

**Kootenai County
Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Protection District
Policy and Budget Committee**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 26, 2022
4:00 p.m.

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

Committee Members Present: Necia Maiani, Laurin Scarcello, Bob Haynes, Mary Vehr, BiJay Adams, Kristy Reed Johnson, Dominic Parmantier, Michelle Johnson

Committee Members Present Via Phone: Alyssa Gersdorf,

Committee Members Excused: Larry Simms

Committee Members Absent: Jessie Camburn,

Also present were: Aquifer Protection District (APD) Consultant Rand Wichman, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver, Alta representatives Kyle Duckett and Robin Nimmer, and Recording Secretaries Leighanna Keiser and Julie Kamps.

PHD Environmental Health Specialist Jenny Gray attended by phone.

A. Call to Order:

Committee Chair Necia Maiani called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

B. Introductions / Guest Welcome

Committee members and others introduced themselves.

C. Approval of Minutes (Action):

Bob Haynes moved to approve the January 12, 2022 meeting minutes. Michelle Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was taken, the motion passed.

D. Business (Action):

1. Original item #3 (Confluence Project Revised Funding Request FY 2022) was no longer necessary as a discussion point so Jenny Gray spoke first about the Confluence Project only. Area high schools that have been visited were listed. They did seven field trips in the fall; two high schools unable to participate due to Covid etc. Participating students have responded well and had questions for them. They were instructed via model activities about how water behaves in different environments and learned about pollution prevention. There are two high schools left to visit. Snow trips mentioned. Expanding into middle schools is desirable but not probable. They are undecided on the

water summit but will update the Board and will possibly be looking for project judges. Sharon Bosley was hired by U of I as STEM outreach. Seth Oliver reviewed his and Ms. Gray's presentation to students and mentioned that they were able to add Post Falls High School this year.

2. Presentation of Critical Recharge Area by Kyle Duckett, Cartographer and Robin Nimmer, Hydrogeologist from Alta Science & Engineering

(Originally #1 on the agenda.)

Part 1 - Investigation looked into Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas using a flood plain based boundary. Points made during presentation: looked at zoning north & south of Hwy 53, looked at potential contaminants in the area, and examined what materials and activities occur. Regarding the second step of the project, they will determine if the approach makes sense and if a flood occurs, what are the possible results.

Part 2 – Reviewed the infiltration investigation of the 23 acres, shared infiltration and streamflow data.

Path forward options: Improve survey and streamflow data, designated setback or weighted model; use a combined approach.

Next step: Collect field data. It was recommended by the Board that Alta return for another presentation including topo. Motion made by Bob Haynes to have DEQ return to Alta to scope area of work, then refine presentation. Kristy Reed Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consensus: Need more data and better topography, could use drones to get topo data, no restrictions on airspace.

There was a discussion about past flooding from Hauser Creek onto surrounding areas. Parcel of interest (when combined is about 23 acres) but are not sure if this could handle the discharge of Hauser Creek. Mr. Haynes will research USGS historical records on Hauser Creek.

Rand Wichman mentioned that he could possibly provide boundaries but thinks arial photos would be better. BiJay Adams suggested combining the two efforts. Alta has a surveyor and Robin Nimmer will get a cost for the Board on a topo and updated model. Ms. Maiani suggested having legal at our next meeting and Ms. Reed Johnson asked if recommendations from the board might be the way to go. Mr. Haynes made a motion that they request DEQ use Alta to do the survey of the area. Ms. Reed Johnson seconded the motion. Dominic Parmantier asked what the scope of the survey would be and Ms. Reed

Johnson asked how it would impact Hauser Lake or Hwy 53. The need for a stream gauge was discussed. Mr. Haynes will bring research on this to the next meeting.

3. Special Project Updates – Rand Wichman

Rand Wichman reported that he has the text amendment ready to go but will need to re-visit when a boundary is defined.

4. FY Funding Request Deadline

March 4 is funding request deadline.

5. Press Release for Funding Applications

BiJay Adams brought up the idea of having a press release in order to share with the public what APD does and who they are. Press release could also include criteria for a funding app. Mary Vehr suggested using the County Facebook page for updates. Jonathan Gillham can send to CDA Press and add to Facebook. Website updates are also needed.

The Agrimet funding request was received. The APD fund balance is 1,044,810.59; must allocate to capital projects. It was suggested that Rand Wichman help facilitate with scope of projects and quantify easement acquisitions. Ms. Vehr said clear communication on what APD needs is necessary. Laurin Scarcello suggested a wish list of three items.

6. Board Positions

Necia Maiani– Chair

BiJay Adams – Vice-chair

Dominic Parmantier - Treasurer

Alyssa Gersdorf - Secretary

7. Subcommittee Assignments

Necia Maiani shared responsibilities of positions and described committee assignments. Topics of discussion included Board members making a priority list for their committee, using a consultant to lead through master plan process, and the urgency of a master plan workshop.

New committee members listed as follows:

- Budget – Necia Maiani, Michelle Johnson, Dominic Parmantier
- Work Program Elements – BiJay Adams, Mary Vehr, Bob Haynes, possibly Larry Simms also
- Public Education – Kristy Reed Johnson, Laurin Scarcello, Necia Maiani possibly
- Jim Hudson Memorial – Mary Vehr
- Critical Recharge Area – BiJay Adams, Kristy Reed Johnson, Alyssa Gersdorf, Bob Haynes, Mary Vehr

- Open Space – Laurin Scarcello, Kristy Reed Johnson
- APD Master Plan - Everyone

8. Jim Hudson Recognition

This item was discussed during the sub-committee portion of the meeting, agenda item 7. The County put together a certificate and card for the family and Mary Vehr has them now. Board members would like to have a presentation to give these to the family. It could possibly be done at an East Greenacres Irrigation District meeting. A County Commissioner could attend and the CDA Press will be invited. Time/dates/location to be confirmed at a later date.

9. Committee Goals, Projects, and Assignments

No updates given.

E. Member Comments (Discussion)

Per Kristy Reed Johnson, there are four boxes of Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Atlases left. New atlas will print in September.

Bob Haynes spoke with the Chairman of the Fair Board – the well will be drilled this spring. A quote from United Crown seems appropriate. Necia Maiani mentioned that a flyer was circulating about the Hayden Boat Launch and that it could be a project of interest. Dalton Irrigation District owns land next to Richards Conservation Easement property. There could be an opportunity for APD to participate in work groups.

F. Cooperating Agency Comments (Discussion)

Seth Oliver (DEQ) will speak with Alta regarding scope of work completing education at high schools.

G. Public Comment (Discussion)

None

H. Adjournment (Action)

Bob Haynes moved to adjourn the meeting. Kristy Reed Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kamps
Recording Secretary