

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

Zoom

March 17, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Wayne Maahs, Vice-Chairperson; Katrina Newton; Laura Garner; Kathleen Johnson; Don Crawford

Absent: Mike Garner

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s): Brian Stephens, MTFW&P, Brian Ressel, NRCS

District Administrator: Rae Lynn Hays

Guest(s):

Called to order: 4:02 p.m. by Chairperson, Darris Flanagan

Public Comment: None

Minutes:

- February 2021
 - **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to approve the minutes of February 2021 meeting as presented. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

- February 2021
 - **Motion** by Kathleen Johnson to approve the February 2021 financial report as presented. **Second** by Laura Garner. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Brian Ressel

- NRCS hired a new part-time administrative assistant, Bill Barrett. Snowpack levels have not changed significantly and are about 85 percent of normal.

MTFW&P Report – Brian Stephens

- MTFW&P is wrapping up Burbot sampling on Koocanusa and moving down below Kootenai Falls. Brian will be attending upcoming trainings including a watercraft inspection training and a stream permitting workshop.

District Administrator's Report – Rae Lynn Hays

- Volunteer hours were recorded.
- The Kootenai River Network will not be submitting a grant proposal for water quality monitoring. The data can be obtained at a latter time by the state.
- The LCD email should be working correctly at this time.
- Rae Lynn participated in a QuickBooks training and learned how to improve record keeping for the LCD.
- Rae Lynn participated in a Zoom meeting regarding potential cost share funding program for landowners impacted by the Caribou and Gibraltar Fires in 2017.

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Potential projects could include tree removal, reseeding, weed control, and tree planting.

- There will be a board training on May 12 for local government boards in Libby and Eureka.
- The Pollinator Initiative will start soon and be promoted on the website and social media.
- The office has been relocated to the North Lincoln County Annex.

Planning Board Report – Laura Garner

- No Report

310's

C-03-01-21 – Maahs, Thompson, Lake Creek

- Wayne Maahs reported that Thompson Contracting removed a logjam when cleaning up a DEQ site. It was not permitted but walking the excavator back up the creek is not advisable. Mr. Thompson seeded the area and agreed to cover it with straw.
- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to C-03-01-21 a violation and recommend spreading straw along the banks to cover it for mitigation. **Second** by Don Crawford.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-03-02-21 – Eaves, Yorlum, Brimstone Creek

- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to postpone Li-03-02-21 until the next meeting. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-03-03-21 – Smith, Yorlum, Brimstone Creek

- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to postpone Li-03-03-21 until the next meeting. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-03-04-21 – Gorum, Yorlum, Brimstone Creek

- Darris Flanagan reported that he has been in contact with the ranch manager. The owner is willing to permit an onsite inspection but does not want it open to the public.
- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to postpone Li-03-04-21 until the next meeting. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson.
- **Motion** passed.

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Li-3-05-21 – Hanson, Therriault Creek

- Laura Garner said the timbers are rotting on a cattle crossing and the owner plans to remove them with machinery. This will not impact the stream. The crossing includes a gravel approach on both sides. Mr. Hanson also plans to fix the fence. There is minor downfall that will remain in place.
- **Motion** by Kathleen Johnson to approve Li-03-05-21 as presented and waive the 15-day rule. **Second** by Laura Garner.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-03-06-21 – Chapman, Kootenai River

- Wayne Maahs conducted the site visit and said the proposed construction is not near the stream and does not fall within the CD's jurisdiction.
- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs that Li-03-06-21 is not a project. **Second** by Don Crawford.
- **Motion** passed.

Tabled 310's

Li-02-03-21 – Chase, Bear Creek

- **Motion** by Don Crawford to deny Li-02-03-21 because it is within a section of Bear Creek that is closed to stream dredging. **Second** by Wayne Maahs. **Opposed** by Darris Flanagan.
- **Motion passed.**

Li-02-05-21, Curtiss, Roberts Creek

- Don Crawford reported that Roberts Creek is currently a dry streambed. If it was a new structure, he would propose to deny it. However, Mr. Curtiss told the team he had paperwork from DNRC indicating he had permission for the dam. **Motion** by Don Crawford to postpone Li-02-05-21 until the next meeting. Don asked Rae Lynn to gather more information about permitting an existing dam and to see if the DNRC paperwork can be provided to the board. Darris Flanagan noted the unusual circumstances of this application and the board should not routinely postpone applications this long. **Second** by Darris Flanagan. Kathleen Johnson abstained.
- **Motion passed.**

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New Business:

- **Model 310 Enforcement Policy**
 - Requires further review.
 - Postponed until next meeting
- **310 Admin Grant**
 - Rae Lynn Hays discussed the grant. Since the LCD maintains a savings account, there is no current need to obtain additional operational funding.
 - **No Motion. Failed**
- **Social Media Policy**
 - Rae Lynn Hays will develop a policy for the next board meeting.
- **310 Acceptance Procedure**
 - Postpone until next meeting
- **Rae Lynn Hays Evaluation**
 - **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to make Rae Lynn Hays a permanent employee with an increase in pay that will reflect the change in status. **Second** by Laura Garner. Kathleen Johnson abstained.
 - **Motion passed.**

Unfinished Business:

- **New Personnel Model Policy**
 - Mike Garner, Laura Garner, Darris Flanagan and Rae Lynn Hays will meet March 24 at 11 am to work on this item.
 - Postpone until next meeting.
- **Grant Update**
 - Tobacco River – Kassler
 - Phase 1
 - Phase 2 – DEQ 319 Grant
 - Maintenance Funding – no change on this project.

Final Inspection Reports

- Li – 06-04-20, Schuman Crystal Creek

Open Mic and Other Business

Wayne Maahs reported that Doug Miller sent a 310 application after the agenda deadline. Maahs informed Mr. Miller that his application would be considered at the April meeting.

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The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the conference room of the North Lincoln County Annex in Eureka as well as conducted via Zoom to adhere to COVID19 guidelines.

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darris Flanagan, Chairperson

Rae Lynn Hays, District Administrator

Date: _____