

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday May 25, 2022
4:00 p.m.

451 N. Government Way
Administration Building, First Floor, Meeting Rooms 1A/B

Committee Members Present: Laurin Scarcello, Bob Haynes, Mary Vehr, BiJay Adams, Alyssa Gersdorf, Suzanne Scheidt, Kristy Reed-Johnson Michelle Johnson, Dominic Parmantier

Committee Members Present Via Phone: Necia Maiani

Committee Members Excused: Larry Simms

Committee Members Absent:

Also present were: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver, Panhandle Health District Specialist Jenny Gray and Recording Secretary Julie Kamps.

A. Call to Order:

Committee Vice Chair BiJay Adams called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

B. Introductions / Guest Welcome

Derek Holom with Golder Associates visiting.

C. Approval of Minutes: April 27, 2022 (Action):

Ms. Vehr moved to approve the April 27, 2022 meeting minutes. Ms. Gersdorf seconded the motion. Before the vote was taken, it was noted that a correction needed to be made on page three of the minutes by adding the word “not” to the sentence referring to water quality. With that amendment, the vote was taken and the motion passed.

D. Business (Action):

1. Funding Request

a. Final Budget Recommendations/Public Hearing

Ms. Maini met with the Board of Commissioners and presented the budget to them, which was accepted. The BOCC was supportive of not having a fee increase at this time. Conservation projects were discussed and information from the last APD meeting was shared. They were informed that the APD Board is wanting to move

forward with the Master Plan. Whether or not a vote is necessary to change the parcel fee was discussed as well as details of the June 8 Public Hearing.

b. Applicant Follow-ups

Process for contacting funding request applicants was discussed. A member from the Budget subcommittee could do this task or the committee chair could reach out to them. Ms. Reed-Johnson volunteered to assist on contacting certain applicants if needed. Per Ms. Maini, the sooner this happens, the better.

2. Special Committees and Assignments Reports

a. Master Plan

- i. The most recent version of the Master Plan RFP, prepared by Pat Braden, was shared with the Board. It was suggested that once it goes out, a time period of one month to 45 days would be allowed for applicants to send in responses/submittals. After applications are received, it might be necessary to hold a special APD meeting to review the applications. Discussion on the necessity of interviews was brought up and the process of handling questions from applicants and proper ranking procedure for applicants was discussed.
- ii. It was pointed out that the personality of the individual acting as facilitator was important as well as the qualifications they brought. Whether or not a company as compared to an individual chosen would be more expensive was discussed. Other points brought up was the volume of work required for the process, cost, APD Board member qualifications and the need for formality in the process to have it done well.
- iii. A motion was made by Ms. Vehr to approve the RFP as written, seconded by Mr. Parmantier, and the vote passed as amended with the needed date changes that will be soon added.

b. Protection of Surface Water Recharge Zones

- i. This topic is currently in draft form. The committee met and discussed the scope with Alta. They would like to attend a meeting with Spokane County to better understand their processes and hurdles, then put together the next steps. The committee will attend a meeting on May 31st at 1:30 pm and will modify the RFP afterwards. The cost to go out and contact landowners was discussed, but getting information from Spokane County first will be helpful. Clarifications gained by attendance will be important before Alta goes through the expense of this process.

c. Hauser Critical Area Recharge Next Steps

- i. Mr. Adams reported that they are meeting with Spokane County on May 31 at 1:30 to discuss Spokane County's Critical Areas Ordinance and CARA's and will bring the information back to the APD following the meeting.

d. APD 5K Run Series

- i. This 5K run started in 2017 and is a series of three races, occurring once a week for three weeks. In 2018 it was canceled due to forest fire smoke. Recently Ms. Gersdorf was approached by KEA who would like to take it over and put on the race series. This is not a funding request on their part, but a partnership for the APD Board to work with KEA. KEA is specifically interested in the logo used in past races so the legality of that was discussed as well as the Board's participation in the races.
- ii. Per Mr. Oliver, DEQ could help with supplies. It was agreed upon to have more discussion at the next meeting and invite KEA reps to attend to answer questions. We will check on the logo legalities.

E. Member Comments (Discussion)

Mr. Scarcello has recently spoken with property owners as he feels someone should be reaching out regarding conservation easements. He spoke with someone at Idaho Asphalt who is thinking of selling some of their land. It was suggested that a summer APD Board meeting might be necessary, as this is time sensitive. It was agreed that the Board needs to stay on top of this. Mr. Haynes mentioned having spoken with Daniel Sturgis regarding the Hauser Creek streamflow gage.

F. Cooperating Agency Comments (Discussion)

None from DEQ. Ms. Gray thanked all those who attended the Youth Water Summit event earlier that day.

G. Public Comment (Discussion)

None.

H. Adjournment (Action)

Mr. Haynes moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. M. Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Julie Kamps
Recording Secretary