minutes be accepted, with Dallan seconding. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Oneida County/Spring Hills Burn Grant**

Scott requested that a subcontract with the Forest Service for the Oneida County Spring Hills Burn project needs to be signed by the council. The contract states that the RC&D will pay the Forest Service for the following components: line preparation, prescribed burning, and fence restoration, if needed. The council already agreed to pursue the money for this grant, so now the need is simply to sign the contract. The RC&D will take in \$400 (5% of the \$8000 from the grant.)

Lynn motioned that the contract be accepted, and Conrad seconded the motion. The motion carried. Lynn signed for Tom Weston who was not present.

### **Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant**

Scott reported that it appears that a grant for hazardous fuels reduction for Oneida County will be awarded again this year, though not for the full amount of \$47,250. This would be through the Idaho Department of Lands, and could possibly be used in other counties. Scott will report on this in the future.

### **Annual Meeting**

Scott reminded all that in order to maintain a non-profit status, the council needs to have its Annual Meeting where the leadership is rotated and review the progress for the year.

### **Extension of Current CSP Agreement**

The administrative assistants that the RC&D provides for the NRCS field offices need an extension to continue their services until January 2006, because their services will still be needed for the Conservation Security Program (CSP) to help with funds that

producers will be receiving in January. Lynn motioned that the extension be accepted and Suzanne seconded that motion, with all in favor.

### **New CSP Contract**

Jon proposed that a new administrative assistant be hired for the Tremonton office for the CSP program that will be in place there for 2006. He hopes that a person could be hired quickly so that they might receive training in the Logan office for 2 weeks before going to the Tremonton office. This represents a second agreement between the RC&D and the NRCS. Money from the first agreement has not all been used because the current employees have been working part time while going to school. This money will be used to pay the new employee initially.

Dallan was curious if this employee could assist in the Malad office.

Jenny Wiser will be available to continue as a full time employee in Tremonton. Jonathon Bingham will continue in Logan through January. A new employee will be needed for Logan

The new agreement for 2006 will be for \$48,000 with 10% (\$4800) going to the RC&D. This will pay 2 people through October 1 if working full-time. It can be extended through December 31, if needed, for part-time. This agreement is basically the same as last year's.

Suzanne made a motion to go forward with the agreement, with Lynn seconding.

### **Financial Report**

Cami reported that a money market account (earning 3.05%) has been opened at Zion's Bank. The certificate of deposit comes due in January. The reconciliation summary, bank statements, and balance sheet were presented. Each check since the last meeting was included in the report. The council wishes to see each check in the future.

Lynn motioned to accept the financial report, with Conrad seconding. The motion carried.

### **Program Assistant Report**

Heather attended a grant writing conference. She reported that she wrote a grant for gas station expansion powered by renewable energy for a station in Nibley. If this USDA grant was awarded, it would cover 25% of the expenses to convert the station.

The Western RC&D Association is offering a conference in January 22 in Nebraska. The National RC&D Leadership Forum is being held on February 6-8 in Washington D.C. The council members were encouraged to read the packet provided and decide if they would like to attend. Early registration is due by January 20, 2006. Lynn knows that he will not be able to attend either event.

Heather reported that the free use of the grant-writing website is soon to expire. The cost for renewal is \$269 for 1 year. Lynn and Suzanne both requested the password, but admit that their time is limited to search for grants. Heather suggested that if they will let her know what kind of grants they need and the specifics, she can look for the grants and well as write them.

Heather suggested another grant-searching website, Grant Select, which she feels has a superior search engine. She agreed to see if a seven day free trial was available.

Jon suggested that Heather could train the counsel members to use the online resources by using the projection equipment available in the conference room.

Heather reminded the council members that grants are better if they fall within the following four areas: land conservation, water management, community development, and land management. Scott said he will explain these four new concepts at a future meeting. Heather provided a handout on grant proposals.

### **Update Contact List**

Heather asked that the council make any needed changes to the contact list. Additionally, she requested the council to discuss who will serve as chair for the next year. Lynn motioned that Conrad be the Chair; Dallan, First Vice Chair; Mick;, Second Vice Chair; Suzanne, Third Vice Chair; Lloyd, Fourth Vice Chair; Lynn, Fifth Vice Chair; and Tom, Sixth Vice Chair. Lloyd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Suzanne suggested that Lynn remain the financial secretary and she remain as the approving signer. The council agreed that their location makes this easier for Cami.

### **Annual Meeting**

Thursday, January 12, 2006 was chosen for the Annual Meeting. It will be held at noon at the Coppermill.