



LEWIS & CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

790 Colleen Street • Helena, Montana 59601 • 449-5000 ext. 5

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Dearborn Community Center
Hwy 434, Wolf Creek MT
June 20, 2019**

Call to order – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Ryan at 8:35 a.m. In attendance were Jeff Ryan, Ron Ingersoll, Sarah Howe-Cobb and Scott Blackman. Also in attendance were Mark Young, John George, Tracy Wendt, Kevin Stone and Chris Evans.

Motion by Blackman by to approve the minutes as sent, second by Howe-Cobb; motion carried. Motion by Howe-Cobb to approve the financial statement and pay the outstanding bills, second by Blackman; motion carried.

Correspondence

Evans passed around a variety of thank you notes and reports.

Public Comment-There was none.

Reports

NRCS – John George revisited the Augusta flood situation. There's potential for ECP again this year. The office lost another staff member, so it's down to Diane and John. Nancy Sweeny is retiring at the end of August. There's another signup yet to come for the Joint Chiefs project. The long-range planning meetings are done and the information is condensed. The local workgroup meeting is in July.

Mark Young said that the Augusta problems were partially from some old dikes. Evans and Ryan are going to look at some old aerial photos to see where the old work has been done, and how it could have affected the water flow. Moving east, where the straw bales are, the water has shifted east.

SRWG – Tracy Wendt was present for the SRWG report. We've had a long-range planning group meeting to discuss the greater Sun River Watershed. There was a discussion at one meeting about Channel Migration Zone mapping. Tracy has been in contact with the MARS group on the CMZ issue. MARS will be presenting at a meeting in July in Helena to get more information on how their programs works, including where the money comes from, how property is assessed etc.

Tracy has also been looking into the CIG grant program with NRCS. She thinks there is a potential to fund weather stations. Other things going on: board meeting, water quality and management work groups. The watershed's web site will be updated by the end of the month and meeting minutes etc. will be on that site. Weed pulls will be going on this year. The Forest Service has taken the lead on the weed pulls for the most part. July 13 will be the Weed Whacker Rodeo, top of the Canyon below the dam. The 25th anniversary event will be in August with a tour and a party afterward. There will also be a workshop and demo area for off channel grazing, buffers etc. CMZ's will also be discussed, FWP will talk fish populations and habitat. MSU's water quality section is doing a story map for the tour. The strategic plan is nearly complete and

will be handed out at the 25th anniversary event. There will be an expanded version given out to partners. There will also be a summer newsletter.

MRCDC—New coordinator has come on-board. She is working out of the Lewistown area. River Rendezvous has been scheduled with meetings and a river tour up by Fort Peck.

WQPD/ LHWG—WQPD met May 28th, they looked at the budget and it's in good shape. Water monitoring for wells in ongoing in the valley, they looked at the strategic plan.

Lake Helena Watershed group has helped with willow sprigging on Spokane Creek and the Prickly Pear Creek restoration.

RMFWRT—Kevin Stone was present to give an update on the Roundtable—see handout.

Supervisor Reports

Dave Martin submitted a report about the MACD/SWCDMI spring board meeting.

Jeff was out and did some more sprigging on Spokane Creek to show one of the 310 applicants how to do the work.

Scott Blackman went out to a new sheep and climate operation day, they had to move off the river bottom due to flooding on the Musselshell in 2011 and have gone to a state-of-the-art facility. Scott said their Maze will be moving to Craig. August 2nd is the camp make a dream's float trip. They are looking for sponsors for that event. Board of Livestock appointment decision has not yet been made.

Ron Ingersoll wants to get with Kevin stone on the bio control for the Alice Creek fire. He also would like to see if we could write a letter to the county about their specs for clean rock versus dirty rocks.

Old Business

Community Meeting results-John gave the update in the NRCS report.

Local Work Group meeting-July after the board meeting, 10:30 am at the Dearborn.

Permissive Mill Levy—We had a hearing and no one showed up. Evans has forwarded the request for renewing the PML for \$6000/year to the county.

Social Networking Archive-Right now it looks like the cost will be \$199/month for the CD to do their own account. There is still a possibility that we can get under the County umbrella since they and the city are working with this group. Evans will follow up with the County to see how that might work.

New Business

Flooding-Augusta report-John said that Smith Creek had the most dramatic changes. ECP is likely to be honored for last year's contracts, probably will be offered again this year for new damages. The upcoming weeks should give us some direction on how the program works this year. Evans has put a request for estimate out to a number of different engineering/hydro firms. Laurie Zeller at DNRC said that we can do an assessment if it comes in cheaply enough under the DNRC technical funds.

Update on other grants—we were successful with all 3 223 grant applications.

310 Permit Applications

LC-41-18 Beck—motion by Howe-Cobb to dismiss this due to flood damage this year, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-30-18 Lee--motion by Howe-Cobb to dismiss this due to flood damage this year, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-01-19 Melaney – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-02-19 Ingersoll – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-03-19 Hamilton – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-04-19 Lee – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-05-19 Wirth – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

EME-06-19 Melaney – Motion by Howe-Cobb to table pending inspection, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

CP-01-19 Reeves--motion by HC, second by Blackman to consider non-project; motion carried.

CP-02-19 Baldwin--motion to table pending inspection by Howe-Cobb, second Ingersoll; motion carried.

LC-09-19 Perry stays tabled

LC-18-19 YPL-Jeff gave an inspection report; he explained the concept of the concrete cap as a trial to determine if it works effectively or not. Ryan recommended approval as proposed with the modification that long-term monitoring needs to be done with the Conservation District; lowering will be the next step if this remedy doesn't work. He also said that this remedy isn't a project that we want to see at all pipeline sites. Motion by Howe-Cobb to approve with those modifications, second by Blackman, motion carried.

LC-19-19 Greely – motion by Howe-Cobb to table, second by Blackman; motion carried.

LC-20-19 Vision Net – the board already acted on this application at the last meeting. No action necessary.

LC-21-19 Weaver-Jeff made the inspection report. Motion by Ingersoll to approve as proposed, second by Howe Cobb; motion carried.

LC-22-19 Sovner--Motion by Howe-Cobb to approve, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

LC-23-19 Vision Net – Motion by Howe-Cobb to approve, second by Blackman: motion carried.

LC-24-19 Evans-motion to approve by Howe-Cobb, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

LC-25-19 Steinbach-motion by Blackman to approve a 5-year annual maintenance permit, second by HC; motion carried.

LC-26-19 NEW – Scott made the inspection report; they need to dig the debris and sludge out of the gate; motion by to approve and waive the 15-day waiting period, with modifications by Blackman, second by Howe-Cobb; motion carried.

LC-27-19 Williams – motion by Howe-Cobb to approve with modifications recommended by Strainer, second by Blackman; motion carried.

LC-28-19 Tyson-- motion to table pending inspection by Blackman, second by Ingersoll; motion carried.

Extension request LC-09-17 Snowberry; motion to extend for one year by Blackman, second by Howe-Cobb; motion carried.

Update on Westra/Cardenas

Update on riprap dumping issue on CF-Keane

Other Business

Cost share application-table pending comment from neighbor and Irrigation district.

Calendar of upcoming events

July 1 All budgets due to the county. Public hearing is required to renew Permissive Levy
July 6-Montana River Rendezvous-Fort Peck
July 11-Conservation District meeting-Dearborn 8 a.m.
July 11-Lewis & Clark County Local Work Group meeting, Dearborn Com. Ctr. 10:30 am
~~July 25-28 Montana Youth Range Camp Gallatin CD~~
August 8-Conservation District Meeting-Dearborn
August 24-25th Anniversary Celebration of SRWG-tour (free) and BBQ Dinner Sun Canyon Lodge (\$20)
September 4-5 Montana Range Tour-Harlowton hosted by Upper Musselshell & Yellowstone CDs
September 12-Conservation District meeting, Lincoln 9:30 am

Announcements

Next meeting – July 11, 2019 Dearborn Community Center 8:30 am

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45

APPROVED

Presiding Officer

Date

Recorder

Date