

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Weyerhauser Office, Libby, Montana
July 18, 2017**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Wayne Maahs, Chairperson; Mike Justus; Ernie Chacon; Darris Flanagan

Absent: Valene Goff; Mark Romey; Don Crawford

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s): Mike Hensler, MTFW&P

District Administrator: Becky Lihme

Guest(s): Angel Rosario, N.R.C.S.; Kate Arpin, SWCDM

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

Public Comment:

Minutes:

- a. June 2017
 - **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve the minutes of June 2017 as corrected. Under New Business, Item F “The applicant will place 40 foot beams for the span to change to “35 foot beams.” **Second** by Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**
- b. Permissive Medical Mill Levy Public Hearing, May 2017
 - **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve the minutes of the Permissive Medical Mill Levy Public Hearing, May 2017 as presented. **Second** by Mike Justus. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

- a. June 2017
 - Mike Justus reviewed the monthly financial report. **Motion** by Mike Justus to approve the Financial Report for June 2017. **Second** Darris Flanagan. **Motion passed.**
- b. Fiscal Year 2016/17 Final
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to accept the Fiscal Year 2016/17 Final Budget report. **Second** by Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Angel Rosario

- Angel reported he is the acting District Conservationist for Lincoln County
- Information on the hiring freeze is being released slowly. Montana has been allowed to hire five (5) new employees; only one in the Missoula area. An administrative vacant position has been filled. The Eureka Office District Conservationist position is still in “limbo”.

MTFW&P Report – Mike Hensler

- The illegal activity conducted by Lincoln County on Callahan Creek is still an issue. The county needs to “make it right”. Mr. Welch and county officials must come to an agreement.

District Administrator's Report

- Volunteer hours were recorded.
- There is one newspaper article in the Board Packet.
- The 2017 Area V Meeting will be held on September 26th in Missoula.
- A Supervisor and Administrator Workshop has been scheduled on October 31st and November 1st in Great Falls.
- A stream trailer demonstration was held at the County Library in Eureka. Thirty youngsters attended.
- The theme for this years' county fair is “Kids, Crops and Critters”. Staff will highlight our youth programs and Brian Ressel will provide information on NRCS programs and cover crops. We can use livestock fencing as the “critters”.
- Staff will be out of the office on Monday, July 24th.

Planning Board Report – Mark Romey

GLID Report – Valene Goff

SWCDM - Samantha Tappenbeck

310's

Li-07-01-17 – Dutton, Libby Creek

- The Board discussed if we (LCD) can issue a permit without a landowner signature; the application is not complete.
- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to deny Li-07-01-17; the application is incomplete.
- **Motion withdrawn.**
- **Motion** by Ernie Chacon to table Li-07-01-17. **Second** by Darris Flanagan. **Motion passed.**

Li-07-02-17 – Beaumont, Meadow Creek

- Darris Flanagan reported on the application and project. He and Ernie Chacon conducted the on-site and recommend approving the application.
- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve Li-07-02-17 with the modification to place rock armor at the inlet. **Second** by Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**

Li-07-03-17 – InterBel Telephone Cooperative – Stewart Creek #2

- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve Li-07-03-17 as presented. **Second** by Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**

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C-07-04-17 – Peterson, Wolf Creek

- Wayne Maahs reported he contacted Mr. Peterson for a better description of the location. Wayne is 99% certain he was able to locate the site and viewed the area. There are two (2) locations that it is barely viable an excavator had been there. A small opening has been made in the vegetation. Possibly to create an access for cattle. The Montana Cadastral shows the Montana Department of Transportation as the owner.
- **Motion** by Mike Justus to table C-07-04-17 pending comments/information from DNRC. **Second** by Darris Flanagan. **Motion passed.**

C-07-05-17- Green, Callahan Creek

- Wayne Maahs reported he visited the site and tried to contact Mr. Cook, however the phone number had been disconnected.
- Mike Hensler reported no further work has been reported.
- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to declare C-07-05-17 “no violation” as LCD is unable to contact the alleged violator and no work has been observed. **Second** Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**

New Business Item e. MACD Website Design Assistance Moved

- Staff reported Kate Arpin, SWCDM, came to the office last week to assist in updating the current district website. We currently have a contract with Jonathan Netzloff to host and maintain the website. When we signed with Mr. Netzloff he owned his computer and website design business. He now works for the school district. Jonathan currently charges \$120.00 per year to host. Now that SWCDM has hired Kate to assist conservation districts this would be good partnership.
- Kate Arpin explained the program with SWCDM. By partnering with the conservation districts the hosting charge is approximately \$50.00 per year. Other advantages of partnering with SWCDM are website built-ins are pre-approved; updates and information between districts can be shared such as open employment positions.
- Staff explained Mr. Netzloff has been annually invoicing the District at the end of August. We have the opportunity to provide 30 contract cancellation notice prior to the next invoice.
- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to cancel the current contract with Jonathan Netzloff for website hosting and maintenance with 30 day written notice. **Second** by Ernie Chacon. **Motion passed.**
- Mike Justus asked how long SWCDM's website service will be available.
- Ms. Arpin replied we (SWCDM) currently have funding for two years, but anticipate seeking funds beyond that time.

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Tabled 310's

E-06-03-17 – Greer, Grave Creek

- Darris Flanagan reported the work has been completed.
- Mike Hensler asked if the work had held up.
- Darris Flanagan responded, so far.
- Mike Justus asked if he (Darris) was happy with the work.
- Darris Flanagan responded yes and noted Bob Cuffe did the work.
- Mike Justus recommended the Board approve the emergency action with no remediation required.
- **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve E-06-03-17 as completed. No further remediation is required. **Second** by Mike Justus. **Motion passed.**

New Business:

- a. Oath of Office; Valene Goff
- b. NRCS EEO Annual Review
 - Angel Resario presented and reviewed the “Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist”.
- c. Lincoln Conservation District FY 2018 Operating Budget Amendment
 - Staff reported she added the subaccounts for the current grant programs and the Permissive Medical Mill Levy amount was adjusted to reflect the reduction from the Medical Stipend.
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to amend the Lincoln Conservation District FY 2018 Operating Budget Amendment. **Second** by Darris Flanagan. **Motion passed.**
- d. BSWVC Internships
 - Staff reviewed the information sent by Samantha Tappenbeck. Staff has discussed with Brian Ressel the possibility of partnering with NRCS. Our dilemma is having sufficient work and office space for an intern.
 - Angel Resario described the intern program in Flathead. Several agencies share the intern for assistance and the cost. NRCS provides the work space.
 - The Board discussed possibly partnering with Yaak Valley Forest Council and Kootenai River Network. It was noted the travel distance to the Yaak could be an issue as well as funding assistance from both agencies.
 - Angel Resario added a vehicle is provided by NRCS for the intern.
 - **Motion** by Mike Justus to decline the BSWC Internship Program; the program does not fit into the LCD work plan. **Second** by Darris Flanagan. **Motion passed.**

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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 final design for both Phase I and Phase II will be included with the 319 Grant and the grant will be extended to 2019. Eric Trum will be sending us an amended contract
 - 2. Phase 2 – DNRC Reclamation Grant Application
 - Phase 2 funding will be released in summer 2018. We have requested the funding be released earlier to provide a smooth transition from Phase I to Phase II construction.
 - ii. GLID
 - Staff reported Valene Goff had contacted her the project has been completed. Valene will complete the grant final report.
 - iii. Mud Creek DEQ
 - 1. 319 Grant
 - 2. KRN RFP
 - Cindy Hemry, Forest Service Archeologist has agreed to complete the archeological survey this fall. Jim Dunnigan stated the grant should pay Cindy's fees.
 - 3. Watershed Management Grant
- b. Clark Fork WRP, Thompson River Drainage
 - Ernie Chacon asked about the survey. Staff noted to respond to the survey from the e-mail that was forwarded.

Final Inspection Reports:

On Sites Needed:

- An on-site will need to be scheduled for the Canavan-Fifield project on the South Fork of the Yaak River.

Open Mic and Other Business:

- Staff reported the Yaak Valley Forest Council withdrew from their presentation today for the sponsorship of the DNRC Watershed Grant. They will wait until the next round of applications.

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The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the U.S. Forest Service Office, Eureka, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne Maahs, Chairperson

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: _____

