

LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING  
ZOOM

June 6, 4:00 p.m.

**Attendance:**

Board of Supervisors: Kathleen Johnson, Chair (Don Crawford; John DeLeo; Gary Pershall

Absent: Joe Lewicki

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s):

District Administrator: Rae Lynn Hays

Administrative Assistant: Rhonda Rockwell (during AIS Discussion)

Guest(s):

**Called to order:** 4:15 p.m. by Kathleen Johnson, Chair

**Public Comment:** None

**New Business:**

- **District Administrator**

- The committee interviewed three candidates. Gary Pershall said Rhonda Rockwell stood out above the other candidates. She has a passion for conservation, has the background, and a desire to learn. She is the committee's recommendation for the district administrator position. It is recommended that her pay start out at \$17/hour and then re-evaluate after the probationary period.
- **Motion** by John DeLeo. to hire Rhonda Rockwell as the district administrator at \$17.00/hr. **Second** by Gary P.
- **Motion** passes unanimously.

- **Grant Administrator**

- Gary P. said he reviewed the Independent Contractor Agreement from Rae Lynn Hays to serve as the grant administrator for the district and did not see any issues with it.
- Kathleen Johnson asked what would happen if the district wanted to extend it beyond the end date. Rae Lynn H. said the contract contains a clause permitting the extension if both parties agree.
- **Motion** by Don C. to sign the contract with Rae Lynn Hays of Sagemore Associates for grant administration. **Second** by John D.
- **Motion** passes unanimously. Kathleen J. abstains.

- **AIS Staffing**

- The board discussed staffing. Since Rhonda R. has been hired as the district administrator, she can no longer work as the site lead at the AIS station. Rhonda R. said she adjusted the schedule for the remainder of June. John Fetterholf said he could take on some additional hours for June but may not want to work full-time for the remainder of the season.

# LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

June 6, 2024

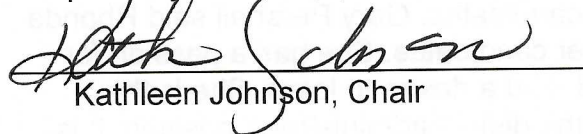
Page 2


- Rae Lynn H. suggested an internal hiring process for a site lead and ask John if he would like additional hours. If not, the board might consider hiring a part-time inspector.
- **Motion** by Gary P. to open up the site lead position internally and advertise for a part-time inspector if existing staff does not want to work the extra hours. **Second** by John D.
- **Motion** passes unanimously.
- **Neumann Litigation Executive Session**
  - The LCD's attorney has not returned any phone calls or responded to emails for several months. John DeLeo said he will make an appointment with the firm to discuss the attorney's lack of communication..

## Open Mic and Other Business –

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Kathleen Johnson, Chair

  
Rae Lynn Hays, District Administrator

Date: 6-19-24

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
Lincoln County Annex, Eureka  
June 19, 2024, 4:00 pm**

**Attendance:**

Board of Supervisors:

Kathleen Johnson, Chair; Don Crawford; John DeLeo (zoom); Gary Pershall, Joe Lewicki

Absent:

Associate Supervisor(s):

Advisor(s): Brian Stephens

District Administrator: Rhonda Rockwell

Guest(s): Josh Malpass, Ed Braaten, Randy Evins

**Called to order:** 4:00 p.m. by Kathleen Johnson, Chair

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:**

- May 15 regular meeting minutes
- **Motion** by Gary Pershall to approve the May 15 minutes  
**Second** Don Crawford
- **Motion** Passes unanimously
- PMML Meeting Minutes
- **Motion** by Don Crawford to approve the PMML Meeting Minutes  
**Second** Gary Pershall
- **Motion** passes unanimously
- June 6 Special Meeting
- **Motion Gary**
- **Second Don**
- **Motion** Passes unanimously

**Volunteer hours were recorded**

**310's**

**Li-05-08-24, Northern Lights, Lake Creek**

- Josh Malpass, water resource engineer with Water Environmental Technologies was present to answer any questions. Don Crawford and John DeLeo went on the site visit along with Brian. Brian Stephens explained the team report. He is not concerned about the turbidity this project will create seeing the plan the company has. A concern is sediment, and there has and will be testing and a monitoring and turbidity plan in place to limit sediment turbidity. A concern Brian brought up was with the clamshell approach to dredging and how effective that would be. Josh stated that the contractor doing the work has done other similar projects and Josh is confident that the project will be successful in effectively dredging the area. There is also an additional turbidity plan in place to mitigate upstream and further reduce risk. John DeLeo asked if samples were done to determine the ratio of silt vs rock. Josh stated the biology team will need to be consulted to answer that question. Don Crawford asked what their approach will be to

hauling away silt that has a lot of water. Josh said that based on surveys done on the area, they have some solid areas of silt. They will move the clamshell slowly to the trucks. Also, based on turbidity, they may stop dredging to let areas settle down. The dump zone of sediment is well planned.

- **Motion** by Don Crawford to accept the application and approve the project as presented.  
**Second** by John DeLeo
- **Motion** passes unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

- John DeLeo presented the financial report
- **Motion** by Joe Lewicki to approve the Treasurer's Report
- **Second** by Don C.
- **Motion** passed unanimously

### **MT FW&P-Brian Stephens**

- Brian shared that the sampling crew caught a 130-pound white sturgeon. The state record being 96 lbs. It was most likely a hatchery fish, found below Kootenai Falls.

### **District Admin Report -Rhonda Rockwell-**

- Rhonda, Kathleen and Rae Lynn attended the LWG in May. Gary asked if they (DNRC) has any money for new projects. Kathleen answered yes. Rae had given a report on what LCD had been doing at the LWG meeting. Rhonda mentioned that at the boat check station, we will hire a new site lead and a new tech. We have a Facebook ad, and a newspaper ad to advertise the position. Tom Wolf had visited the station on his way to Canada and that is a boost to the crew. There are 21 mussel fouled boats in the state so far. There was discussion on boat movement and mussel fouled boats getting launched nearby. There as Secret shopper visit and the station passed with flying colors. Gary asked how the hot wash machine was doing. Rhonda said we have a brand-new machine. Don inquired about mystery snails and if they are a concern, Rhonda said they all are of concern whether plants or animals. She explained that even so, quagga and zebra mussels can clog our dam and are a more scary one. Ed asked how the mussels get on boats. Rhonda explained the life stages and movement of mussels along with Gary.

### **310s**

#### **C-10-02-22, Neumann, Phillips, Fisher River**

- John DeLeo had brought up during the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting that the attorneys' lack of communication should be addressed. Kathleen offered to go with him to the attorney's office. John had only recently received case information to review, so they will plan on going after that information is reviewed.

#### **Li-06-01-24, Benedict, Sinclair Creek**

- Brian Stephens explained his team report. He mentioned this is a 310 application after the work was complete. Linda was not aware that she needed one. Her intentions were to harden the bank and restrict horses' use of 20-25' of bank. Riprap was used to armor bank in to 2 spots. Brian asked Linda if riprap had been bedded or simply placed. Linda said it is simply placed. His thoughts were that this is a violation- with no mitigation required, and to approve the 310 application. It needs to be very clearly stated that the work completed should have been bedded. There is a low risk of failure, and modifying would cause further undue disturbance. Other work she applied for does not fall in the CDs jurisdiction. Hailey Graff's recommendation about procedure was that landowner had a violation because she did not have a 310 prior to the work. Her recommendation about the 310 application after the work was complete, was that we must act on it.

John D. asked Brian if he thought the rip rap was unstable. Brian said no, it wasn't unstable, just not bedded. John asked if we should plan a site visit after spring run-off to make sure it hasn't shifted. Brian S. said that the project is not likely to fail. If anything, there would be a small shift over many years. The riprap is large, (2') and river rock is 8"+. Given the stream character and location of the material placement, it is likely stable under normal flow conditions.

- **Motion** by Gary Pershall to approve as proposed **Second** by Joe L.
- **Motion** passes unanimously
- **Motion** to declare a violation on work done without a 310 by Joe L **Second** by John D.
- **Motion** passes unanimously.

#### **C-06-02-24, Sill, Less, Kootenai River**

- Don C. hasn't contacted Mr. Sill. Don drove by and observed a sign in the river deep enough he couldn't access it. Brian mentioned the landowner did work without a permit, albeit minimal. A possible public view of the sign could be that it is viewed as hazard to recreationists, or, anglers view it as misleading. Joe L. made the point that since it was a public concern by a complaint being filed, we should address it. Brian suggested that the letter language include there has been a complaint we are responding to and. Don C. said it would be helpful for the landowner to understand the high-water mark law. Don C. opposed requiring a 310 application to move the sign, and only send a letter of warning and ask him to move the sign above high water mark. There was discussion that the law requires that work done needs a permit. Supervisors discussed we should also include 310 permitting pamphlet in the envelope with the letter.
- **Motion** by Gary P. to declare a violation, mitigation being to get 310 app to move sign above high-water mark. **Second** by Joe L.
- **Passes** 4-1 Don C opposed.

#### **Li-06-03-24, Vital Ground Foundation, Lap Creek**

- **Motion** by Don C to accept as a project and postpone decision until site visit is complete. **Second** by Joe L
- **Motion** passes unanimously

#### **Li-06-04-24, Vital Ground Foundation, Hartman Creek**

- **Motion** by Don C. to accept as a project and postpone decision until site visit is complete. **Second** by Joe L
- **Motion** passes unanimously.

**C-06-05-24, Meadowvale, DEQ, Phillips Creek**

- **Motion** by Gary P to accept the complaint and postpone the decision. **Second** by John D
- **Motion** passes unanimously

**E-06-06-24, McCully, Ksanka Creek**

- Site visit needs to be done. The possibility of a maintenance permit vs. an emergency permit in the future should be discussed with the landowner.
- **Motion** to acknowledge receipt and postpone by Gary P. **Second** by Don C.
- **Motion** Passes unanimously.

**Postponed 310's**

**C-04-01-24, St. Pierre, Big Cherry Creek** Don C. suggested the landowner be contacted on Fridays. Don has tried twice to get a site visit, will try again with John D. and Brian

- **Motion** by Don C. to postpone until a site visit can be conducted  
**Second** by John D.
- **Passes** unanimously

**Li-05-02-24, Thompson, Dodge Creek** – withdrawn; needs to work on in lower water flower and get a contractor

**C-05-03-24, Riley, Hardy, Granite Tributary** Don C. and John D. will conduct site visit.

- **Motion** to postpone Don C.  
**Second** Gary P

**Li-05-05-24, Guinard, French Creek**

- Site visit and previous applications showed it is not a perineal stream therefore not a project, and not in our jurisdiction. The landowner should contact all applicable agencies. **Motion** by Gary P to declare not a project **Second** Don C. **Motion** passes unanimously

**C-05-11-24, Orozco, Savoie, Lake Creek**

- John D. did the site visit. The project was not on Lake Creek. It was a driveway well away from the creek. **Motion** to declare no violation Joe L. **Second** John D. **Motion** Passes unanimously.

**New Business**

**2025 DNRC Administrative Grant**

- This grant covers yearly dues. Rae Lynn suggested to apply for the first round of funding on this rather than the second **Motion** by Don C to have Rae Lynn apply for this grant **Second** by Gary P. **Motion** passes unanimously.

### **Stream Trailer tires**

- Rhonda presented 2 quotes. One from Pit Stop and one Big Sky. Big Sky was chosen.
- **Motion** by Gary P to purchase 2 tires and pack wheel bearings at Big Sky Tire  
**Second** by Don C
- **Motion** passes unanimously

### **Glacier Bank account remove Rae Lynn and add Rhonda**

- Kathleen mentioned that this will require all signees to sign at the bank again. South end members can sign at the Libby branch
- **Motion** to remove Rae Lynn from Glacier Bank account and add Rhonda Rockwell by Gary P.
- **Second** by Joe L
- **Passes** unanimously

### **AIS Staffing**

- Sabrina Pickersgill is chosen to be hired as site lead and receive 19.70/hr. There has been no applicants for part time technician. It was advised to keep up advertising. Make it an open until filled position.
- **Motion** by Gary P to hire Sabrina Pickersgill as Site Lead at the AIS Station
- **Second** by Joe L
- **Motion** Passes unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

- **Filling Supervisor Vacancy Ed -Braaten** filed for candidacy and won by acclamation. Ed is appointed as a supervisor.  
**Motion** by Don C to appoint Ed Braaten as Supervisor  
**Second** by Gary P  
Passes unanimously
- **Randy Evins** has an interest in serving as a supervisor.  
**Motion** by Gary P. to appoint Randy Evins as supervisor  
**Second** by Don C  
**Passes unanimously.**
- **Personnel Policy-** A Decision needs to be made if AIS workers are job attached.  
Don c. mentioned it would be good to know our cost for unemployment before deciding.

### **Final Inspection Reports**

**Li-06-01-23, Noble, McGinnis-** Close case

### **On Sites Needed**

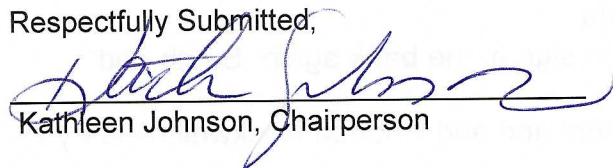
## Open Mic and Other Business

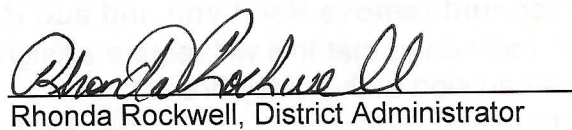
- Kathleen mentioned there are some grant issues that Rae Lynn will address next month

Gary wants info on supervisors and employee insurance information.

## Adjourn 6:41pm

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Kathleen Johnson, Chairperson

  
Rhonda Rockwell, District Administrator

Date: 7-17-24