

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
American Forest Management Office, Libby
July 20, 2022, 4:00 p.m.**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Kathleen Johnson Chairperson; Laura Garner; Darris Flanagan;

Mike Garner, Katrina Newton, John DeLeo

Absent: Don Crawford

Associate Supervisor(s): Wayne Maahs

Advisor(s): Brian Stephens, MT FW&P, Brian Ressel, NRCS, Keith Karoglanian, USFS
District Administrator Rae Lynn Hays

Guest(s): Will Vincent

Called to order: 4:07 p.m. by Chairperson, Kathleen Johnson

Public Comment: Will Vincent informed the supervisors about a bridge failure across the Fisher River. When the state rerouted the highway, the stream was also rerouted. While the bridge is on state property, the landowners were told that the bridge would be given to them, and the state would no longer provide maintenance. Mr. Vincent asked the supervisors if steel pilings would be acceptable. The existing pilings have been in place since 1938. Darris Flanagan said he did not see an immediate issue with using steel, but the supervisors would consider what the landowners' engineer recommends.

Minutes:

- June 15, 2022, Meeting Minutes
 - **Motion** by Darris Flanagan to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2022, Meeting. **Second** by Mike Garner. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

- June 2022 Financial Report
 - Laura Garner provided the Treasurer's Report to the board.
 - **Motion** by Darris F. to approve the June 2022 Financial Report. **Second** by Mike G. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Brian Ressel

- Brian Ressel reported that NRCS has been working on federal contracting and getting individual projects obligated. They are hoping to have this work completed by the end of July. The only program that the agency does not have ready yet are the high tunnels. Locally, NRCS has provided funding for over 50 high tunnels.

MTFW&P Report – Brian Stephens

- No report

District Administrator's Report – Rae Lynn Hays

- Volunteer hours were recorded
- Rae Lynn reported that a realtor contacted the office asking about the possibility of having docks on the Kootenai River as many clients are wondering about constructing them. Flathead CD prohibits this practice. The board may want to consider how to handle the situation if it becomes a problem. Laura G. said the planning department has been approving docks. Rae Lynn asked if that is on lakes or on perennial streams as that would also require a 310.
- Rae Lynn also reported on a native grass seed program that is being offered by Flathead CD. Individuals can purchase the seed at CHS. CHS bills the Flathead CD for their portion of the cost share. \$2,500 is allocated to this program. This is something that the Lincoln CD discussed offering as a cost share and will include in the 2022/2023 budget.

Planning Board Report – Laura Garner

- The planning board reviewed an application for an RV park south of Libby at Happy's Inn. The applicant is planning the project in four phases. The first phase will be implemented next year. The project will include 67 RV sites and a dozen tent sites. The project was approved.

310's

E-07-01-22 – Flanagan, Grave Creek

- Kathleen Johnson, Brian Stephens, and Mike Justus conducted the onsite inspection. Kathleen J. reported that the landowner placed boulders to shore up the bank to save an irrigation pivot. No further action is required. Brian S. recommends looking at the site again when the water comes down to see if any additional work will be required.
- **Motion** by Laura G. to accept E-07-01-22 and approve the emergency action. **Second** by John DeLeo.
- **Motion** passed. Darris F. abstained.

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C-07-02-22– Burnett, Ostrowski, Kootenai River

- John D. and Brian S. conducted the site visit. The landowner removed debris along the stream bank near where the home was built. The home is located approximately 30 ft from the streambank. The landowner was not aware of the 310-permitting process. Mr. Burnett was cautioned that removing stumps could cause bank instability. The recommendation is to require the landowner to submit a 310 permit to revegetate the area and stabilize the streambank.
- **Motion** by Mike G. to declare C-07-02-22 a violation of the 310 Law. The Landowner should submit a 310 permit to revegetate the area and stabilize the streambank. **Second** by Darris F.
- **Amended motion** by Mike G. that landowner must also submit a 310 permit by September 14. **Second** by Darris F.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-07-03-22– Miller, The Pit

- There is no water flowing from a perennial stream into this pond
- **Motion** by Darris F. to declare Li-07-03-22, not a project. **Second** by Mike G.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-07-04-22, Leader, Keeler Creek

- John D. and Brian S. conducted the site visit. The applicant proposes to grade the road prism for proper placement of riprap that will not extend into the stream and will be stable against the bank. The area around the culvert will be graded so that riprap can be extended from the water's edge to 75 percent of the culvert height. The outlet will be extended, and the area will be revegetated.
- **Motion** by John D. to accept Li-07-04-22 as a project, approve as proposed, and waive the 15-day wait period. **Second** by Mike G.
- **Motion** passed.

Li-07-05-22, Whitson, Quartz Creek

- John D. and Brian S. conducted the site visit. Erosion caused a road washout that is the only way into the property. A contractor attempted to fix the road washout by armoring the area without a 310 permit. The inspection team recommends extending the repair measures upstream an additional 30-40 ft to ensure erosion does not occur behind the new armoring. The contractor should use riprap of sufficient size and remove the tree and brush that is located downstream. John D. also inquired as to whether the CD requires engineering on proposed projects such as this.
- **Motion** by Darris F. to declare Li-07-05-22 a violation of the 310 Law. **Second** by Laura G.
- **Motion** passed.

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- **Motion** by Darris F. to accept Li-07-05-22 as a project, approve the project with modifications and waive the 15-day wait period. Modifications include extending the proposed repair upstream an additional 30-40 feet, using 2+ riprap and removing the tree and brush that is in the stream down from the current construction. The applicant should also obtain the landowner's signature on the 310. **Second** by Laura G.

- **Motion** passed

Li-07-06-22, Fiscus, Pipe Creek

- John D. and Brian S. conducted the site visit. The applicant wants to clean up a couple of point bars. A section of the stream has been eroded, trees have fallen, and Mr. Fiscus would like to armor the bank to protect it. During the inspection, the applicant indicated he may want to make some changes to his plan. Brian S. recommended that the board postpone a decision until Mr. Fiscus provides information about his new plan as well as anchor points.
- Motion by John D. to deny Li-07-06-22, ask the applicant to submit a new application with more specific information and identify anchor point as well as conduct the work after fish migration in September. Second by Darris F.
- Motion passed.

Postponed 310's

E-06-02-22, Dunlap, Murphy Creek

- Darris F. explained that Ms. Dunlap hired River Design Group to place rocks and deepen a section of Murphy Creek to increase flow for irrigation. Darris said the situation was an emergency and the action was appropriate. The applicant will be submitting a 310 application for additional work to be completed.
- Motion by Darris F. to accept the emergency action with no further work required. **Second** by Laura G.
- Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

• **Pull Your Share Program**

- Rae Lynn H. explained the Pull Your Share Program. Grant money is available to provide five signs to LCD. The signs identify weeds and encourage people to pull weeds in the area. Other organizations partner with schools and place the signs in public locations. A classroom typically adopts a site and revisits it on a yearly basis to learn about conservation, the importance of weed management, and the sponsoring organization's role in conservation. The sponsoring organization typically provides gloves and tools for pulling weeds.
- **Motion** by Mike G. to sponsor the Pull Your Share Program. Suggestions for sites should be sent to Rae Lynn. **Second** by Darris F.
- **Motion** passed unanimously.

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Unfinished Business:

- **Final 2022-2023 Budget**
 - Postponed until August or September meeting
- **NRCS MOU**
 - LCD has not received an updated MOU
- **Website**
 - Laura G. said the committee has not had an opportunity to meet.
- **Best Management Practices Document**
 - Rae Lynn H. left a message with Jason Garber at DNRC to discuss the document
- **LCD Strategic Plan**
 - Rae Lynn will send a copy of the document back out to the supervisors.

Final Inspection Reports

Open Mic and Other Business –

Meeting adjourned at 5: p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Johnson, Chairperson

Rae Lynn Hays, District Administrator

Date: _____