



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

April 14, 2016, 1 p.m.

These are amended meeting minutes, approved by the board at the July 14, 2016 board meeting.

Call to order – the meeting was opened by Chairman Stan Frasier at 1 p.m. In attendance were Stan Frasier, Scott Blackman, Bob Bushnell, Steve Granzow, Sarah Howe-Cobb, Ron Ingersoll and Jeff Ryan. Also in attendance were Diane Fitzgerald, Ashley Rivero, Larry Hoffman, John Paul and Chris Evans. Kevin Stone joined the group around 1:10 p.m.

Motion by Blackman to approve minutes as sent, second by Bushnell; motion carried.

Motion by Bushnell to approve the financial statement and to pay the outstanding bills, second by Granzow; motion carried.

Correspondence

RMFWRT thank-you note

Thank you from MACD

Thank you from Montana Biological Weed Control

Public Comment-there was none

Reports

NRCS – Diane Fitzgerald made the NRCS report. Sign up deadline for Ten Mile Forestry project deadline is May 20. Special initiative request for the 3 counties is being completed and will be submitted soon. The Energy, Honey Bee, High Tunnel and other special projects are currently in the works. There's currently a State Technical Committee meeting going on right now in Great Falls which is where John George is today. Diane passed around the snowpack report.

WQPD – the last meeting was a short meeting, but there was some budget discussion and they are doing pretty well within their budget.

SRWG – Kevin Stone was present, he's the new Sun River Watershed Coordinator. He graduated from UM recently. They are moving forward in planning efforts for the 10 year plan. They want to put together a tour of the watershed soon to look at projects. They have scheduled with the MCC to do a pull on Ford Creek the week of May 15. They have scheduled a number of other weed events. Ford Creek spray day May 26, Elk Creek Spray day, May 8, Gibson June 1 and 2, June 22 Sun River, July 9 Sun Canyon pull. Kevin said he has every intention of carrying forward with the weed efforts on the watershed. Alan wanted him to pass

on that the Elk Creek project with Susan McNeal went forward and is complete. The Sun/Teton/Marias is at 60-65% normal snowpack. Water shortage will make for a tough year. **MACD/SWCDMI**—Granzow and Blackman went to the Supervisor Summit in Area 3 last week. They won a gavel during the Parliamentary Procedure quiz. Steve said there were about 50 people there from all over the state. Scott said he estimated that there were more people from outside Area 3 than in area 3. Steve said that it wasn't so much a whine-fest, as recommendations on how to move forward for real. There was discussion about programs and delegation of responsibilities. The Cascade Chair is supposed to be putting notes from the meeting together to get out to attendees. Kit Sutherland was the facilitator and did a great job. Both supervisors thought it was worthwhile to attend and participate in the gathering. Mark Suta seemed to be very receptive to the discussion and moving forward. Ryan asked how the dues were originally set. There is supposedly a committee that has been formed to discuss dues and how they are set. Granzow said that Don MacIntyre had some comments that he picked up on and assumes that future discussion with the president of MACD may be strained. Steve also mentioned the Range Forum upcoming in Billings May 4 and 5. Blackman may be interested and so might Jeff Ryan.

Lincoln Area—Bushnell said that Red Mountain is still white. They've been getting snow in the high country.

Lake Helena Watershed—Ashley said they had a meeting about the WRP which was approved by DEQ for the 319 grant. They're doing a litter pick up day for Earth Day from 2:45-5, the 22nd at Chadwick's Nursery. Saturday there's an Environmental Expo from 11-5 with workshops and booths. They've started installation of some of the summer gauges and collection of data. The group is working on pursuing nonprofit status. It will be discussed at next week's meeting, along with the water changeover and the PPLT property acquisition. Ryan mentioned that he went out with them and walked the property. Ryan said that the willow growth has declined significantly since Frank Gruber's violation in 1999. They would like to put in a pedestrian bridge on Ten Mile. Seven Mile could use some significant work on the lower section. On that note Ryan said the MACD Water Committee meeting is coming up soon and hopefully that floodplain resolution will start gaining some traction for some kind of final answer.

MRCDC—They would like to see someone from the CD attending their meetings regularly. Ryan may be interested in attending those meetings in the future.

Weed District—Larry brought donuts today in thanks for the CD's commitment for funding. They will be bringing in crews starting in next week. The educational series is in the works. A billboard has been planned for Montana Avenue near Rockhand Hardware. Signs will go up on rental equipment and trailheads as well as on tailgates on public works and weed district vehicles and at the Fairgrounds. There will be some spray days in Lincoln, Canyon Creek. There was an invasive species summit on earlier this week that turned out well. The Weed Board is submitting a resolution on the right to farm and ranch and would like a support letter. Bob and Steve read through the resolution and were in favor of it. Motion by Bushnell second by Blackman to support; motion carried.

New Business

2016 Weed Cost Share—Motion by Bushnell, second by Blackman to approve covering all the applications; motion carried

Ogle Camp Scholarships—Jane Ogle, whose husband worked for NRCS for years, wanted to donate some money toward the camp sponsorships. She donated \$500. The board normally covers ½ registration reimbursed to students, so these funds will match those ½ registrations as

long as the money lasts. Evans had Ashley make up a mailing to the schools in Lewis & Clark County to let teachers/students know about the opportunity. Hopefully we'll get a lot of interest. Jane may be interested in making this an every-year donation if it works well.

310 Permit Applications

CP-01-16 LY Land and Livestock

Wolf Creek

What looked like extensive tree/brush removal along the stream was actually beaver activity. Landowners have pulled the trees that the beaver killed out of the creek and started cutting them up. Motion by Ingersoll that it's not a violation, but to let the landowner know that if they want to remove the dam they need a permit. Second by Bushnell; motion carried.

CP-02-16 Barker

Lincoln/Blackfoot River

A complaint was called in to DEQ and they passed it on to us. Apparently someone did some work on the bank of the Blackfoot River without a permit. On inspection, it was determined that the landowner was trying to create a pond off the river. Pierce and Bushnell reviewed the site and determined that the landowner needs to submit a 310 permit to fix the work, and work with a qualified company to do the work. Pierce recommended Stream Works to do the work. Motion by Bushnell, second by Ingersoll to consider the work done a violation and to move forward with Pierce's recommendations; motion carried.

LC-02-15 – Chevallier Ranch

Location: Canyon Creek

When: ASAP

Purpose: Fix work done under violation

Dimensions: 600 feet of bank; no stream encroachment except for about 100 feet of riprap

Equipment: excavator, dump truck, front end loader

Materials: 33Cy Class II riprap, 36 CY Class I riprap, willow clumps every 10 feet of the 600 feet of bank; topsoil and seed.

Team report comments:

Decision: Update: Ed now has an attorney involved who is trying to get the work approved under the farm exemption with the ACOE. Evans was contacted by the Regional ACOE person, David LaGrone, regarding details. He's hoping to have the matter wrapped up in May.

LC-02-16-NWE

Location: Black Diamond Creek

Purposes: Utility- plowed electric cable

Dimensions: 12-15 feet on each bank, each site (5)

Equipment: cat mounted plow, possible use of mini excavator to install line depending on size of rocks

Materials: 440' cable

Team Report Comments: Pierce would like to inspect after snow has diminished to the point where the site can be viewed. The company has opted to not bore, they want to trench.

Decision: Motion by Granzow, second by Bushnell to table pending inspection; motion carried.

LC-05-16 – Missouri River Ranch and Eagle Canyon Ranch landowners associations

Location: Stickney Creek

When: May-September

Purpose: replace undersized culverts

Dimensions:

Equipment: Work to be completed by licensed road operator

Materials: two to four 3 foot culverts at the upstream site and two 5 foot culverts at the lower site.

Team report comments: Jason didn't request an inspection. He did say that he doesn't usually recommend 2 culverts side by side but understands financial considerations. He recommended embedding culverts, not having them perched and incorporating a reinforced overflow channel into the road – a reinforced depression in the road – to pass flood flows.

Decision: motion to table by Frasier pending ACOE, second by Granzow; motion carried

LC-06-16 – Gittins

Location: Ford Creek

Purposes: Replace and upgrade existing bridge that has been condemned.

Dimensions: 50 linear feet on both sides of the creek.

Equipment: Bobcat, Front end loader, dump truck, tamper/roller, backhoe, service truck with generator.

<u>Materials:</u>	175-200 CY roadway gravel	USFS gravel pit
	25 CY rip rap, Class 2	TBD
	7 CY Concrete	TBD
	130 LF steel beam, W 18x97	TBD
	Wood Deck and guard rails	TBD

Team Report Comments: Yerk: no need for inspection, looks well engineered. Construction should be post-run-off (mid-June?)

Decision: Motion by Bushnell, second by Howe-Cobb to approve, with Yerk's timeline; motion carried.

LC-07-16 BBCTU

Location: Blackfoot River

Purposes: bank stabilization

Dimensions: 50 feet of river length

Equipment: Hydraulic excavator, Native grass seeding

Materials: toe-wood structures, 10 cottonwoods from nearby.

Team Report Comments: Pierce: minimize turbidity as per 318 conditions

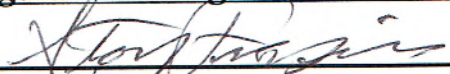
Decision: Motion by Bushnell, second by Granzow to approve, waiving the 15 day waiting period, follow 318 conditions.

Having no further business there was a motion by Bushnell to adjourn at 2:40 p.m. The next meeting will be May 12, 2016 at 1 p.m. at the Augusta Youth Center, in Augusta Montana. The board will have lunch at the Senior Center at 12 noon prior to the meeting.

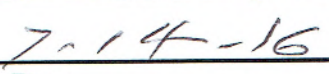
APPROVED

Regular Meeting Minutes

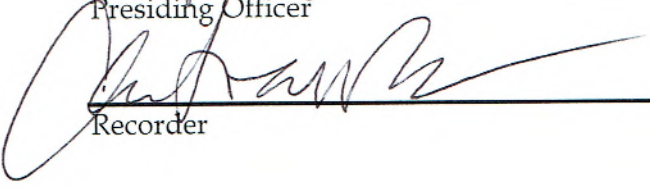
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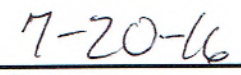
Presiding Officer



Date



Recorder



Date