

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
Weyerhaeuser Office, Libby, Montana
January 16, 2019
2:00 p.m.**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Wayne Maahs, Vice Chairperson; Don Crawford; Mark Romey; Tom Maffei; Kathleen Johnson;
Associate Supervisor(s): Laura Garner
Advisor(s): Brian Stephens, MTFW&P
Guest(s): Karl Christians; Bob Flesher

Karl Christians and Bob Flesher provided an educational workshop on the roles of supervisors and the 310 Law.

**LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Weyerhaeuser Office, Libby, Montana
January 16, 2019**

Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Darris Flanagan, Chairperson; Wayne Maahs, Vice Chairperson; Don Crawford; Mark Romey; Tom Maffei; Kathleen Johnson; Laura Garner
Absent:
Associate Supervisor(s):
Advisor(s): Brian Stephens, MTFW&P
District Administrator: Becky Lihme
Guest(s): Robin Benson; Dan Williams; Deena Shotzberger

Called to order: 4:05 p.m. by Chairperson Darris Flanagan

Public Comment:

Item Moved: New Business, a. Appointment of Wayne Maash, Supervisor

- **Motion** by Don Crawford to appoint Wayne Maahs as Lincoln Conservation District Supervisor to fill the vacancy of Mike Justus. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson.
Motion passed.

Item Moved: New Business b. Oath of Office

- Lincoln County Clerk and Recorder, Robin Benson presided over the swearing in of Laura Garner, Mark Romey, Wayne Maahs.

Item Moved: New Business c. Lincoln County Weed Board, Deena Shotzberger and Dan Williams

- Deena Shotzberger discussed the creation of the Noxious Weed Council in 2015 from the governor and the summit held in 2016. The summit outlined the directive

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- of the shared responsibilities of organizations. In 2018 conservation district members of the Montana Association of Conservation Districts passed two resolutions to promote workshops with county weed boards and to set objectives. This evening she (Deena) and Dan Williams are asking LCD to sponsor a 223 grant for a cost share program for noxious weed chemicals. The Weed Board can get people to spray the chemicals, however the expense of those chemicals limits the success of the program.
- Dan Williams distributed the Montana Weed Control Act section that pertains to conservation districts. The LCD can enter into a cooperative agreement with the Lincoln County Weed Board. Applicants for 310 permits would present a noxious weed plan to the LCD Board. Any questions would be directed to Dan Williams.
- Wayne Maahs noted the 310 on-site team would make recommendations to forward to Dan Williams. Wayne asked for clarification on what is needed in the weed plan.
- Dan Williams responded noxious weeds within the project location are treated through a management plan.
- Kathleen Johnson asked if the upstream and downstream areas are included in the plan.
- Dan Williams responded no, just the area of the 310 project.
- Kathleen Johnson asked why are private landowners responsible when government agencies are not doing their treatment.
- Dan Williams responded we can spray twelve feet beyond the road and if the landowner agrees, we can spray further. Biocontrol methods have been introduced for the long-term. The last ten years has seen big changes. We have to pick our battles.
- Kathleen Johnson asked what noxious weeds are prevalent along streambeds.
- Dan Williams responded they include salt cedar, burdock, hawkweed, common tansy, Canada thistle.
- Deena Shotzberger noted hawkweed is widespread in Lincoln County and will soon spread to the rest of the state. It is an extremely aggressive noxious weed. The frequently asked question is; my neighbors aren't controlling weeds, why should I. If we talk with the Forest Service or Weyerhaeuser, they will help.
- Staff asked if the 223 grant funds would be based on a 50% cost share.
- Dan Williams responded yes
- Wayne Maahs asked what costs the weed trust fund grant will cover.
- Dan Williams responded labor and 50% of treatment.
- Deena Shotzberger noted the trust fund grant is receptive more toward innovative projects such as unique habitats and not to general weed management.
- Darris Flanagan asked for clarification; are you asking for support in the 223 grant.
- Dan Williams responded yes.

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- Deena Shotzberger concluded with, “let’s start working collaboratively”.

Minutes:

- a. December 2018
 - Wayne Maahs stated on page 4 the statement should read “Our policy is to **not** semi-armor the embankment;”
 - **Motion** by Don Crawford to approve the minutes of December 2018 as corrected; page 4 “Our policy is to **not** semi-armor the embankment;” **Second** by Tom Maffei. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report:

- a. December 2019
 - **Motion** by Kathleen Johnson to approve the December Financial Report as presented. **Second** by Tom Maffei. **Motion passed.**

NRCS Report – Brian Ressel

- The seasonal snow report is in the Board Packet.

MTFW&P Report – Brian Stephens

District Administrator’s Report

- Volunteer hours were recorded.
- Newspaper articles are in the Board Packet.
- The flier for the 2019 Youth Natural Resource Camp is in the Board Packet.
- As long as NRCS is operating we can stay in the Forest Service Office during the government shutdown.
- We received the 310 Administrative Funds Agreement and we will be receiving \$4,872 for fiscal year 2018/19.

Planning Board Report – Laura Garner

- Laura Garner reported new members were sworn in. Planning Board will begin the reviewing process of the regulations.

SWCDM - Samantha Tappenbeck

- Monthly report is in the Board Packet.

310’s:

C-01-01-19, Cummings/Lisle, Dunn Creek

- Don Crawford conducted the on-site. The project is located on Dunn Creek within a two foot vertical bank. The bridge material will be from Moyie, Idaho. This is a good crossing.

- Wayne Maahs noted the applicant will need to take an excavator across the creek once to place the bridge.
- Don Crawford clarified the applicant will use two excavators to place the bridge.
- Wayne Maahs noted the six foot abutments.
- Don Crawford noted the abutments are two (2) to two and one half (2.5) feet high; ten feet back. The applicant will “walk” one excavator back.
- **Motion** by Don Crawford to approve Li-01-01-19 as presented contingent on the landowners signature on the application; waive fifteen day wait period. Bridge to be removed by April 1, 2019. **Second** by Wayne Maahs. **Motion passed.**

C-01-02-19, Maahs/Chapman, Kootenai River

- Wayne Maahs distributed photos of the project site. The complaint originated from a cement contractor. Wayne met with the landowner. Brush had been dug out of the embankment and a brush pile was placed in the center to burn next spring. Upon investigation, the recommendation is to declare a violation. Soil was pulled back from a man-made berm to use around the home; any remaining dirt was pushed back over the embankment. This loose soil needs to be stabilized. The following is recommended mitigation 1) grass seed the disturbed area 2) place erosion control as soon as possible to prevent overland flow 3) Plant the disturbed area with native species 4) remove the brush pile out of the embankment. There should be some re-sprouting of native brush this spring. Coconut matting is a type of erosion control fabric that can be used.
- Don Crawford suggested straw can be used for erosion control as well. The straw flakes can be staked in.
- Laura Garner asked if we (LCD) need to give a date for completion.
- Wayne Maahs responded the landowner is in Arizona and will return in February.
- Darris Flanagan asked if a 310 permit application is needed for the mitigation.
- Wayne Maahs responded yes. He will let the landowner know.
- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to declare C-01-02-19 a violation of the 310 Law and a 310 permit application is required to complete the recommended mitigation. **Second** by Laura Garner. **Motion passed.** Staff will include with the letter and decision form information on types of erosion control fabrics and recommended riparian area vegetation.

New Business:

- a. Appointment of Wayne Maahs, Supervisor – Item moved
- b. Oath of Office – Item moved
- c. Lincoln County Weed Board, Deena Sholtzberger and Dan Williams – Item moved

- d. Election of 2019 Officers
 - **Motion** by Don Crawford to nominate Darris Flanagan to serve as Chairperson for 2019; Wayne Maahs as Vice Chairperson for 2019 and Kathleen Johnson as the Treasurer for 2019. **Second** by Mark Romey. **Motion passed.**
- e. Annual Work Plan
 - Item tabled to February Agenda.
- f. MWCC Partnership Program
 - After discussion the Board decided to not join the MWCC Partnership Program.
- g. National Watershed Coalition Membership
 - Staff noted LCD has not paid dues for the two previous years.
 - After discussion, the Board decided to not pay membership dues to the National Watershed Coalition.

Unfinished Business:

- a. CD Boundary Signs
 - Wayne Maahs reported the sign location has been marked by the Montana Department of Transportation.
 - **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to apply for a DNRC 223 grant to pay for the manufacturing and installation of boundary signs. **Second** by Kathleen Johnson. **Motion passed.**
- b. Grant Update
 - i. Tobacco River – Kassler
 - 1. Phase I – DEQ 319 Grant
 - Staff reported no new information.
 - 2. Phase 2 – DNRC Reclamation Grant Re-submission
 - Staff reported the Legislative Hearing for funding will be February 4th in Helena.
 - 3. Watershed Management Grant
 - 4. Sweet Grass CD Watershed Grant
 - ii. Mud Creek - Roose
 - 1. DEQ 319 Grant
 - A. Contract Revision
 - Staff reported there is a \$21,000 short fall in funding for the construction portion of the project. Channel construction that would have taken one hour took four hours to complete. Over 67,000 pounds of steel was removed. We have requested funds from Task 2 Landowner Agreements and Task 5 Project Administration be transferred to Task 1 Construction to help defray the overrun cost. After supplemental funding was

awarded from the Kootenai River Network, in the amount of \$9,578, the DEQ 319 grant program will provide \$7,185. DEQ will be preparing an amended contract for our chairperson's signature.

- **Motion** by Wayne Maahs to approve Darris Flanagan, Chairperson, to sign the amended DEQ 319 contract. **Second** by Laura Garner. **Motion passed.**
- B. Riparian Workshop
 - Samantha Tappenbeck and staff are meeting on January 22nd.
- 2. KRN/USF&WS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
 - A. Supplemental Funding
 - Staff reported the KRN, through remaining funds from the USF&WS Partners grant, will supplement the construction cost overrun in the amount of \$9,578.
 - B. DNRC 223 Grant
 - We have approximately \$2,000 of vegetation planting to be completed in the spring.
- iii. Conservation Districts Environmental Contingency Grant Program
 - No activity.

Final Inspection Reports

Li-02-02-18 – Hurst, Dudley Creek

Li-08-01-17 – Canavan-Fofield, S. Fork Yaak River

Li-10-02-18 – Glazier, Griffith/Therriault Creek

On-Sites Needed

- Don Crawford would like to schedule an on-site of Cummings, Dunn Creek.

Open Mic and Other Business

The next Conservation District Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the U.S. Forest Service Office, Eureka, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darris Flanagan, Chairperson

Becky Lihme, District Administrator

Date: _____

