

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
U.S. Forest Service Office, Eureka, Montana
June 21, 2017**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Wayne Maahs, Chairperson; Don Crawford, Vice Chairperson; Mike Justus; Mark Romey; Ernie Chacon; Valene Goff

Absent: Darris Flanagan, Excused

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s): Mike Hensler, MTFW&P; Brian Ressel, NRCS

District Administrator: Becky Lihme

Guest(s):

Called to order: 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Wayne Maahs

Public Comment:

Minutes:

a. May 2017

- **Motion** by Mark Romey to approve the minutes of May 2017 as presented; accept the excused absence of Valene Goff. **Second** by Mike Justus. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

a. May 2017

- Mike Justus reviewed the monthly financial report. **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the Financial Report for May 2017. **Second** Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Brian Ressel

- Stahl Peak still has 32 inches of snow; Grave Creek reports no snow. This spring had a nice steady and slow melt off.
- EQUIP provided additional funding as of today. A ninth pivot was approved for this year. The applicant also has a grazing plan.
- Twenty certificates for thinning and four pivots for 2017.

MTFW&P Report – Mike Hensler

- Mysis shrimp have been introduced into Whitefish and Swan Lakes for the trout population. They are beginning to cause problems and are being monitored in McGregor and Spar Lakes.
- Approximately 12 Kids Fishing Days have been held.
- The summer survey and inventory is in place.

District Administrator's Report

- Staff reviewed the Dutton 310 permit application we received. The applicant wants to harvest rock on Libby Creek on County property.

- News articles are in the Board Packet.
- Staff reported on the Administrator's Training:
 - The Board must approve excused and unexcused absences through a motion.
 - The District cannot withhold a 310 permit based on another public agency. We need to re-write our suction dredging letter. Don MacIntyre provided two samples. The Board made their selection.
 - For information purposes, Fergus Conservation District lost a court case involving two supervisors attending an on-site. The judge ruled the on-site was a sub-committee and the on-site should have been publicly noticed. This does not mean we would be under the same ruling. Per Don Macintyre, the Team Member Report should only have the name and signature of one supervisor, Mike Hensler, MTFW&P and the landowner.
 - When the District Office receives a 310 complaint, staff is to take the information that is on the Complaint Form. An on-site is then scheduled. A complainant does not need to complete or sign the complaint form.
- SWCDM is again requesting conservation districts to consider interns. The deadline to apply is July 28th. Item to be on the July agenda.
- Ernie Chacon is the only supervisor who needs a name badge.

Planning Board Report – Mark Romey

- The Planning Board recommended the North Star Subdivision be forwarded to the County Commissioners with conditions. Mark Romey voted no.
- Mike Hensler asked if the petitions are considered by the Planning Board.
- Mark Romey responded “no, the commissioners have the petitions”.

GLID Report

- Bentonite has been placed in the Rolling Hills portion of the ditch; some bentonite has been placed in Doxie Slough.
- A boat came loose from its mooring on Glen Lake.
- GLID applied for a DNRC Irrigation Development Grant to install protection along the shoreline of Glen Lake. Wakes are creating erosion.

SWCDM - Samantha Tappenbeck

310's

Li-06-01-17 – Walborn, Libby Creek

Li-06-02-17 – Walborn, Libby Creek

Li-06-06-17 – Peterson, Libby Creek

Li-06-07-17 – NW Montana Gold Prospectors, Libby Creek

Li-06-08-17 – NW Montana Gold Prospectors, Big Cherry Creek

- Wayne Maahs noted to entertain in one motion all the suction dredging applications.
- **Motion** by Valene Goff to approve Li-06-01-17; Li-06-02-17; Li-06-06-17; Li-06-07-17; Li-06-08-17 310 permit applications for 2 years with the suction dredging letter. **Second** by Mike Justus. **Motion passed.**

E-06-03-17 – Greer, Grave Creek

- Item tabled.

E-06-05-17- McCully, Mill Springs

- Mike Justus reviewed the project. Mr. McCully placed sandbags in the channel and pond and dredged the sediment. Mr. McCully wants to replace the existing culverts with larger. Mike recommended as mitigation to spread grass seed.
- **Motion** by Mike Justus to accept the action taken on E-06-05-17 with mitigation to include spread grass seed on side cast material. **Second** Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**

Li-06-04-17 – Backen, Bobtail Creek

- Wayne Maahs recommended the Board approve this application.
- Motion by Valene Goff to approved Li-06-04-17 with the stipulation the fence be removed prior to December 1st and re-installed after spring flow has passed. **Second** by Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**

Tabled 310's

New Business:

- a. Oath of Office; Valene Goff
- b. Lincoln Conservation District Final 2017/18 Budget
 - Staff reported our 310 Administrative Funds were less from the previous year and have been corrected on the Final Budget.
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the Lincoln Conservation District 2017/18 Final Operating Budget. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**
 - Staff commented she would like to ask Norma from Toland Accounting to assist her in setting up grant subaccounts in Quick Books. Board had no issue with this.
- c. August is Montana Conservation Month
 - Mike Justus noted LCD has the exhibit at the County Fair in August.
- d. 2016/17 Tree and Shrub Sales, Final Report
 - Staff was asked if the sales for this year are normal. She replied the sales do fluctuate each year. This year we had larger orders that brought our total sales figure higher.
- e. July 19th Board of Supervisor's Meeting

- Staff noted Wayne Maahs and Don Crawford will not attend the July Board Meeting. Mark Romey added he will not be in attendance either. If Mike Justus is called out on a fire we will not have a quorum.
- Mike Justus noted we could conduct the meeting via telephone.
- f. Li-05-13-17 – Hume Deep Creek – Re-visit
 - Ernie Chacon reported Deep Creek flow is undercutting at the location recommended by the Board. This is the “worst” place to install the bridge. The original site is the best location. The applicant will place 40 foot beams for the span.
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to relocate the bridge location to the original site noted in the 310 permit application. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**
- g. Local Work Group Meeting, August 16th, 3:30 p.m.
 - Staff reported she and Brian Ressel discussed the best date to hold the Local Work Group Meeting. Due to Brian’s schedule it is best to hold the meeting prior to a regular Board Meeting in Eureka (August).
- h. Yaak Valley Forest Council, Water Camp, July 19th & 20th
 - Staff reported Wayne nor Don are available to conduct the demonstration. The cost of mileage to Troy two days and being out of the office two days in a row may be too much. Staff suggested if the supervisors from Eureka would be willing to attend the demonstration on the 19th prior to the Board Meeting, this would be a good solution. Both Valene and Ernie were agreeable.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Grant Update
 - i. Tobacco River – Kassler
 - 1. Phase I – DEQ 319 Grant
 - Staff reported the Kick-off Meeting was held on June 19th. The project stakeholders met for a meeting to discuss the timeline and funding. An on-site of the project site followed the meeting.
 - 2. Phase 2 – DNRC Reclamation Grant Application
 - Phase 2 funding will be released in summer 2018. Dave Martin recommended we write a letter to DNRC requesting the funds to be released early since our project is “ready to go”.
 - ii. GLID

- iii. Mud Creek DEQ
 - 1. 319 Grant
 - 2. KRN RFP
 - Cindy Hemry, Forest Service Archeologist is eligible to conduct the archeological survey. We (LCD) would sign an independent contractor agreement with her to do the survey. She has not yet confirmed she will do the survey or given us a cost.
 - 3. Watershed Management Grant
- iv. 223 Stream Trailer
- b. Clark Fork WRP, Thompson River Drainage
 - Concern was mentioned over the dust created from traffic on the access road.
 - Wayne Maahs asked staff to remind Samantha Tappenbeck he is the LCD liaison.

Final Inspection Reports:

- Bobtail Creek to be placed on the July agenda.

On Sites Needed:

Open Mic and Other Business:

- Mike Justus reported to expect a 310 permit application from Corrine Fifield-Canavan for a project on the South Fork Yaak River.
- Wayne Maahs reported Brian Todd, upstream from Jerry Brown, has built a trailer pad above the creek. There is no evidence of work within the stream. Eco blocks have been placed at the project site.

The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Weyerhauser Office, Libby, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne Maahs, Chairperson

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: _____

