

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
U.S. Forest Service Office, Eureka, Montana
June 15, 2016**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Don Crawford, Vice-Chairperson; Mark Romey; Valene Goff: Mike Justus

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s): Laura Jungst, U.S.F.S.; Mike Hensler, MtFW&P

District Administrator: Becky Lihme

Guest(s): Kirk Sullivan; Ernie Chacon; Mike Cole, County Commissioner

Called to order: 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Darris Flanagan

Public Comment:

Minutes:

- a. Public Hearing, Permissive Medical Mill Levy - May 2016
 - **Motion** by Don Crawford to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing, Permissive Medical Mill Levy, May 2016 as presented. **Second** by Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**
- b. May Minutes
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the minutes of May 2016 as presented. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

- a. May 2016
 - Mike Justus reviewed the financial report for May 2016.
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the Financial Report for May 2016. **Second** Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Brian Ressel

- No report

MTFWP Report – Mike Hensler

- Lincoln County has been notified from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the E.P.A. for work done in Callahan Creek, near Troy. County officials are trying to get the USACOE to re-build a levy before mitigation has taken place. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said “no, this is not a good idea”. Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks sent out their own violation letter.
- Several non-native aquatic species are coming into the area.

District Administrator’s Report

- Volunteer hours were recorded for May.
- There is one news article in the Board Packets.

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- We received one (1) letter from DEQ.
- A thank you note from the Montana Biocontrol Project for our donation is in the Board Packet.
- An invitation to join the Alvord Lake Community Forest Celebration is in the Board Packet.
- Chris Mulgren from Lake County will be retiring on June 30th.
- Staff will be out of the office on July 6th for medical reasons.
- Staff asked the supervisors to submit final mileage requests by next week for the end of fiscal year 2016.
- Staff asked if someone could cover the Lincoln County Fair exhibit for her. She is hoping to take vacation time. Both Darris Flanagan and Kirk Sullivan volunteered.
- Staff reported out usage of our website is getting close to maximum. She will be removing 310 permit applications dated older than 2 years.
- A stream trailer demonstration has been scheduled for June 29th at the Eureka Elementary School.

Mike Cole, County Commissioner arrives at the meeting

New Business Item A. Oath of Office

- Commissioner Mike Cole presided over the swearing in of Darris Flanagan as Urban Supervisor for the Town of Eureka.

Planning Board Report – Mark Romey

- There has not been a Planning Board Meeting held recently.
- At the previous meeting Lakeshore Regulations and Subdivision Regulations were being reviewed.

GLID Report

- No report.

310's

Li-06-01-16 – Parker, Double N LLC, Big Cherry Creek

- Staff read the e-mail sent by Bonnie Geber, U.S.F.S. which updated the status of the Plan of Operations.
- Mike Hensler described the fish screen project and reported it is a good project.
- Kirk Sullivan added the design was completed by River Design Group.
- Mike Justus noted should we wait for the Plan of Operations. We have not seen it.
- Don Crawford noted he has no problem approving the application at this time.

- **Motion** by Mike Justus to declare Li-06-01-16 as a project under the 310 Law, but table until the Plan of Operations is issued to review prior to approving the 310 permit. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**

C-06-02-16 – Marks/Frontier Communications, Crowell Creek

- Tabled to July meeting

Li-06-03-16 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative,

- Darris Flanagan reported this is a standard underground bore project.
- **Motion** by Valene Goff to approve Li-06-03-16 as presented; waive the fifteen (15) day wait period. **Second** by Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**

Li-06-04-16 – Cedar/Grandy, Pine Creek

- Mike Justus reported on the project; landowner is logging for a fuel break. They will be skidding the logs across a ford in the creek. Recommendations are as follows: Logs will be processed to 16 foot lengths; butts of logs will be suspended when skidded across creek; equipment will be cleaned from grease and oil prior to operations; stream channel will be reshaped to previous condition; straw bales will be placed on stream banks to prevent sediment from entering stream; area will be grass seeded when completed.
- **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve Li-06-04-16 with modifications; logs will be processed to 16 foot lengths; butts of logs will be suspended when skidded across creek; equipment will be cleaned from grease and oil prior to operations; stream channel will be reshaped to previous condition; straw bales will be placed on stream banks to prevent sediment from entering stream; area will be grass seeded when completed. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**

Tabled 310's

V-12-01-15 – Vanderhoef, Micklon, East Fisher River

- Staff reported she spoke with Mr. Micklon to schedule an on-site. The on-site has been scheduled for June 21st at 10:00 a.m.; meet at the bridge. Mr. Micklon explained he has had an agreement with the county road department for the past 20 years to maintain the road.
- Don Crawford described the location of the violation and history of the river ford.

New Business:

- a. Oath of Office
 1. Darris Flanagan – Item moved.
- b. Associate Supervisor Introductions/Appointments
 1. Kirk Sullivan
 - Kirk Sullivan stated he would like to hold the position of Associate Supervisor for the Lincoln Conservation District representing the north end of the county. If his assistance is required and if he is available, he would consider travelling to the southern portion of the county.

- **Motion** by Mike Justus to appoint Kirk Sullivan as an Associate Supervisor for Lincoln Conservation District. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**
- 2. Ernie Chacon
 - Kirk Sullivan introduced Ernie Chacon to the Board. Mr. Chacon owns the ranch off of Ant Flat Road.
 - Mr. Chacon is very interested in serving on the Board. He explained he has been attempting to sell his ranch and just today has a person interested in purchasing. He would like to be part of the group but is hesitant due to the possibility of selling.
 - Darris Flanagan noted we would be glad to have him as an associate.
- c. Montana Forest Products Week and “Walk in the Woods and Timber Tour”
 - Mike Justus reported on the program and suggested a tour of the Flower Creek timber sale area; the shooting range/cross country ski trail; the new post and pole mill in Eureka.
 - Don Crawford suggested the rail road logging history.
 - Darris Flanagan noted the District would be glad to participate and recommended Mike Justus take the lead in the program.
- d. 319 Grant Application and Grant Writer / Mud Creek, Barry Roose
 - Staff reviewed the email we received from Eric Trum, DEQ on the Mud Creek project and qualifying for DEQ 319 funds. The e-mail listed the areas of concern the grant reviewers would question.
 - Mike Hensler noted the issue of pike in the waterway prevents the MtFW&P from supporting the project. If the pike can be controlled MtFW&P could support the project.
 - Based on fees charged from the 319 grant John Mulfield prepared for the Tobacco River Restoration project, staff estimated the cost to write the preliminary application to be \$1,800.00.
 - **Motion** by Don Crawford for the LCD Board to sponsor the DEQ 319 Grant application for the Mud Creek restoration project and to allow payment of 50% of the fees to write the preliminary grant not to exceed \$1,000.00. **Second** by Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**
 - Mike Hensler noted the water seepage from the GLID ditch could be a “no water” issue as well should the ditch be lined.
- e. 310 Information Sheet/Printing – Item tabled
- f. Libby Harvest Festival – Friday. September 16th, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 - Staff reported she may not be available to do this presentation. When she spoke with the coordinator, she recommended the trailer demonstrations be scheduled at specific times.
 - Don Crawford stated he could possibly do the presentations with Wayne Maahs.

- g. MACD “Administrator of the Year” and “Supervisor of the Year” Nominations
 - Staff recommend the Board nominate Wayne Maahs for “Supervisor of the Year”.
 - **Motion** by Valene Goff to nominate Wayne Maahs for the MACD “Supervisor of the Year”. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**
 - Darris Flanagan recommended the Board nominate Becky Lihme for “Administrator of the Year”.
 - **Motion** by Valene Goff to nominate Becky Lihme for MACD “Administrator of the Year”. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**
- h. Permissive Medical Mill Levy
 - As requested by the Board, staff presented the monthly medical insurance premiums for Blue Cross/Blue Shield; \$809.00.
 - Darris Flanagan recommended the Board approve to pay 80% of the medical premium since the employee is not full-time but at 80%. The amount would total \$640.00.
 - **Motion** by Valene Goff for the Lincoln Conservation District implement a permissive medical mill levy to cover the increase in cost of the group benefit plan for the employee in the amount of \$640.00. The mill levy amount shall be for the 2017 fiscal year. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**
- i. Lincoln Conservation District Final Budget FY2016/17
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the Lincoln Conservation District Final Budget FY 2016/17 as amended; Income and Expense of the Permissive Medical Mill Levy of \$7,380 each. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**

Unfinished Business:

- a. Participation Agreement with U.S.F.S
 - Staff will contact Hannah Hernandez to invite U.S.F.S. to the July Board Meeting in Libby.
- b. Grant Update.
 - 1. Tobacco River - Kassler
 - A. Phase 1 – DEQ 319 Grant – Land Owner Agreement
 - We are waiting for the signed contract for the grant.
 - B. Phase 2 - DNRC Reclamation Grant Application
 - Staff reported the grant has been submitted.
 - 2. 223 GLID – No update
 - 3. 223 Mud Creek
 - A. Conceptual Design – River Design Group - Reported on earlier
 - 4. 223 Yaak River Assessment – No update

Final Inspection Reports:

Li-05-01-16 – Byers, Griffin Creek

- Mike Justus will conduct the final inspection.

Li-02-02-15 – Leisz, Lake Creek – No report

On Sites Needed:

Open Mic and Other Business:

- Mike Hensler reported a fishing pond on Stewart Creek will not be permitted as it is off stream. It was recommended the property owner contact the conservation district for a water diversion.

The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at Weyerhauser, Libby, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darris Flanagan, Chairperson

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: _____

