

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 9, 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, Dominic Parmantier, Alyssa Gersdorf, Jessie Camburn, Larry Simms

Committee Members Present Via Phone: Michelle Johnson

Committee Members Excused: Kristy Reed Johnson

Committee Members Absent:

Also present were: North Idaho State of Idaho Policy Advisor Jake Geringer, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver and Waste & Remediation Manager Gary Stevens, Panhandle Health District Environmental Health Section Manager Erik Ketner and Specialist Jenny Gray, Aquifer Protection District Consultant Rand Wichman, Alta Representative Kyle Duckett, and Recording Secretary Julie Kamps. Also present via phone were Alta Representative Robin Nimmer, Idaho Department of Water Resources Representatives Dan Sturgis and Michelle Richman and North Kootenai Water and Sewer District Representative Suzanne Scheidt.

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):

Dominic Parmantier moved to approve the January 26, 2022 meeting minutes. BiJay Adams seconded the motion. The vote was taken, the motion passed.

D. Business (Action):

1. APD Master Plan – Rand Wichman Proposal

Rand Wichman shared hand out titled: "Path to a Master Plan". The element he feel are necessary for plan:

- Create list of projects
- Rough budget
- Method for prioritizing/prioritizing
- Timeline for funding/completing
- Goal for APD fund balance and justification
- Plan for balance draw down

He indicated that the APD board would need to be heavily involved and he can begin as soon as the board would like him to. His job would be to assist and facilitate and put together report at the end. The order of the items on the list is deliberate. Mr. Wichman proposed a billable hourly rate of \$125, not to exceed \$10,000 but thinks it will be less. There would be a timeline for completion of approximately 6 months or less.

Mr. Wichman described details of the finished report and how it would look. Contract details were discussed as to how to proceed with it and whether the legal department should be consulted and if they should speak to the BOCC about a time line. When it would be started was also discussed. Mary Vehr had concerns about the timeline for completion of the plan so further discussion ensued. Dominic Parmantier envisioned an overview as well to the specifics mentioned at first. Mary Vehr mentioned supporting goals. Larry Simms suggested a mission statement and vision statement. Laurin Scarcello endorsed the idea of the plan being a living document. A motion began earlier by Mr/ Simms was brought up again, the vote was taken, there was one nay vote by Mary Vehr with the rest of the votes being ayes.

2. Hauser Recharge Area – DEQ/Alta Topographic Survey Proposal

Seth Oliver summarized Alta's initial modeling report. Robin Nimmer has now has two main tasks ahead: completing survey data, which requires no snow so this will possibly be done in April. Ms.Nimmer detailed what would be on the survey. Gary Stevens said that if Alta does the survey they would be the ones to contact owners.

Item #2 involves running a hydraulic model. Ms. Nimmer stated that the scope of work for these two items proposed would be \$15,000 and \$9700, a total of \$24,700/

In addition, permission from parcel landowners will be needed. It was questioned about what would happen if parcel owners' permission was not obtained. Larry Simms offered help with this, as he knows some of the people. Several other details on how, and who to have contact property owners was discussed. Necia Maiani asked if the scope of work would need to be modified but Ms. Nimmer stated that the changes necessary were part of the proposed amount.

A motion was made by Laurin Scarcello to proceed with Alta's newest proposal, tasks 1 & 2 as presented, not to exceed the amount of \$24,700. Bob Haynes seconded the motion. The vote was taken and passed.

3. Panhandle Health District Ruleset – Erik Ketner Presentation

For the past three years PHD has been trying to get the ruleset authorized but Erik Ketner feels like it will be very unlikely that that Health District will have a Ruleset by the end of this legislative session. In the 2020 legislative session, PHD did an opportunity to present their rules to the house and senate committees. The Rules were approved, but a resolution did not occur. Temporary approval was given. In 2021, they had a hearing with the Senate committee but remained in temporary status. In December of 2021, they were informed that as they were not a state agency they could not participate in the rule-making process. They were also told that as they are not an official state agency the state could not grant them temporary authorization of their Ruleset. Bottom line is that when the temporary authorization expires at the end of the session, they will not have a ruleset. They are looking into what actions they can take. There are a couple of options to go forward with but neither look good – the second being a temporary order to protect the community (which they do have the authority to do).

Jake Geringer from the Governor's office stated that Mr. Ketner's comments were accurate. Conversations have been cautiously productive and they are hoping for a firm decision in the coming weeks. It was brought up that Kootenai County might be interested in a 5 acre rule ordinance themselves which would be somewhat similar. Per Erik Ketner, short and long-term solutions have been proposed and he will keep APD informed. He wanted to share with the APD that PHD is on a path and that was the goal of him presenting at the meeting. Laurin Scarcello asked if a letter of support from APD would be beneficial but the main problem is not so much local support, but the legislative process. Gary Stevens spoke about what would happen if the 5-acre rule was eliminated and how severely the water quality would be impacted.

Rand Wichman left the meeting at 5:17 pm.

4. Special Committees and Assignments

Necia Maiani recapped the list of special committees and asked for any updates. Bob Haynes shared details of contact made to determine stream gauging interest. Larry Simms asked about work program elements and what it encompasses. BiJay Adams gave a description of them.

5. Regional Housing Coalition: Representation

Necia Maiani has been sitting in on these meetings as a representative from APD. So far, not much they have discussed has pertained to APD. She asked if anyone was interested in taking her place at these meetings. No one responded affirmatively. If needed, Erik Ketner has also attended the meetings and can be contacted for information. Mary Vehr asked about a community survey being done by the organization. So far, most of the discussion there has focused on affordable housing.

E. Member Comments (Discussion)

A funding request could be coming in from Mr. Singer from the City of Rathdrum. Also, Kootenai Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District could be making a request.

F. Cooperating Agency Comments (Discussion)

None.

G. Public Comment (Discussion)

None

H. Adjournment (Action)

Larry Simms moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Haynes seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Julie Kamps
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved 2/23/2022