

Kootenai County
Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Protection District
Policy and Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
4:00 p.m.

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

Committee Members Present: Leslie Duncan, Mike Galante, BiJay Adams, Mary Vehr, Necia Maiani, Bob Haynes, Michelle Johnson, and Dion Holton.

Jim Hudson, Laurin Scarcello, and Kristy Reed Johnson were absent.

Also present were Panhandle Health District Administrator Joe Righello, Panhandle Health District Representative Erik Ketner, Department of Environmental Quality Hydrogeologist Alyssa Gersdorf, Idaho Department of Water Resources Hydrogeologist Daniel Sturgis, Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones, and Recording Secretary Tammie Peacock.

At 4:03 p.m., Committee Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance: Dion Holton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the June 14, 2017 minutes, with corrections, was made by Bob Haynes and seconded by BiJay Adams. The vote was taken. The motion carried.

Chairman's Comments and Introductions: Committee Chair Leslie Duncan welcomed the group back and Michelle Johnson was introduced as the new Committee Member.

Business Items

1. Review 2017-18 Budget Items and Status

Leslie asked Nancy Jones if any budget requests had come in and Nancy indicated that none had. The group agreed that all that budget requests will be due no later than March 1st, 2018.

2. Rathdrum Area Presentation

Mike Galante gave an update on the Rathdrum sump situation, indicating that it is "not good". The property owner on the east side of sump has died, and his family is not interested in a fence or a barrier. The property line goes through the edge of the water when the sump is full.

The property owner on the other side, Richard Tevis, who was very much in favor of the project, has also passed away. His widow spoke with the Flood Control District and she indicated that she would support a fence if it were necessary and vital.

The Flood Control District had hired Meckel to go out and do a preliminary survey and that “raised the hackles” of the neighbor that is against the fence. That family wants to put a sub-division on the property and that could be hazardous. They have contacted an attorney, Norm Semanko. Mike told him that the APD has no intention of infringing on property rights or forcing the issue at all. He contacted the Flood Control District and told them to put the brakes on anything else. Leslie suggested that the committee keep an eye on the situation and find out who potentially buys the property. Mike said the situation is diffused for the moment. The Flood Control District is allowed access to clean and maintain the sump.

3. Review and Update Member Roster

The member roster will be updated to reflect that Michelle Johnson has joined the Committee as a new member. Joe Righello is now representing Panhandle Health District as their Administrator. In addition, there were a few address and phone number changes that were identified.

4. 2017 Officers

Dion moved to nominate Leslie as Chair. Mary Vehr seconded the motion. Mike moved to nominate Necia Maiani as Vice-Chair. Mary seconded the motion. The votes were taken, none opposed, the motions passed.

5. 2018 Subcommittees

Subcommittee Chairs and positions were chosen:

- a. Work Elements** – Mary Vehr, Bob Haynes, Michelle Johnson, and BiJay Adams (Chair)
- b. Budget** – BiJay Adams, Mike Galante, and Necia Maiani (Chair)
- c. Education & Outreach** – Dion Holton and Kristy Reed Johnson (Chair)

Leslie will contact Laurin Scarcello and Jim Hudson to determine their subcommittee preferences.

6. 2018 Meeting Schedule Review and Approval

The date of April 11, 2018, for Panhandle Health District budget presentation, was approved by Joe Righello and Erik Ketner.

APD Member Comments

BiJay spoke about the Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative video and requested that it be added to the agenda for the January 24th meeting. He also indicated that he would like to have the President of Spokane Aquifer Joint Board attend the meeting and talk about aquifer protection education.

Mike asked about the status of the progress cards and added that they were a great tool for education and outreach.

Alyssa Gersdorf gave a recap of last year’s 5k race and presented some ideas for this year.

Cooperating Agency Comments (PHD, DEQ, IDWR, etc.)

Erik Ketner, Panhandle Health District's Environmental Health Section Manager, introduced Joe Righello as the new Panhandle Health District Administrator.

Daniel Sturgis, from the Idaho DEQ, gave updates on area wells. The Lakeland school well is drilled and complete. "Very exciting!" Spirit Lake well is instrumented and should be available by summer. Daniel hopes to meet with the Lakeland school, possibly in the spring, to talk about education. They are moving forward with the Hayden well. He said the drillers are busy.

Next meeting will be held on January 24, 2018

Adjournment: BiJay made the motion to adjourn. Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammie Peacock
Recording Secretary