

What: RC & D Board Meeting
 When: **May 5, 2011, 10:00 a.m.**
 Where: WSU Extension
 104 N 1st St., Yakima, WA. 98902
 For More Info, Call: (509) 454-5736, x104

Chair: Louis Musso, III
 Vice-Chair: Betsy Bloomfield
 Secretary/Treasurer: Frank Hendrix
 Administrative Assistant: Holli Wellner



MINUTES – 05/05/11

Board Members/Alternates Present: Louis Musso, Mike Richardson, Nicole Berg-Tobin, Frank Hendrix, Betsy Bloomfield, Rebecca Wassell (alternate), Reese Lolley, Ryan Anderson (alternate), Anna Lael, Mike Tobin (alternate), Tom Coleman (alternate)

Staff Present: Holli Wellner, Dave Myra, Carol Ready

Board Members/Staff Absent: L.J. DaCorsi, Frank Sweet, David Gerth, Phil Rigdon, Glen Miller, Julie Vavricka, Luz Bazan Gutierrez, Tim Tilley

Others Present: Lloyd McGee (The Nature Conservancy), Mark Nielson (Benton Conservation District)

Meeting called to order at: 10:04 a.m. by: Louis Musso

Item	Who	Info. Dist.	Outcome
1) Intros	Louis Musso III	N	See Above.
2) Minutes	Holli Wellner	Y	Motion made by Frank Hendrix to approve the minutes, seconded by Reese Lolley. Motion passed.
3) RC&D Status	Louis Musso III	Y	The RC&D has been without a coordinator (Heather) for about three weeks now. After the April 20 th meeting many members ask what the status of Heather is. This last Tuesday, Frank & Louis met with Heather to find out her status and she is willing to take substantial compromise from where she is with NRCS to work for RC&D directly. A potential contract was discussed of approximately 24-32 hours a week. Over the course of a 12 month period this is the estimated income and expense scenario for the RC&D: Income: The current reserve; BPA surplus \$13,000

			<p>Expenses: Director/Coordinator role \$50,000; All other overhead expenses \$10,000 The breakdown would be \$109,000(reserve) + 13,000 (BPA surplus) – 50,000 (Director/Coordinator Role) – 10,000 (remaining overhead costs) = an estimated \$62,000 left after the first 12 month period.</p> <p>Heather is willing to work at home for a while, possibly permanent if necessary. There is talk of moving the mailing address out of Yakima (getting a P.O. Box). Also, the projects and bylaws will need reviewed since we no longer have geographical restrictions.</p> <p>Mike Tobin stated that the best way to continue on successfully would be to continue with what we have been doing. He suggested that Heather present the board with a business plan to review. We have to spend money to make money, we started with nothing and now we are doing very well. He also believes that Heather would be a great asset to the RC&D.</p> <p>Louis discussed the fact that we would possibly be the only RC&D on this side of the mountains if not the state to survive and could rescue projects that are in progress from some of the closing RC&D.</p> <p>Motion made by Mike Tobin that the executive committee negotiate and hire Heather to coordinate the RC&D and address items to include staffing needs, project priorities, conduct administration functions (review mission statement, bylaws, personnel manual, job descriptions, letters of employment, etc.) develop 12 month budget with the overall goal being able to viably serve RC&D and its members, seconded by Frank Hendrix.</p> <p>Further discussion was requested between board members only.</p> <p>A new motion made by Betsy Bloomfield to offer the position of Executive Director to Heather Simmons-Rigdon. The position would report to the Chair of the RC&D Council. Responsibilities would include supervising staff and developing a staffing plan, and working with the RC&D Council to put the RC&D on a track toward fiscal sustainability, seconded by Nicole Berg-Tobin.</p> <p>Motion passed.</p>
4) Budget Report	Holli Wellner	Y	Motion made by Frank Hendrix to approve the budget report, seconded by Nicole Berg-Tobin. Motion passed.
5) YTAHP update	Dave Myra	Y	The 990 needs submitted by May 15 th . Dave suggested that the Executive Committee and Holli Wellner review it before submitting final copy to the IRS.

			Single source audit isn't due until September but it will hopefully be ready for the July meeting for board review. He is hoping Abby will be able to come to the meeting to go over it with the board and answer any questions.
6) CWMA update	Kat Strathmann	N	Kat did a PowerPoint presentation on the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) project. They are working on MOU's to officially become an organization. She shared a large list of organizations that have agreed to come on board with the project. Right now they consist of mostly volunteer workers. They are hoping that RC&D could administer the funds that have been secured by CWMA, provide organizational support, and foster public & private participation.
7) Tapash Project	Derek Churchill / Reese Lolley	Y	Derek Churchill couldn't make it and will re-schedule for the July meeting. Reese Lolley filled in and did a brief update on the Tapash project. They start implementation hopefully this Summer or by Winter. Reese also introduced the Chumstick project, located outside of Leavenworth and gave a little background of it.
8) Yakima Basin Clean Water Partnership Committee Update	Nicole Berg-Tobin / Ryan Anderson	Y	Nicole mentioned that there was a meeting following this meeting at 1:30 with the purpose to come up with the vision on paper to make sure that the committee is on the same page. That information will then be presented to the RC&D board at the July meeting informing them of what the Clean Water Committee's mission and direction are. Also she mentioned that the RC&D is a sponsor on the CIG application contingent on the RC&D status.
9) Ahtanumn Irrigation District	Sam Hull	N	Sam did not attend because he did not find a funding source. He will try to attend a meeting in about 6 months.
Other business/adjourn			Next board meeting July 7, 2011

Items for next board meeting (items tabled, assignments given, commitments made): Derek Churchill still needs to present the final report on his project.

Minutes approved by board on:

Attested by: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____