

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

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018  
4:00 p.m.

451 N. Government Way  
Administration Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Boardroom

**Committee Members Present:** Leslie Duncan, Mike Galante, Mary Vehr, Necia Maiani, Kristy Reed-Johnson, Laurin Scarcello, Bob Haynes, and Jim Hudson.

Michelle Johnson, Dion Holton, and BiJay Adams were absent.

Also present were Panhandle Health District Representative Erik Ketner, Department of Environmental Quality Hydrogeologist Alyssa Gersdorf, North Kootenai Water District Manager Chris de Groot, and Recording Secretary Tammie Peacock.

At 4:01 p.m., Committee Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mary Vehr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bob Haynes moved to approve the February 28, 2018 minutes and Jim Hudson seconded. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

**Chairman's Comments and Introductions:** Committee Chair Leslie Duncan told the members that they would be doing a cursory review of all budget requests received so far. She reminded them that Panhandle Health District and the Department of Environmental Quality will present their requests over the next two meetings.

**Change(s) to Agenda:** None

**Business Items:**

**1. Purchase Request for Agriment Irrigation Controller for Hayden Office:**

Erik Ketner described the controller that he had requested the existing funds for. He said that it is a low impact design with a straightforward hook up. He indicated the cost to be \$480. Kristy Reed-Johnson said that it was a great idea and that it fit into policy.

Mike Galante added that it was a great idea and asked that Erik report back to see how it has aided the PHD location and if there were any savings. Bob has not seen any feedback on other stations. He asked if it was a wise use of funds. Leslie indicated the subject should be addressed during the Agriment budget. Kristy pointed out that she does not see the demise of the Ag Stations. Kristy moved to allow Erik to purchase the controller and Mary seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## 2. Review Budget Requests:

a. **Spokane River Forum** – \$6,000 requested. There was question regarding whether SRF had actually requested \$6,000 or \$9,000. Their request had asked for \$6,000. The discussion was tabled until such time that the request could be clarified.

b. **Kootenai Environmental Alliance** - \$22,500 requested. Mike said that he liked the initial presentation on the Confluence and Youth Water Summit, but he had a couple of concerns. The first was there are no other agencies providing funding and the second was that it was a 5-year request. Kristy stated that they should let them go 1 year. Then they must see results or not fund the next year. Leslie reminded the members that they must approve the budget every year, not 5 years at once.

Alyssa shared with the members that she has been going out to Timberlake School and working with the kids on aquifer and confluence education. She thinks it is a good project and that it can be developed further. She added that the ground water piece still needs to be established and Necia Maiani would like a written commitment to include the groundwater piece. Mary asked what it would take to formally link the program to the aquifer.

Mary mentioned that she had judged the projects done at the Youth Summit and that the quality was very high. She added that the students were knowledgeable and that they had learned a whole lot. The group agreed that KEA offers a tremendous opportunity to involve youth.

Laurin offered that the APD definitely needs feedback each year from them and that the feedback / reporting piece should be added to the budget request forms for next year.

The budget discussion was tabled until more information can be gathered.

c. **Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative** – \$10,000 requested.

Mike said that the Project budget is \$25, 000 and that they are seeking other funding. He also shared that the videos will be filmed during the summer and released during the winter of 2019. Necia said that the APD's mission is strictly for water quality and that she'd like to see IWAC tie in water quality and quantity. Mary thought the presentation indicated the tie in.

Jim moved to preliminarily approve the budget request and Mary seconded it. Mike abstained from the vote. The motion was approved.

d. **University of Idaho Extension** - \$10,950 requested. \$5,475 second year ask. Mary does not think that U of I is getting any funding from other sources for the Outdoor Classroom. She also had concerns because she did not see any due diligence or that Jim Ekins has an understanding of what the project is or what the costs are.

Mike indicated that he would like to see the design. He has not seen any actual drawings. He needs a plan, material's list, estimates of cost, and a list of other funding sources.

Kristy told the members that some "in-kind" funding is coming in from Universities, but no dollars. She would like more information on the materials cost breakdown. She still thinks that it is an excellent project.

The budget discussion was tabled until more information can be gathered.

d. **US Bureau of Reclamation** - \$3,400 requested. This request was tabled until BiJay returns.

**APD Member Comments:**

Leslie asked for volunteers to follow up on information needed from many organizations requesting funding. Below are the designated contacts to be made:

US Bureau of Reclamation Jama Hamel – BiJay

Spokane River Forum Andy Dunau – Mike

Kootenai Environmental Alliance Sharon Bosley – Kristy

University of Idaho Extension Jim Ekins – Mary

Leslie also took a tally of members that would be absent over the next 3 meetings and they are as follows:

March 28 – BiJay and Necia will be out.

April 11 – Dion and Necia will be out.

April 25 – Jim, Kristy, BiJay, and Michelle will be out.

**Other Important Dates:**

April 25 – Post Falls Business Fair

May 9 – H2o Breakfast at the Davenport Hotel

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

There were no comments.

**The next meeting will be March 28, 2018**

**Adjournment:** Bob moved to adjourn. Mike seconded it. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Tammie Peacock - Recording Secretary