

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Local Work Group Meeting**  
**U.S. Forest Service Office**  
**949 U.S. Highway 93 North, Eureka, Montana**  
**October 19, 2015**

**Attendance:**

Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Don Crawford, Vice Chairperson; Wayne Maahs; Mike Justus; Mark Romey, Alfred Phillipy  
Associate Supervisor(s): Ernie Chacon  
Advisor(s): Brian Ressel, NRCS  
District Administrator: Becky Lihme  
Guest(s):

**Called to order:** 3:30 p.m.

**Review of Recommended Resource Concerns**

- a. Forest Stewardship/Thinning
- b. Agriculture
- c. Others
  - Brian Ressel explained the EQIP Program for those in attendance that are new to EQIP. Local Work Groups meet once per year to determine the resource management priorities for federal programs. EQIP is a partnership. Lincoln Conservation District has chosen Forest Stewardship for the past several years. Forestry programs provide more funding than irrigation/grazing. Brian asked each Board Member their opinion on the resource concern. All were in agreement of forest stewardship.
  - Darris Flanagan asked if we can receive funding for agriculture as well as forestry.
  - Brian Ressel responded it is possible. The cost of irrigation projects reduces the number of possible projects that can be funded due to the amount allotted to our region.
  - **Motion** by Don Crawford to continue with Forest Stewardship in 2018 as the Local Work Group Priority. **Second** by Wayne Maahs. **Motion passed.**
  - Brian Ressel continued the discussion by stating he would like to create more of a partnership with Lincoln Conservation District. Ideas on how to integrate into LCD were mentioned; Ernie Chacon and Alfred Phillipy may like to visit EQIP on-sites with Brian.
  - Mike Justus noted he works with EQIP on forest management plans.
  - Don Crawford thanked Brian Ressel for his diligence with the program and federal funding regulations.
  - Brian Ressel noted LCD has the option to create local ranking questions to determine funding, for example; "Do you have a forest management plan in place? Or, "Are you willing to do fuels reduction near a treated area?"

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Local Work Group Meeting**  
**U.S. Forest Service Office, Eureka, Montana**  
**October 19, 2015**

- Mike Justus noted weed abatement has been a ranking question in the past.
- **Motion** by Mike Justus to provide the following local ranking questions:
  1. Are you willing to treat 70% of the slash by using non-burning methods?
  2. Are you within the county urban wildland interface?
  3. Do you have a management plan?**Second** by Wayne Maahs. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Darris Flanagan, Chairperson

---

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_