

**Bear River Resource Conservation and Development  
Council Meeting  
Thursday, December 11, 2008  
Blackstone Restaurant**

Attending:

Mick Atkinson	RC&D Chair, Franklin County
Bill Cox	RC&D Vice Chair, Rich County
Dennis Duehren	Montpelier Ranger District
Scott Ferguson	Project Coordinator, RC&D
Jay Hardy	RC&D Vice Chair, Box Elder County
Cami King	Office Manager, RC&D
Montain Kunz	RC&D Vice Chair, Bear Lake County
Lynn Lemon	RC&D Secretary/Treasurer, Cache County
Dallan Nalder	RC&D Vice Chair, Oneida County
Lloyd Rasmussen	RC&D Vice Chair, Caribou County
Keith Shaw	Project Applicant, Bear River Basin Corps
Scott Workman	Franklin County Commissioner

Mick welcomed all to the meeting, the minutes were reviewed by the council. Lynn motioned that the minutes be accepted as written, Jay seconded, and the council agreed.

**Project Application**

Keith Shaw presented a project application for the Bear River Basin Corps. He is asking the council if they would serve as the fiscal agent for a corps to do work on public lands, such as trail, conservation, and watershed protection work in national forests of both Utah and Idaho. The work would be done at the request of the District Ranger.

Mr. Shaw would like to apply for grants through three funding sources: Corporation for National and Community Service, Secure Rural Schools, and Public Land Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005. The council funds would need to pay the corps up front because the funds would be reimbursable grants. A profit and loss budget overview chart was presented showing a likely cash flow scenario. Contingent upon funding being secured, the council agreed to approve the application so that Scott and Cami can assist Mr. Shaw in the grant application process. Lynn made the motion, with Lloyd seconding, and all were in favor.

**Annual Plan of Work**

Scott Ferguson presented the Annual Plan of Work for 2009. His employer Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) requires that he prepare such a plan. All of the current projects are discussed in the plan in general terms. Jay motioned that the plan be accepted, Lloyd seconded, and all were in favor. Scott presented the annual civil right policy statement to the council also.

**BR RC&D as fiscal agent for the U&I Cooperative Weed Management Area**

Mick announced that the U&I CWMA would like to continue having the Bear River RC&D serve as their fiscal agent. Cami would like to know if the Idaho Department of Agriculture will continue to allow us to act in the fiscal agent. The agreement between IDA and the U&I CWMA for 2008

indicates that the Bear River RC&D has been granted a 1 year trial period. Mick stated that Jim Hull will speak with Matt Voile from IDA to confirm the present arrangement of having the RC&D satellite office in Preston.

### **Leadership Rotation**

Dallan motioned that Lloyd serve as the chairman of the Bear River RC&D for 2009, Lynn seconded, and the council concurred.

### **Check Signers**

The council discussed having Scott Workman, the new member of the council from Franklin County, serve as a check signer for both Lewiston and Zions bank. Mick feels that the Idaho Department of Agriculture is pleased that an Idaho representative is approving the payments made for the U&I CWMA. Jay made the motion, Lynn seconded, and the council agreed.

### **Financial Report**

Cami presented the financial report. Lynn questioned negative amount for the Squarrose CWMA. Cami explained that we are acting as fiscal agent for this CWMA with a reimbursable grant, from which the RC&D will earn 5%. Lynn questioned if 5% is really adequate for a group that keeps a negative balance. Bill suggested we look into the guidelines for calculating the indirect cost rate.

### **Utah Association of RC&D**

Cami reported that the Utah Association of RC&D met in November and it was well attended and well organized. They have requested that \$500 be given by each council as a start-up fee, as well as to assist the council in sending 1 representative, Gurn Brown, to the Western and National Conferences. Dallan stated that he felt that the Utah organization has improved with time. Bill motioned that \$500 be donated to the Utah organization with the caveat that we receive a report on the benefits gained during the conferences or lobbying sessions. Lynn seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Cami also stated that the Utah RC&D has asked that we send a representative to meet with the Utah Partners for Conservation. She has not been able to find information on when they meet. None of the council members are aware of this organization. Scott Ferguson will follow up with information for the next meeting.

### **Cloud seeding**

Mick reported that Franklin County is still putting in money to the Soil Conservation District to perform cloud seeding. The local newspaper reported this incorrectly and Mick wanted it clarified.

### **Thanks**

Dallan proposed that the council give Cami a year end bonus of \$200. Jay seconded the motion and the council agreed.

Thanks were extended to Mick and Dallan for their service on the RC&D Council. Larry Etherington will be replacing Dallan, and Scott Workman will be replacing Mick, after January 1, 2009.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at the conference room of the USDA Service Center, 1860 N. 100 E., Logan, Utah at 1:00 p.m.