

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 10, 2023
4:00 p.m.
451 Government Way
Administration Building, 1st Floor, Meeting Rooms 1A/B

Committee Members Present: Necia Maiani, Suzanne Scheidt, Larry Simms, Kristy Reed-Johnson, BiJay Adams, Alyssa Gersdorf, Bob Haynes, Laurin Scarcello

Committee Members Present Via Phone: Michelle Johnson, Dominic Parmantier

Committee Members Excused: Mary Vehr

Committee Members Absent:

Also Present Were: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver, Panhandle Health District (PHD) Environmental Health Specialist Jenny Gray, Alta Representative Kyle Duckett, presenters Paul Akiyama/Tom Shafer, and Recording Secretary Julie Kamps.

A. Call to Order:

Committee Chair Maiani called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

B. Introductions/Guests Welcomed

C. Approval of Minutes: April 19, 2023 (Action)

Motion to approve minutes made by Ms. Reed-Johnson and seconded by Mr. Simms. The vote was taken, and the motion passed.

D. Business (Action)

1. 2022/2023 Recipient Updates

a. City of Rathdrum

Eric Singer said they hope to begin construction soon. Other highway work happening in the area has held them back.

b. Twin Lakes Flood Control

They hope to have the new equipment in by the end of July. They are aware of their September deadline.

c. IDWR Hauser Gage

Ms. Scheidt stated that she has not been able to get a hold of them. As to follow

up, confirmation is needed when the project is complete. Mr. Haynes will get that information.

2. Subcommittee Updates

a. Sensitive Aquifer Recharge Areas – Task 1 Identification

Ms. Scheidt reached out to Pat Braden, Kootenai County attorney, to see if an RFP is needed. He said that a contract would work instead as long as the project would be completed by a geologist or hydrogeologist and the total project cost is less than \$50,000. The initial scope for identification of the SARAs includes mapping of the areas, overview of the data, and identifying boundaries. Because of Alta being so familiar with all this, she recommends asking them to provide a quote for the services.

Per Mr. Duckett, they plan to go about this project on a more broad scale, and will get some information out for the board in the next week or two so they can vote on it. They will give an overview then encourage feedback. Alta plans to expand the work previously done on the Hauser Creek area then look at other areas of interest. As well, they will look at contaminants in the floodplain.

He mentioned the deliverables of this study would be pinpointing the areas, characterizing them on the available data, prioritizing them, then summarizing. Other information might be studied and captured such as surface water pathogens, but possibly under an additional project.

Mr. Oliver continued by going over priorities and how decisions would be made. They would look at the usual areas of Hauser, Rathdrum, and Spirit Lake. The peripheral areas would be studied more in depth at a later time. Ms. Maiani confirmed that prioritizing by a ranking system is a good plan. Mr. Duckett stated that extra communication will be important during this process. He also said that it should take six months to complete if they don't go off track too much.

It was questioned if the Kootenai County GIS department could help. It needs to keep rolling forward as best it can so will be important to keep the momentum going over the summer. Mr. Duckett should have something to show the board in the next few weeks.

b. Master Plan

Mr. Dunau did not attend this meeting, but would like to know if there is any interest in defining the funding process. If DEQ and PHD would not have to do a funding request each year it would save time during the funding application reviews. Mr. Simms suggested a review from DEQ and PHD so the board would

be aware of what had happened with their funding over the years. It could create more efficiency, but we don't know yet if the county would allow it. Mr. Simms will soon be interviewed by Mr. Dunau.

c. 5/24 Agenda

Mr. Duckett will be on the 5/24/23 agenda along with the subcommittee reports.

Mr. Dunau will have a Master Plan draft for the board on June 14.

3. Paul Akiyama/Tom Shafer Presentation on Stone Creek North

Mr. Shafer, who is a resident of Hayden, shared both of their backgrounds. Their goal with this presentation on the Stone Creek North development is to protect the liberties of private property owners while encouraging government to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of private citizens. As part of their presentation they shared a brief history of the property in question, aquifer historic designations, and notes of interest. It was clearly explained to them that the APD board does not have any influence with the entities involved in this situation.

E. Member Comments

None.

F. Cooperating Agency Comments

None.

G. Adjournment (Action)

Mr. Simms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gersdorf seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the meeting ended at 5:48 pm.