



64352 US Highway 93
Ronan, Montana 59864-8738
Phone: 406-676-2842, ext.102

July 25, 2016

Regular Supervisor Meeting, 7:00 PM
July 14, 2016, District Office

Present: Supervisors-Jim Simpson, Jack Sutphin, Curt Rosman, Susan Gardner, Zoe Lilja, Sigurd Jensen; Associate Supervisors-Carlos Rodriques, David Sturman, Toni Burton; Ben Montgomery, DC, NRCS. Kristi D'Agati LCCD/NRCS Big Sky Watershed Corps. Elena Evans, Executive Director MACD, Samantha Tappenbeck Resource Specialist MACD. Lita Fonda, Lake County Planning. Heidi Fleury, District Coordinator.
Absent: Dennis DeVries, Dave Rensvold and Mark McGuyer

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Simpson. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Curt, second Sigurd. Motion carried.

Open Mike:

- Stand-alone discussion on the approval of a \$250/month direct deposit from the Glacier Bank account to Heidi Fleury's SEP-IRA retirement account. Motion Jack, second Susan, motion carried.
- Take Chris Malgren off Glacier Bank and Whitefish Credit Union accounts and put Heidi Fleury on the accounts with the same level of access. Motion Curt, second Sigurd, motion carried.
- 2016 LCCD Pollinator Resolution will be an official agenda item in August. Susan will send it to Heidi and Elena will review.
- 310 Database Introduction to the Board will be on the August agenda
- Lina Sturman was announced a state winner in the MACD Poster Contest. The Board would like to give her a \$25 gift certificate. Motion Jack, second Zoe, motion carried.
- David Sturman has begun the process with CSKT to address the aspects of his 310 permit that involve their jurisdiction.
- Kristi-BSWC-work update-She has been working on the Lake County Forage Improvement study and she and Austin just finished up an interseeding into corn out at Fousts. She has also been helping monitor USFWS forage plots and will be meeting with head of CSKT Education to talk about Envirothon, the poster competition and other educational outreach opportunities. Kristi will also be

holding a field tour of a few of the Forage Improvement plots on the 28th of July at 9:30am for the Board and the Valley Journal will be covering it.

I. SB-310 APPLICATIONS

A. LA16003, Tim Fox, Johnson Creek, infiltration gallery

1. Previously approved permit signed by Supervisors

B. LA16005 Douglas Yeager, Dayton Creek, CLT Bridge (instead of culvert)

1. Team Report-Jim-Landownership change requiring a change of access. Project originally called for a culvert, upon site review it's a great chance for the use of a CLT Bridge versus a culvert as it is a decently flowing perennial stream. Required specs from DNRC and SmartLam arrived and were added to file. This is a modification to the original project design. Heidi will follow up with Leo Rosenthal about MTFWP field report.
2. Motion to approve project with modifications and issue 310 permit Sigurd, second Zoe, motion carried.

C. New 310 Application submitted by Ben Montgomery NRCS for the Duckworth Wetland Reserve Easement, Stinger Creek Restoration, stream gauge, flume installation

1. Discussion: The long term goal of this project is to restore the hydrology of the stream to support the wetland characteristics the site naturally had before it was channelized and modified for agricultural use. The overarching plan calls for installing Beaver Dam Analogs (man-made beaver dam structures) that will hopefully hold the water in the area and allow it to recharge the wetland. This project will take many years to complete and the flume installation is just the first step in the overall restoration plan. This 310 permit application addresses ONLY the installation of two flumes, one at the start of the restoration area and one at the end. These flumes have stream gauge measurements on them. The installation of these flumes will allow baseline, as well as continuing data to be collected on water levels and flow so, once they are constructed, the effects of the installation of the Beaver Dam Analogs can be quantified and monitored.
2. Questions/Concerns (addressed by Ben):
 - i. Jim-Chances that the stream will overflow too quickly and change things drastically? Need baseline data and monitoring plan. Is it considered a fishery? No it is not.
 - ii. Curt- How could this affect downstream irrigators? The purpose of the first step of the project is to address this with baseline data and continued monitoring.
 - iii. Jack-Are the structures permanent or temporary?
Temporary.
3. Motion to make the flume installation a project by Curt, second by Susan, motion carried. Onsite field visit to be scheduled with Leo Rosenthal (FWP) and LCCD Board Members.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Country Living Workshop –Zoe reported that 15 people attended with 13 paying participants. Small groups, as well as concurrent sessions worked very well. There was a lot of great feedback from participants. For the future, should this be held at a different time of year so we might get more attendants?
- B. Swan Resource Management Study-Legal Review-Jim-Main hurdles pinpointed from the legal review and decision to continue vote:
 - a. Federal Law-It is not legal for the USFS to enter into a management agreement with the LCCD without explicit congressional authorization. This would mean it would take an act of congress to make the Conservation Forest a reality.
 - b. State Law-It does not directly test any state laws but, since State CD laws were “liberally construed” the CD Law regarding authorizing the implementation of a Conservation Forest should be clarified further with the State of Montana.
 - c. Discussion: Opposition points made by Curt and Susan. Too much legal consultation going forward and too many congressional hoops to jump through. Even if the State rules yes, Federal law will trump state law. There are already a lot of controversial issues going on in Lake County will this be one more disruption to the community? Support points made by Sigurd we've made it this far why quit now?
 - d. Decision to be made: Stop or continue pursuing the Swan Forest Initiative. Continuing to pursue it means polling several political entities starting with mainstream environmental organizations to gauge the measure of support. Motion to continue pursuing meetings before November with mainstream environmental groups Sigurd, second Zoe. Votes: 3 Yes (Zoe, Sigurd, Jack) and 2 No (Curt and Susan), motion passed.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. MACD Area Resource Specialist, Sam Tappenbeck, Introduction by Elena Evans. MACD, in the form of Sam, is hoping to work on coordinating and creating funding sources for basin scale projects like other areas of MT have done i.e. the Missouri River Conservation Council and their work with riparian fencing. Topics of interest and discussion brought up by Board Members for Lake County; no till seed drill, the interaction of the irrigated landscape on the watershed, Landscape level projects are complex due to land ownership in Lake County. Great start for Sam's information gathering.
- B. New Expense Report Forms-New feature must have two supervisors signatures
- C. Budget Overhaul-Elena informed us of the state mandated BARS system that we should be using for budget management. The budget committee will hold a meeting as soon as Heidi researches the BARS info and

overhaul the current budget to better represent current circumstances.
Budget Committee members: Jim, Carlos, Curt and Mark.

- D. Credit Card and Petty Cash-This will be addressed by the Budget Committee in a future meeting.
- E. Facebook Page-Board Members think LCCD should create a separate FB page from the Swan Study page. Heidi will complete this ASAP.
- F. LCCD/NRCS Collaboration trip to Dillon for a pivot grazing demo by Race King at La Cense Ranch. Motion for LCCD to pay between \$1000-1500 for the event Sigurd, second Susan, motion passed.
- G. Pursuing grants for the Augmented Reality Sandbox project. Motion for permission so Heidi and Kristi can pursue grant funding by Jack, second Curt, motion passed.
- H. Review of Heidi's 6 Month Workplan
- I. Financial Report-Carlos-Carlos, Mark and Heidi have been working on a more reader friendly version of the monthly financials, the newest version will be out in August.
- J. Bills -Access Montana \$64.48, Conoco \$154.75, Westland Seed \$164.52, Mileage reimbursements Kristi \$22.68, Curt 45.36, Susan \$69.12 TOTAL: \$520.91 Motion to sign checks and pay bills Sigurd, second Zoe. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

- A. NRCS – Ben reported that the Pasture Walks are going well and he will be planning a few more over the summer, stay tuned. He also announced that he will be appointed the Supervising District Conservationist for Lake and Sanders County now, not just Lake County.
- B. Flathead Basin Commission –Jim-No meeting.
- C. County Planning –Sigurd- No meeting.
- D. City County Planning – Mark was absent.
- E. Polson Fair Grounds –Toni reported that they were holding the Mud Run and working on the Flathead River Rodeo.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. None.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm. Next meeting is August 11, 2016.



Jim Simpson, Chairman



Heidi Fleury, District Coordinator