



# LEWIS & CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

790 Colleen Street • Helena, Montana 59601 • 449-5000 ext. 112

**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**USDA Service Center**  
**790 Colleen Street, Helena MT 59601**  
**March 16, 2017, 1 p.m.**

**Call to order**—the meeting was called to order by vice chairman Scott Blackman at 1:04 p.m. In attendance were Scott Blackman, Steve Granzow, Jeanette Nordahl and Jeff Ryan. Also in attendance were John George, Travis Wilson, Jim Williams Jennifer McBroom, Valerie Stacey, Larry Hoffman and Chris Evans.

Motion by Granzow to approve minutes from the last meeting, second by Ryan; motion carried. Motion by Nordahl to approve the financial statement and to pay the outstanding bills, second by Granzow; motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

Letter to County regarding flood issues

Public comment on the Helena- Lewis & Clark National Forest Plan

### **Public Comment**

There was none

### **Reports**

**NRCS**—Jim Williams sat in for John George. The Cooperative Work Agreement and Civil Rights information were reviewed with the board.

**WQPD/LHWG**—at the last meeting the group had a strategic planning discussion. March 20 the Watershed and Wetlands awards are happening. They discussed the happenings at the state legislature that affect them. Valerie and Jeff and Jennifer have been coordinating some efforts on the some willow efforts to add to the Elliott project. They will be cutting willows Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. and volunteers are welcome. The plan is to plant the willows using the new stinger. Watershed Day at the Capital 9-12 on March 20. There will be some awards in the afternoon with a reception at the Historical Society.

**SRWG**—Travis Wilson was present to talk about the Sun River Watershed and what is going on there. He toured a bit of the lower watershed and got to see some of the irrigation operations. Cascade put in for some of the AIS funds to have a summit to bring in folks from out of state and provide some general information on the mussel. March 20 they have a watershed work group meeting. They are working on planning for the weed pulls and spray days and will forward those dates to the Conservation District when they are set. They applied to us for the Weed Cost Share program funds for an MCC crew to do a weed pull. See report for more details. Ryan asked if he was still planning to go to the Meagher stream project.



**MACD/SWCDMI**—Ryan sat in on the board conference call on Monday. They had a discussion on the bookkeeping. Gary Giem has been assisting the organization with QuickBooks. They did discuss the SWCDMI bylaws which are still not updated. Chris Evans did receive a current copy of MACD's bylaws from them after the last meeting. As of Monday, 29 CDs had paid their dues to the tune of about \$57,000. During the discussion it was said that MACD wants to hear feedback from the CDs on what they aren't happy about.

The February report from MACD/SWCDMI was a much improved method of communication.

Ryan said that MACD will be sending letters out by September 1<sup>st</sup> to CDs that haven't paid their dues asking the reasons for non-payment.

Granzow and Evans both received phone calls from Steve Hedstrom about January's meeting minutes and the comment about dues payment.

The Floodplain Bill is still in committee. MACD thought that the amendments had been included in the bill, but apparently that was not the case. As of Monday the Executive Action had not yet happened on the Bill. The amendment was a language change from an exemption to a variance. The Association of Floodplain Managers was adamantly against the bill with the concern that FEMA was going to have problems with it.

**MRCDC**—see written report. They provided a letter of support for our AIS grant application.

**Weed District**—Hoffman said they finished up the EA for the Lincoln Group. They are looking for 3 people for the summer projects. They have a number of grants that have been applied for including NWF and RAC grants. Evans talked a little bit about the Small Acreage outreach discussion that we've been having with the WQPD, Weed District, NRCS and the CD.

**Old Business**

Rangeland Day at the Capitol—Sounded like they had a good turnout. Lunch was completely gone by the end of the day.

**New Business**

Flood Awareness day is scheduled for May 26. We should have a pretty good group of folks helping out again.

Motion by Granzow to sponsor ladies range day and get a rainfall simulator, second by Nordahl; motion carried.

**310 Permit Applications**

LC-04-17-Diamond Construction

Location: Canyon Ferry/Missouri River

When: ASAP

Purpose: Bank Stabilization

Dimensions: 75 feet of bank

Equipment: Excavator and skid steer

Materials: 150CY native rock and gravel from local pit, 30 CY Concrete, 65 LF of Wall blocks

Team Report comments: Problem with BOR, need to table pending changes

Decision: This remains tabled pending new design.

LC-05-17-Milford Colony

Location: Hogan Creek

Team Report comments: Intermittent, not our jurisdiction.



LC-06-17 – Callaghan

Location: Indian Meadows Creek

When: 5/1-7/15

Purpose: Fish habitat and to encourage beaver activity

Dimensions: several dams over a ¼ to ½ mile stretch of stream

Equipment: No mechanical equipment, hand tools only

Materials: Wooden posts, untreated, 2-6" diameter, 3-5 feet in length

Post pounder, Willow, alder and aspen branches

Team Report comments: Ron Pierce is fine with the project as long as it doesn't introduce a barrier to upstream movement of westslope cutthroat trout, he would like to see the removal of conifers balance with the habitat value of wood to the stream. As long as Greg Munther or someone else is providing project oversight, there should be no problem.

Decision: Motion to approve with Pierce's comments by Granzow, second by Nordahl; motion carried. Jeanette requested that even if Ron Pierce may not want to inspect, to please forward the applications in her care to her anyway.

LC-07-17 – Rob Leland, Mockel Precast

Location: Missouri River

When: 3/15 to 5/15

Purpose: boat launch replacement; removal of existing concrete boat ramp, about 2 CY concrete and replacement with pre-cast ramp, about 4 CY concrete.

Dimensions: New ramp with extend about 10 feet further into the water, bank will have about 20 LF impacted

Equipment: Excavator working only from bank and only the bucket entering water

Materials: Concrete pre-cast, 10 6" diameter steel pipes

Team Report comments: Roberts opted not to inspect. No disturbance from April 1 through June 15 due to spawning concerns.

Decision: motion by Granzow to approve with Eric's comments, second by Nordahl; motion carried.

LC-08-17--YPL

Location: Sweeney Creek

When: 3/20-5/31

Purpose: Utilities

Dimensions: about 50 LF of each bank and then about 100 feet across the creek and wetland area.

Equipment: Trackhoe, support equipment for material delivery and removal, portable pumps for diversion of stream

Materials:

400 sf matting

Seed/mulch TBD

Sandbags TBD

267 CY Excavated materials

Team Report comments: No stream work between 4/15 and 7/1 Contact the Conservation District when work starts. The team approved the waiver of the 15 day waiting period.

Decision: Ryan went on the inspection and talked about the project. Motion by Ryan to approve as modified, second by Granzow; motion carried.

EME-02-17--Coon

Location: Prickly Pear

When: 2/7/17

Purpose: Removal of ice jam

Equipment: Excavator with thumb

Team Comments: Inspect after ice and snow are gone

Decision: motion to approve work as done by Granzow, second by Nordahl; carried.

Adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

**APPROVED**

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Presiding Officer

Date

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Recorder

Date