



LEWIS & CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

790 Colleen Street • Helena, Montana 59601 • 449-5000 ext. 112 • Fax (406) 449-5039

Regular Meeting Minutes

USDA Service Center, 790 Colleen Street, Helena MT 59601

October 8, 2015, 1 p.m.

Call to order—the meeting was called to order by Chairman Stan Frasier at 1 p.m. In attendance were Stan Frasier, Steve Granzow, Sarah Howe-Cobb, Bob Bushnell, Ron Ingersoll and Jeff Ryan. Also in attendance were Alan Rollo, Diane Fitzgerald, Larry Hoffman and Chris Evans.

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

Motion by Granzow to approve the minutes of the special meeting, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

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

Correspondence

Forestry notes from NACD.

Public Comment

There was none.

Reports

NRCS—Diane Fitzgerald was present to make the NRCS report. The office is currently making visits to the 2016 applicants and making cost estimates. Darcy is back from maternity leave and John is on leave.

WQPD—Jeff Ryan said that they cancelled the last meeting.

SRWG—Rollo said that they spent a lot of time in September doing fall spraying including Elk Creek, Ford Creek and the Sun Canyon. He said they've seen an improvement in weed amounts and believes that fall spraying has been very beneficial. The group is going out to Elk Creek tomorrow with the ACOE to look at the project sites on T Bar Ranch. Rollo and McNeal (Sue) will do some survey work after they look at the site. The Anderson land looks like it has sold and the new owners will be approached about potential projects. Alan is retiring as the full time person for the SRWG, but will continue to work part time. The group will be hiring someone to take over the other responsibilities. The change is effective November 30th.

MACD—Granzow said that the conference call is coming up next week. The only thing he knows of for sure is the upcoming convention, with by-laws changes, dues etc. Motion by Granzow to finish paying dues as calculated by Evans, second by Ryan; motion carried. Motion by Bushnell to pay NACD \$550, second by Granzow; motion carried.

Lincoln Area—Bushnell said he went to the Blackfoot Challenge meeting. The Governor has appointed a group in regard to Weeds, dealing with the Noxious Weed Trust Funds.

Lake Helena Watershed—BSWC member interviews with WQPD, LHWG and the CD are coming up on October 20. The person selected will start in January and will work part way through November in 2016.

MRCDC—Evans shared the written report with the board.

Weed District—they covered over 1200 miles of county roads, 420 inspections, 125 compliance programs with the city, 75 special projects and 5-10 cases that are going to the county attorney/district court on non compliance. They have covered 20 new roads, 15 gravel pits, 3 active timber harvests and 7 active subdivisions. They are doing a collaborative program with Powell County. The Rocky Mountain Front group has concerns on baby's breath, blueweed, garlic mustard, tansy ragwort. The Weed District distributed a large number of insects.

There is about \$1 billion being distributed from FEMA through HUD to help communities with flood mitigation, Lewis & Clark County is putting in for \$50 million.

Old Business

Soil Health workshop follow up—Granzow and Evans discussed the results of the workshop. It was a good turnout, around 50 people, and Jay Fuhrer was a great speaker. People really learned a lot. The Cover Crop Demo grant with DNRC can now finally be closed out.

New Business

Evans passed around the sample pen that we got in the mail. They are pretty good quality. There was some discussion about purchasing some for the CD. Motion by Granzow to purchase some pens and matching flashlights, second by Howe-Cobb; motion carried.

310 Permit Applications

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: Table til resolution between ACOE and Chevallier is made.

LC-019-15—Sampsen

Location: Keep Cool Creek

When: 9/15-11/30

Purpose: To update a diversion structure to access irrigation water

Dimensions: about 6 feet

Equipment: mini excavator

Materials: Wood structure

Team Report Comments: Prior inspection when team went out on another project. See diagram for recommendations.

Decision: Motion to approve with recommendations/limitations by Bushnell, second by Granzow; motion carried.

LC-21-15—Mote

Location: Blackfoot River

Purposes: To facilitate a timber harvest on dead and dying timber

Dimensions: 10 linear feet on each bank—historic ford

Equipment: fording log harvester and forwarder

Materials: There will be no actual work done on ford, no materials used

Team Report Comments: Pierce was fine with the use of the ford as long as the same terms as those used for other site (see the team member report) apply. Those terms were: Season restricted to low water November 1 to April 1. Two winter seasons authorized.

Decision: Motion to approve with limitations/modifications by Bushnell, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

The board will start their planning and budget discussion at the meeting in December. We'll start at 10, have lunch, have our regular meeting and will then adjourn to the Brewhouse at 4 p.m.

The next meeting will be November 12, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the Helena Field Office Conference Room, Helena, MT.

Meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

APPROVED

Presiding Officer

Date