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July 27, 2017

Lake County Conservation District Meeting Minutes
Regular Supervisor Meeting, 6:30 PM Meeting Start
July 13th, 2017

Present: Supervisors—Jim Simpson, Curt Rosman, Susan Gardner, Sigurd Jensen, Zoe Lilja, Carlos Rodriques; Associate Supervisors— John (Jack) Sutphin, David Sturman and Lita Fonda. Karli Becher BSWC, Kristi D'Agati LCCD/SWCDM and Heidi Fleury, District Coordinator.

Excused: Mark McGuyer and Ben Montgomery NRCS

Chairman Simpson announced he needed to leave early and would turn the meeting over to Vice Chair, Sigurd Jensen around 7:30 pm. He then called the Regular Supervisors Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made to approve the amended June 2017 meeting minutes by Curt second by Carlos. Chairman Simpson mentioned the closed session was handled incorrectly and will be handled correctly in the future. He will also provide minutes for the session. All approved meeting minutes, motion passes.

Open Mic

I. SB-310 APPLICATIONS

- a. Miller—Siphon discharge Erosion Wall, Freedland Creek—Due to the late submission of this application (7/13/2017) the application will not be voted a project until the August 2017 meeting. Supervisors will complete a site visit before then to expedite the decision.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Sandbox Project—Karli and Kristi debuted a short informational video they produced on the SENSE-Sational Sandbox. Minutes from the Education Committee Meeting regarding the Sandbox were shared.

- B. Pollinator Initiative—Karli debuted an informational outreach tool, an ArcGIS story map, she created with the results of 3Pi 2016.
- C. Lake County 310 Rules and Regs—the board will continue to investigate improvements to the 310 rules and regs document that was adopted by LCCD in 1975 to guide 310 permitting.
- D. No-Till Seed Drill—In response to reliable stakeholder input at a recent NTSD Committee meeting, LCCD has changed course and decided not to purchase a John Deere 1590 10' no-till drill and instead has decided to purchase a smaller no-till seed drill. Minutes from the NTSD Committee meeting were shared and the reasons for the change discussed. Susan made a motion for the NTSD Committee to pursue the purchase of a 7' Great Plains No-till seed drill, Carlos 2nd all in favor, motion to pursue the purchase of a 7' Great Plains No-till seed drill passes.
- E. Leadership Flathead—Heidi received an \$800 scholarship to attend training.
- F. 2018 Big Sky Watershed Corps Member (BSWC)—Sigurd made a motion to conditionally approve \$5000 for the cost of a 2018 BSWC member, Zoe second. The \$5000 is only to be spent if LCCD can't secure grant funding for the full cost (\$10,000+travel) of a member. Currently a \$6000 grant was submitted to DNRC and Heidi is pursuing additional SWCDM funding recently made available to CD's working on pollinator outreach projects. Board approves \$5000 in conditional funding for a 2018 BSWC member.
- G. Range Days—Red Lodge June 19-21—Sigurd shared photos and David shared experiences from their recent trip to Red Lodge for Range Days. Several board members are interested in pursuing LCCD hosting Range Days in the future.
- H. 2017 Pasture and Crop Walks—the first pasture walk was held on July 6th at Shady Maple Farm and we will have three more throughout the summer and fall.
- I. Curt Pate Low-Stress Livestock Handling—Lake County's workshop will be held in Charlo on Monday September 18th. Advertising will begin in mid-August.
- J. MACD Statewide Administrator Training—Heidi attended the training June 14-16 and learned A TON of useful information on public meeting process.
- K. MACD Spring Board Meeting—Jim attended the meeting and reported that it was productive. MACD/SWCDM sent their financial and annual project reports following this meeting and they were made available for LCCD Supervisors both in email and hard copy.
- L. Budget Committee—the final budget for 2017/2018 is due to the county treasurer at the end of August. A budget committee meeting will be held before then to confirm line items. The 2016/2017 quarterly financial report was shared and uses for additional funding from unused line items were discussed. Carlos made a motion to spend \$1800 on pollinator seed for the 2017 Fall Pollinator Initiative, Zoe 2nd, motion passes. Zoe made a motion to spend \$2000 on Mason bee house kits that will be used for youth pollinator outreach events, Carlos 2nd, all in favor. LCCD will invest an additional \$3800 in local pollinator outreach efforts ASAP.

M. Swan Resource Management Study—Jim proposed the board set an end date and have a public notice plan for ending the public comment period on the Swan Study. Sigurd made a motion to end the Swan Study public comment period on 8/31/2017, Zoe 2nd all in favor, motion to end the Swan Study 8/31/2017 passes. Jim will spearhead getting the proper public notice into local newspapers. Jim shared a document titled Swan Study Intent with the board and Susan made a motion that LCCD not adopt it as the official CD stance, Curt 2nd the motion. Yes-(Curt, Susan, Zoe, Jim), No-(None), Abstained-(Sigurd, Carlos) Motion passes, LCCD will not adopt this as an official CD stance but will consider it a personal statement from Jim Simpson. Heidi will send all related Swan Study intent and purpose documents to Friends of the Wild Swan per their emailed request.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Outreach—Heidi was approached by the Flathead Lake Biological Station to see if LCCD would be interested in helping with eDNA early detection AIS water sampling on Flathead Lake. The basic concept of the testing and use was shared then a discussion ensued about costs, the worth of this work and what the follow up would be in mussels were found. Susan made a motion to support LCCD pursuing grant funding to assist FLBS with eDNA water sampling and testing in Flathead Lake, Zoe 2nd. Yes-(Susan, Zoe) No-(Jim, Curt, Sigurd, Carlos). Motion to pursue AIS sampling assistance to FLBS fails.
- B. 2018 Western Montana Grazing and Agriculture Conference—funding sources are beginning to be pursued, the keynote speakers are being confirmed and the venue is set. There will be an organizer meeting on 7/25/2016 in Missoula to discuss the schedule.
- C. Lake County Conservation District By-laws—at the statewide training individual CD by laws were discussed after that Don McIntyre weighed in with his opinion as well. Two documents were given to board member for consideration; a sample bylaws sheet and Don's opinion. LCCD has decided not to pursue individual bylaws at this time.
- D. MACD/SWCDM Financial Reports—See letter K in old business.
- E. Financial Report/Bills—Motion to accept the amended financial report and pay the bills was made by Carlos and 2nd by Curt. All affirm, motion to pay bills passes. End of year financial information about mill levy income and quarterly expenses were shared and discussed as well.

IV. REPORTS

- A. BSWC—Karli—Reported she has been monitoring the legume trials for the Forage Improvement Study and completed the Pollinator Initiative story map.
- B. SWCDM—Sam—MT Conservation Menu is complete and Ranching for Rivers is still on the table. 319 DEQ grant funding deadline is 9/18/2017. If we hear of any

projects please let Sam know. She will reach out to Flathead CD and the Flathead Lakers to see if they might want to help FLBS with eDNA testing.

C. NRCS- Ben—Absent

D. Flathead Basin- Jim—Recent meeting was at Ninepipes. Increased railway safety along the Flathead River corridor and AIS were the main topics covered.

E. County Planning—Sigurd—No meeting.

F. City-County Planning – Mark—No meeting.

G. Timber Symposium—Jim shared a video about Mass Timber Framing from a recent symposium he attended in the Flathead Valley.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm. The August Supervisors' meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 10th at 6:30 pm.**

Jim Simpson, Chairman

Heidi Fleury, District Coordinator