

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
U.S.F.S. Office, Eureka, Montana
February 18, 2015**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Don Crawford, Vice Chairperson; Wayne Maahs; Mark Romey; Valene Goff; Susan Ennenbach

Associate Supervisor(s): Tony Prato

Advisor(s): Kirk Sullivan, N.R.C.S.; Brian Ressel, N.R.C.S.; Mike Hensler, MtFW&P; Laura Jungst, U.S.F.S.

District Administrator: Becky Lihme

Guest(s): Abby Dresser, Ducks Unlimited, Advisor to N.R.C.S.; Patrick Lauridson, N.R.C.S., Area Biologist

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

Open Mic:

Presentation: Abby Dresser and Patrick Lauridson held a presentation on the N.R.C.S. Wetlands Reserve Easement Program.

Minutes –

Motion by Susan Ennenbach to approve the minutes of January 2015 as corrected. Page 5, second bullet change “will” to “well”. **Second** by Wayne Maahs. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report –

Motion by Wayne Maahs to approve the Financial Report for January 2015. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Kirk Sullivan/Brian Ressel

- Kirk Sullivan reported he is retiring next year. Brian Ressel will be attending the Eureka Board Meetings and Kirk will be attending those in Libby.
- Brian Ressel reported they should have news on the budget by the end of the week. At that time they can determine EQIP and WRE program funding.
- A pipeline survey was completed today to prepare for funding for that project.
- June is the deadline for obligation funding for EQIP.
- This week is the deadline for the EQIP Special Initiative.
- The Conservation Stewardship Program deadline is next week.
- The 2016 EQIP deadline is June 1st.
- Open enrollment for IWM is now. We have a few producers interested in the program.

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MtFW&P Report – Mike Hensler

- In 2012 the last regulation changes were done on the Kootenai River between Libby Dam and the Fisher River.
- Genetically unique Rainbow Trout are being caught in this area between the dam and Fisher River. Trout are being caught longer than 28"; 24 have been reported; 200 at 24".
- Rainbow Trout in Lake Koocanusa are being caught at 20" to 22".
- Every 4 years MtFW&P goes through regulation changes. Internal adjustments begin in 2015 and in 2016 external adjustments begin.

District Administrator's Report

- Volunteer hours were recorded for January.
- News article is in the Board Packets.
- We received a letter from the Corps of Engineers regarding a violation by Roy Mulroy on Lap Creek.
- DEQ sent a letter for the MPDES Permit Public Meeting Notice for Libby Dam.
- We received the dues membership for NACD. This will be placed on the March agenda.
- The National Watershed Coalition sent a membership form.
- Larry Benson will be asking for the District to reimburse the registration fee for two Envirothon. The educational training sessions will be coming up in April for anyone available to assist.

GLID Report

- Valene Goff reported three Board Members attended the RRGL Grant Legislature meeting in Helena to promote the GLID grant application for the Costage Drop repair. It was suggested at the meeting a new option for GLID is to produce hydro-electric power for future funding.

310's

Li-02-01-15 – Kern, Star Creek

- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to approve Li-02-01-15 for two years, as presented with standard suction dredging letter. **Second** by Don Crawford.
- Mike Hensler noted DEQ is making changes to their suction dredging permitting.
- **Motion passed.**

Li-02-02-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #1

Li-02-03-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #2

Li-02-04-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #3

Li-02-05-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #4

Li-02-06-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #5

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Li-02-07-15 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #6

Li-02-08-14 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative, Sinclair Creek, Bore #7

- Susan Ennenbach noted all permits presented are along Sinclair Creek.
- **Motion** by Susan Ennenbach to approve Li-02-02-15, Li-02-03-15, Li-02-04-15, Li-02-05-15, Li-02-06-15, Li-02-07-15, Li-02-08-15 as presented with Standard BMP's. **Second** by Mark Romey.
- Laura Jungst reported the previous contractor was leaving excess material in culverts.
- Mike Hensler suggested the Board review any dredged material filling culverts.
- **Motion passed.**

Tabled 310's

New Business:

- a. MACD By-Laws Survey
 - The Board completed the survey to be returned to MACD.
- b. Spring 310 Permit/Emergency Action Advertisement
 - Staff presented the price quotes we have received thus far and prices from last year ads the same size as 2014. Costs for these ads will be covered under 310 Administrative funds.
 - **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to submit advertisements for spring run-off in the Tobacco Valley News, The Western News and Kootenai Valley Record. **Second** by Valene Goff. **Motion passed.**
- c. DNRC Chairperson/Vice Chairperson Workshop Report
 - Don Crawford reviewed the presentation. The first speaker was excellent. The discussion of open meetings and rules was particularly important. If we have 4 supervisors gathered it is a public meeting. Also, when corresponding via e-mails, we need to make certain we are not making a decision.
 - Wayne Maahs added, the point being, during a team meeting for 310 projects avoid making a recommendation if 4 or more supervisors are present.
 - Mark Romey commented a recommendation is not a decision.
 - Wayne Maahs replied if the team makes a recommendation, the courts could say this was a decision.
 - Agreement was with Mark Romey.
 - Staff reported at the New Supervisor Workshop it was discussed that should it be known a quorum will be present at an on-site, an agenda should be posted 48 hours in advance. Should 4 or more supervisors be at an on-site unexpectedly, a notation in the following month's minutes will be sufficient.

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- Don Crawford reported if a meeting is being held via teleconference the party(s) must remain on the conference call for the entire meeting; not just the items requiring a vote.
- Wayne Maahs added this includes skyping.

d. Stream Trailer “Goodie Bags”

- Staff reported we have the bags, but no “goodies”. **Motion** by Valene Goff to approve \$250.00 for the purchase of “goodies”. **Second** by Susan Ennenbach. **Motion passed.**

Old Business:

- a. Planning Board Update/Mark Romey
 - Mark Romey reported the Planning Board did not meet.
- b. Western States Competitive Grant
 - No report
- c. Lincoln Conservation District Model Rules –
 - Wayne Maahs reported on the current draft.
 - Page 7 Rule 5 (3) After the discussion at the January Meeting, the jurisdiction will be at the immediate banks of the Kootenai River.
 - Mike Hensler asked do you feel you still need to specify for the Kootenai River.
 - Wayne Maahs replied it is best if we specify to the fluctuation of water released at the dam.
 - Page 8 (7) Wayne read the current rule and staff read the revised.
 - Don Crawford would like to include the most current USGS mapping.
 - Staff noted we do not have those copies; our maps are from 1963. The writing and information staff suggested is from the Flathead Conservation District Model Rules.
 - It was determined to use the staff listing for ways to determine if a stream is perennial.
 - Page 21 (5) Wayne reported to delete this section. From the 1995 Model Rules onward this is covered under LAW.
 - Wayne reported he is not including Chapter 2 (Guidelines). If the Board wants to modify these guidelines and they are under the Model Rules, a public hearing would need to be held. The next step is for staff to “clean-up” and send this draft to Laurie Zeller and Don MacIntyre for feedback. We would then hold a public meeting and adopt the new Model Rules. Wayne recommended to hold the Public Meeting prior to a regular Board Meeting in Libby.

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- Mark Romey recommended holding two meetings; one in Libby and one in Eureka. This was agreed to by the Board.
- Wayne Maahs asked the Model Rules be placed on the District website for the public to review prior to the Public Meeting.

d. DNRC Reclamation Planning Grant Update

- No Report

e. Landowner Workshop

- Staff noted she would like to use paid advertisement for the workshop. This will give use the best exposure.
- Darris Flanagan suggested using an insert. It may less expensive.
- Staff distributed the flier. The date is Saturday, April 18th. Holding the workshop on Saturday should increase our participation. Our speakers will be Dan Williams presenting herbicides, Melissa Maggio speaking on biological and staff will talk to the Forest Service to speak on identification.
- Don Crawford suggested speaking on “mechanical” means of controlling weeds; for example pulling and mowing.
- Staff suggested the District pay for the lunches. Six foot sub sandwiches can be purchased from Subway for \$90.00 and will serve 20 to 24 people. We can include pasta salads and beverages.
- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to approve \$400.00 for the cost of advertising and providing lunches to the participants. Staff to use her judgement on the selections. **Second** by Don Crawford. **Motion passed.**

f. Emery Li-12-02-14 Update

- Wayne Maahs will contact Mr. Emery.

.Final Inspection Reports:

- a. Plum Creek Timberlands, Crazymen Creek – Table
- b. Plum Creek Timberlands, Tributary of Cruian Creek – Table
- c. Taylor, Libby Creek - Table
- d. Stoltze Lumber, Meadow Creek - Table

On Sites Needed:

Open Mic and Other Business:

- Mark Romey commented on the county road on Lake Creek; near the Davis property.
- Wayne Maahs volunteered to call Commissioner(s) Larson or Peck and ask about any discussion or plans for the county road.

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- Susan Ennenbach thanked Mark Romey for his representing us on the County Planning Board. The Planning Board report to be moved up on the agenda with the staff and advisor monthly reports.
- Mike Hensler asked the Board to consider working with the county to present a contractor workshop. Mike received a telephone call on Crystal Lake (Happy's Inn) that the water is turning red. It was found that Alder pollens were turning the water red.
- Wayne Maahs reported the Board must allow public comment on items on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. If we wait until the end of the meeting, we would have to go back in the agenda.

The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at the Plum Creek Timberlands Office, Eureka, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darris Flanagan, Chairperson

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: _____

