

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

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 24, 2023  
4:00 p.m.  
451 Government Way  
Administration Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Meeting Rooms 1A/B

**Committee Members Present:** Necia Maiani, Larry Simms, Kristy Reed-Johnson, BiJay Adams, Bob Haynes, Laurin Scarcello, Mary Vehr, Michelle Johnson, Dominic Parmantier

**Committee Members Present Via Phone:** Alyssa Gersdorf, KC Attorney Pat Braden

**Committee Members Excused:** Suzanne Scheidt

**Committee Members Absent:**

**Also Present Were:** Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Hydrologist Seth Oliver and Lake Management Plan Supervisor Jamie Brunner, Panhandle Health District (PHD) Environmental Health Specialists Jenny Gray and Jason Peppin, Alta Representative Kyle Duckett, Master Plan Facilitator Andy Dunau and Recording Secretary Julie Kamps.

**A. Call to Order:**

Vice-Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**B. Introductions/Guests Welcomed**

**C. Approval of Minutes: May 10, 2023 (Action)**

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

**D. Business (Action)**

1. 2023/2024 Draft Budget Review, Parcel Fee Adjustments

Ms. Maiani spoke of the budget presentation she made to the BOCC but stated it will take more time to know their thoughts on it. The SARA contract has been sent out to the board. Ms. Scheidt will provide input when she returns from her trip. It looks good so far and no changes are needed at this point.

2. Proposed Contract for Identification of SARAs and Necessary LiDar Extent – Kyle Duckett, Alta Science and Engineering

Discussed if the APD board is prepared to finalize authorizing Alta to do the contract work for the SARA etc. Suzanne's input will be wanted when she returns from her

trip. Board confirmed their desire to have Suzanne proceed with the contract process. A primary objective with this contract will be to determine what to collect with LiDar. This information would eventually feed into the ordinance. Per Mr. Duckett, after LiDar, they could do a hydrologic model, as well as using the data collected to do further analysis on what to protect. The BOCC will want hard data, not just a map.

From a Master Plan perspective, steps taken would be the following: define SARA boundaries, put LiDar data into analysis form, then determining when or if it could be put in an ordinance. This could be a 2-4 year process. (Per Mr. Dunau.) Mr. Duckett said that narrowing in on specific areas will save money with LiDar, for example, doing the entire county could cost around \$400,000.

Mr. Simms made a motion that pending review by Ms. Scheidt, to move forward by having Mr. Braden create a contract with Alta regarding the SARA project. It was seconded by Mr. Adams. The vote was taken and passed.

### 3. Master Plan – Andy Dunau

Mr. Dunau had a good conversation with Mr. Braden, going over the plan and discussing if a reserve fund can be created. Mr. Braden said that the BOCC would have to approve it and it could be based on a dollar amount or a percentage. There would need to be some categories (types of projects) chosen on which to spend the fees. It was noted that future commissioners could dissolve or change a resolution that was created by the current board. The county cannot provide a loan to the APD board. The terms of a loan from IDWR was mentioned, if there was such loan. Also discussed was if an inter-local or agency agreement for PHD and DEQ work could be created. It could be called an MOU. This topic can be discussed further on June 14<sup>th</sup>. It was confirmed that an APD fund could work outside of the RPA boundary.

Regarding contracting protocols, if the contract amount is less than \$50,000, no RFP is required. If conservation easements were required, the APD board would need to go to the BOCC for that.

### 4. Subcommittee Updates

Ms. Reed-Johnson attended the water summit in Moscow and said that it was one of the best ever displaying great quality of work. Three winners from each high school were chosen. She said that CDA High School had a great presentation. All of them focused on water quality this year. She is not sure when the next one will take place but it could continue at U of I. The University gave out scholarships to winners. Mr. Oliver stated that an official decision hasn't been made yet on the next location but the County fairgrounds has been booked as a possibility. That could

change in the future.

#### 5. Further Discussion on Stone Creek

Mr. Braden stated that the APD does not have regulatory or taxing authority so cannot get involved. He pointed out that the property is in Hayden so it is up to that city to deal with it as they see fit. Per DEQ, they also don't have authority. Mr. Scarcello suggested that the APD board make a statement or official response to the issue. Mr. Braden will ask the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners about making a statement, and if he gets a yes on that he will draft a response.

#### **E. Member Comments**

Mr. Scarcello stated that wind patterns are changing, and not for the better. He would also like to leave the door open for an Open Space Plan.

The board decided to continue regular APD meetings throughout the summer on the second and fourth Wednesday's of the month, so those will be added to the calendar.

#### **F. Cooperating Agency Comments**

Ms. Gray from PHD said that on June 6<sup>th</sup> she would be making a presentation to the City of CDA. Then they will take the draft of the CDA ordinance to the city of Dalton so they can review it. If they run into any issues, the support of the APD board will be helpful.

Mr. Oliver from DEQ went to Boise for the annual groundwater program meeting. They are contracting with the Idaho Geological Survey to do interviews regarding septic regulation density. Collaboration among the entities involved will be important and it will probably take time for this process.

#### **G. Adjournment (Action)**

Mr. Simms made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Vehr seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the meeting ended at 5:15 pm.