

MINUTES

HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Raybould, Vice Chairman Thompson, Representatives Hartgen, Vander Woude, Anderson, Anderst, Mendive (Mendive), Trujillo, Chaney, Nate, Cheatham, Horman, Malek, Moon, Smith, Scott, Jordan, Rubel

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Vander Woude; and Rep. Malek.

GUESTS: Kristi Lowder, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); Michael McCurdy, DEQ; Teri Murrison, Idaho Soil And Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC); Katie Wenetta, ISWCC; Suzanne Budge, SBS Associates, LLC.

Chairman Raybould called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Trujillo** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2017. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1028 **Michael McCurdy**, Waste Management & Remediation Division Administrator, DEQ, presented **S 1028** stating it amends the Idaho Underground Storage Tank Act by adding a new section establishing a dedicated fund for collected underground storage tank fees. Legislation already allows DEQ to collect fees for underground storage tanks of \$100 per tank per year with any balance of collected fees exceeding \$35,000 to be applied to subsequent years.

Mr. McCurdy answered committee member questions regarding the fiscal impact of **S 1028** saying that it does not impact the General Fund and the fees would not directly be used in taking legal actions against underground storage tank owners. Collected fees not used in the year collected would roll over to contribute to the next year's underground tank coverage. He outlined the fee program's coverage of costs for underground tank installation and removal. He also identified the General Fund and grants as additional funding sources for the underground storage tank program.

MOTION: **Rep. Anderst** made a motion to send **S 1028** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nate** requested he be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Anderst** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Teri Murrison, Administrator, ISWCC, stated the ISWCC does agricultural stewardship that helps Idaho localities address mandated federal water quality and other environmental goals. ISWCC has no regulatory authority. ISWCC's board has five members, each serving five-year terms with a total FTP of 17.75. This year, \$100,000 was appropriated to fund a one-time pilot project, the North Central Wildfire Restoration Group, to help local, state and federal governments identify and prioritize the restoration of private and municipal lands damaged by the 2015 wildfires. ISWCC has four Core Functions: 1) conservation district support; 2) non-regulated, science-based incentive and comprehensive conservation programs, 3) administration; and 4) outreach and education. Idaho has 50 conservation districts, and about 50% of staff time goes to support districts with their water quality and quantity, cropland productivity, district operations, information and education, rangeland health, fish and wildlife, urban-rural interface, and forest health. Ms. Murrison reported on revenues and expenditures, the RCRDP Loan Program, TMDL Implementation Plans, publication of newsletters and outreach and education efforts, including the 2017 Idaho Envirothon.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Representative Raybould
Chair

Lorrie Byerly
Secretary