

Kootenai County
Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Protection District
Policy and Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2016
4:00 p.m.

451 N. Government Way
Administration Building, 3rd Floor Boardroom

Committee Members Present: Leslie Duncan, Kristy Reed Johnson, Jim Hudson, Laurin Scarcello, Mike Galante, Tiffany Heiss, and Paul Klatt were present. Dion Holton was excused.

Also present were: Panhandle Health District Administrator Dale Peck, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Gary Stevens and Administrator Dan Redline, Citizens Mary Vehr and Necia Maiani, Board Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones and Recording Secretary Alethea Carpenter.

At 4:00 p.m., Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Galante led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the February 24, 2016, minutes was made by Jim Hudson and seconded by Tiffany Heiss. The vote was taken. The motion carried.

Chairman's Comments and Introductions: Leslie welcomed the attendees and asked everyone to introduce themselves for the benefit of the guests in the room. She also reminded the group of the importance of adhering to the Idaho Open Meeting law, especially with regard to making changes to the agenda and limiting discussion to those items which were noticed.

Business Items

DEQ Presentation: Gary Stevens gave a PowerPoint presentation detailing the current DEQ processes and projects that are supported by APD dollars, as well as those that will be supported by funding in FY17. Topics included:

- Coordination with Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad on aquifer protection issues
- DEQ technical assistance with cooperating agencies
- Community education and outreach
- Petroleum release monitoring
- Water Quality Protection Plan
- Proposed projects, including a watershed model, storm water handbook, hydrogeochemistry study and data entry, refining of the water sampling program, and improved community outreach

BiJay Adams joined the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Gary stated that the DEQ budget request to the group would be \$99,416 in FY17. This amount supports salaries and fringe benefits (4 staff members working up to 1,710 hours total), indirect costs, and operating expenses. Paul Klatt asked for a report that would break down the timing of the proposed projects, to delineate between finite and ongoing projects and relate to the labor hours in the budget proposal. Dan Redline agreed, noting that the report would use estimates as unforeseen events or results of specific projects could create fluctuations in anticipated timelines. He also gave a review of processes that DEQ uses to track and manage billable hours.

Kristy left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Funding Requests: Nancy Jones shared that no FY17 budget requests had been received to date. Mike Galante stated that a request from Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) will likely be presented at the next meeting on April 13th. The group reviewed the entities likely to submit requests and discussed outreach to those groups. It was agreed that a submission deadline of April 15th should be set.

Update on the Proposed Storm water Enhancement Project: Dale Peck presented a handout on the proposed storm water enhancement project, including estimated costs, process and GIS information, and proposed methodology. Dale shared that he had sufficient funding in the FY16 budget (from salary savings) to purchase units to begin testing, if the County administration would approve the necessary GIS support. He stated that this is anticipated to be a three to four year project. The group agreed to bring forward a memo to the BOCC to request approval of GIS support for this project. BiJay made a motion to make this request and Mike seconded the motion. The vote was taken. The motion carried.

Laurin left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

New Budget Worksheet: Nancy shared that the updated budget worksheet has been completed and will be available to use for budget planning at future meetings. The previous worksheet has been divided into separate tabs and codes have been added to the spreadsheet that will correspond to line item entries in the County accounting system.

KEA Floating Wetlands Request Review and Update: Leslie read an email from Adrienne Cronebaugh of Kootenai Environmental Alliance, withdrawing their support request for the wetlands project at this time. Leslie will let her know that any request for FY17 funding would need to be received by the April 15th deadline.

Cooperating Agency Comments (PHD, DEQ, IDWR, etc.): Dale reminded everyone that the Panhandle Health District budget presentation would be given at the next meeting on April 13th. Nancy informed the attendees that the APD website updates were completed. She also shared that two applications had been received for the 'well recognized business' opening. Dan offered to give a trend data presentation at a future meeting. The group also discussed possibly arranging another BNSF tour next summer, as the committee will have several new members.

APD Member Comments: Mike asked what the process would be for choosing new members. It was acknowledged that the committee has not had multiple applicants for individual openings before but that the group as a whole would be given the opportunity to review the applications on file and to comment prior to the committee making appointment recommendations to the Commissioners. Citizen and Welsh Comer Engineer Necia Maiani introduced herself to the group and thanked everyone for their consideration of her application and Leslie briefly summarized Bob Haynes' qualifications, as well, and noted that he would be invited to attend the April public hearing.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Tiffany and seconded by BiJay. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alethea Carpenter
Recording Secretary