



LEWIS & CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Regular Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center Conference Room
790 Colleen Street, Helena MT
January 9, 2020 at 1 pm

Call to order – the meeting was called to order by chairman Jeff Ryan at 1 pm. In attendance were Jeff Ryan, Jeanette Nordahl, Scott Blackman and Sarah Howe-Cobb. Stan Frasier joined the meeting at 1:10 pm. Also in attendance were Paula Gunderson, David Martin and Chris Evans.

Introductions were made.

Motion by Sarah to nominate Jeff Ryan to remain as chair, second Jeanette; there were no other nominations; motion carried

Motion by Sarah to nominate Ron Ingersoll as vice chair since Scott is planning to retire, second by Blackman; there were no other nominations; motion carried.

Motion by Blackman to retain Jeanette Nordahl as treasurer, second Howe-Cobb; there were no other nominations; motion carried.

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

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

Correspondence

Evans passed around a variety of correspondence

Public Comment-there was none.

Reports

NRCS – Paula was present to talk about NRCS. She brought some fact sheets on CSP for the Board. She said that when someone comes in for CSP, they have to be the operator of record to qualify, and have been an operator for at least a year. She gave a run down on how the program works for Teton County and how she thinks it might work better for Lewis & Clark County.

There was discussion about the CTA Grant and the idea of melding it with the Elk Creek area flood recovery effort. Based on potential interest at the meeting in January in Augusta, Evans will proceed with an application for CTA funds to look at doing legwork for a possible TIP in that area.

Paula said that Ryan Mar from Townsend will be detailed to the Helena FO. Diane will still be in Helena a couple of days a week even though she got the DC position in Whitehall.

SRWG – Dave Martin gave a brief update on the SRWG and Tracy Wendt provided a written report. She gave us a bio for the BSWC member who is working for the watershed group in 2020.

MRCDC – Sign up for the newsletter

WQPD/ LHWG – A ground water study that showed that groundwater tables aren't being

negatively affected by development has created some concern by area landowners. There was also a presentation on the beginning of the county zoning process.

Weed District – they didn't have a meeting in January. The Montana Weed Control Association meeting is next week in Great Falls.

Supervisor Reports

Jeff said that the Spokane Creek project is moving forward. A retired DNRC engineer will be doing the survey work to complete the no-rise analysis for the floodplain permit. The next Stream Restoration Committee meeting is January 30th. Traci Sears with the DNRC Floodplain department will co-chair a table with Jeff at the Montana Water Summit for the Great Conversations part of the day.

Sarah said she'll be at the meeting on January 29. The big push is the Elk Creek effort. Jeanette made a motion to approve the extra cost for individual landowner recommendations, second by Blackman; motion carried.

Dave said he's headed for India. He'll be watching his emails while he's gone. One of the things we've talked about is the Rolling Rivers Trailers issue. He's working with the BSWC and he wants to provide training in February and May to that group. Those Corps members can then present the trailer across the state.

Stan's leaving for Arizona tomorrow, Scott said he wants to talk to John Baucus about potentially running in his place.

Jeanette said they got a foot of snow on Tuesday.

MACD/SWCDMI-Evans gave a brief update on the information from MACD on meetings and trainings etc. There was discussion about the leadership training and the supervisor summit. A letter to them was approved in regard to our 2019 dues and our rationale for 2020 dues.

Elk Creek Flood Task Force-Evans gave an update on the upcoming meetings with landowners and the public on the 29th. She hopes that there will be clear results from those meetings as to the direction that landowners want to go with projects. That will determine whether or not we go for a CTA grant for the county.

Old Business

310 Rule Change-Hearing results – no one attended the hearing and no one submitted comments on the change to the rules.

New 310 rule adoption-motion Jeanette second Sarah; motion carried

New Business

WOTUS-Evans gave the board the information on the WOTUS from NACD.

Social Media Policy-motion by Blackman, second by Nordahl to approve a social media policy.

Cost Share for 2019-seeing as we only had one application this year and it was a continuation of a previous project, the application was approved.

Operations Audit – Evans went through the CD operations audit that DNRC recommends that we do annually. There are a few things that the CD needs to work on, primarily pertaining to outdated position descriptions and personnel policies.

310 Permit Applications

LC-47-19 Nelson--motion by Ryan to approve, Frasier seconded; motion carried.

LC-01-20 Wirth – needs inspection

Calendar of upcoming events

January 13 MACD Board Conf. Call 7:30 am
January 14-16 MWCA Annual Conference, Great Falls
January 14-16 Rural Voices for Cons. Coalition Ann. Mtg
January 21, 2020-MWCC annual Meeting TBD
February 3-4, Montana Soil Health Symposium
February 10, MACD Board Conf Call 7:30 am
February 13, 2020-CD meeting Helena 1 pm
March 9 MACD Board Conf. Call 7:30 am
March 11-13 Assoc. of Mt. Floodplain Mgrs. Conf. Kalispell
March 12, 2020-CD meeting Helena 1 pm
March 3-4, Montana Water Summit
March 9, Supervisor Candidate forms due to County
April 13 MACD Board Conf. Call 7:30 am
April 21-23, NRDP Conference-Fairmont Hot Springs

Announcements

Next meeting – February 13, 2020, 1pm at the USDA Service Center in Helena.
Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

APPROVED

Presiding Officer

Date

Recorder

Date