

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

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday May 12, 2021  
4:00 p.m.

451 N. Government Way  
Administration Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Room 1A/B/Virtual Meeting

**Committee Members Present:** Necia Maiani, BiJay Adams, Laurin Scarcello, Mary Vehr, Larry Simms, Kristy Johnson, Jim Hudson, Michelle Johnson, Bob Haynes and Alyssa Gersdorf.

**Committee Members Excused:** Jessie Camburn and Mary Vehr were excused

**Also present were:** Panhandle Health District (PHD) Environmental Health Specialist Jenny Gray, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver, Aquifer Protection District (APD) Consultant Rand Wichman (Left at 4:27 pm), Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) Communications Manager Nancy Jones entered at 4:20 pm and Recording Secretary Chandra Newberry.

**A. Call Meeting to Order:**

At 4:00 p.m., Committee Chair Necia Maiani called the meeting to order.

**B. Approval of Minutes:**

Larry Simms made a correction on the April 28, 2021 minutes. Larry moved to approve the April 14, 2021 minutes as written and the April 28, 2021 minutes with corrections. Laurin Scarcello seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed.

**C. Treasurer's Report/Expenditure Approval**

No items came forward for approval.

**D. Chairman's Comments and Introductions:**

No comments were made.

**E. Business:**

1. Rand Wichman Update

APD Consultant Rand Wichman gave an update on the projects he has been working on. He informed the Board that despite many attempts, he has not been able to make contact with the property owners of interest. Due to this roadblock, he presented an alternative idea to the Board. He suggested that he could assist the Board by developing a series of ordinance amendments to the County's zoning code for recharge areas. Necia stated Rand's suggestion would be helpful to the Board, as well as Community Development. Kristy Johnson shared her agreement with Rand's suggestion. She explained it is going to take an ordinance to protect the areas they are working to protect, not just the Comprehensive Plan. Larry expressed his agreement with Kristy. Rand offered to work with Community Development, Community Development Director David Callahan and the Kootenai County Planning and Zoning Commission. Bob Haynes stated that the Board should talk to the BOCC before going forward with any decisions. Necia and Larry agreed. Rand explained that it possibly would be best practice to meet with David Callahan first to make sure he is on board, then go to the BOCC for their approval. Necia asked Rand about the evaluation at HWY 53. Rand stated it was still in process, and there were no updates at this time.

## 2. Budget Requests

### a. AgriMet

Laurin Scarcello was in favor of moving forward with the AgriMet request. There was an overall agreement of the Board. The Board went through every request that was submitted for FY22 individually.

- AgriMet – Submitted for \$3,400. The Board was all in favor of funding the AgriMet.
- Spokane River Forum – Submitted for \$3,000. The Board was all in favor of funding the Spokane River Forum. Bob abstained.
- Confluence Project – Submitted for \$15,000. The Board was all in favor of funding the Confluence Project.
- Panhandle Health District – \$282,797. The Board was all in favor of funding the Panhandle Health District.
- Department of Environmental Quality – \$96,031. The Board was all in favor of funding the Department of Environmental Quality.
- Spokane River Forum Conference - \$3,000. The Board was all in favor of funding the Spokane River Forum Conference. Bob abstained.

### b. Internal (Education, Atlas, Easements)

Necia asked to review other line items of the budget. The Aquifer Atlas is budgeted at \$35,000, which would carry over from the last year. Kristy estimated this year's price for printing is about 5% more than 2015. BiJay asked that a budget request be submitted to be able to create a budget line item. Nancy suggested reaching out to organizations to see how many Aquifer Atlas' will be needed, and use that number as a ball park estimate for the printing. This item will be continued.

- Legal Notices – Budgeted at \$650. Nancy explained that the dollar amount was increased this year due to Washington increasing their advertising costs. There was no objection from the Board.
- Edible Aquifer – Budgeted at \$700 – There was no objection from the Board.
- General Supplies – Budgeted at \$200. This amount is a placeholder for items that are ordered throughout the year for the Board. There was no objection from the Board.
- Conservation Easement Consultant – Budgeted at \$15,000. This will be revisited at a later date. There was no objection from the Board.
- Easement and Land Purchases – Budgeted at \$30,000. This will be revisited at a later date. There was no objection from the Board.
- Seminars and Professional Associations – Budgeted at \$250 for the Post Falls Business Fair, \$275 for the Coeur d'Alene Business Fair. There was no objection from the Board.
- General Education Support – Budgeted at \$1,200. There was no objection from the Board.
- Kootenai County Shoshone Conservation District Growers Meeting – This item was removed from the line items.
- APD Brochures for the Business Fair – Budgeted at \$125. There was no objection from the Board.

There was a discussion of reallocating the \$1,500 line item to the Kootenai County Fair for materials. There was no interest expressed by the Board for this. The item will remain removed from the budget. There were no objections.

3. Final Budget Recommendations

Item 2 and 3 were discussed as one item.

4. Work Elements

BiJay needed the rest of the budget requests that have been submitted for Fy22, once he received those, he would be able to build the work elements.

5. 2020 Kootenai County Comprehensive Plan Discussion

a. Workshop

Necia reminded the Board of the APD Workshop on May 13, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

**F. APD Member Comments / Subcommittee Comments:**

Necia informed the Board that she was contacted by Hillary Anderson to see if she would be interested in having a member of the APD board be a member of the Regional House and Growth Issues Partnership Board. Necia volunteered, and there was an overall agreement from the Board for Necia to be on that Board as well.

**G. Cooperating Agency Comments:**

DEQ Hydrologist Seth Oliver made a comment stating that he is happy to help with the budgeting of the Aquifer Atlas. There was no comments from PHD.

**H. Public Comment**

No discussion for public comment.

**I. Adjournment**

Bob Haynes moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Hudson seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chandra Newberry, Recording Secretary