

Lake County Conservation District  
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June 16th, 2021

Lake County Conservation District Meeting Agenda  
Regular Supervisor Meeting, 6:00 pm  
Thursday, June 10th, 2021

**Present:**

**Supervisors:** Curt Rosman, Jan Niemeyer, Joining virtually were Supervisor Allen Branine, Sigurd Jensen, Susan Gardner, Zoe Lilja, Associate Supervisor, David Sturman

**Partners:** FWP 310 Rep.

**LCCD Staff:** Sarah Ogden, Sarah Klaus, Heidi Fleury and BSWC members Abby Schmeichel, Jillian Herichon.

**Absent:** Excused: Ben Montgomery, Jim Simpson

Due to USDA COVID-19 restrictions the Permissive Mill Levy Public Hearing and Comment Period from 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm at the Ronan City Park Pavillion.

The Lake County Conservations District (LCCD) began their meeting with a public hearing to take comments on implementing a Permissive Mill Levy to cover employee health care costs at 6 pm; it was open until 6:30 pm. held at the Ronan City Park Pavillion. No members of the public attended in person or virtually and no comment was received. An in person meeting was held at the Lake County Field Office in Ronan. There was also an option to join via zoom for both the Public Hearing and the regular meeting. Jan called the Regular Supervisors Meeting to order just after 6:30 pm.

**Minutes**

The May minutes were discussed. Allen motioned to accept the minutes. Curt seconds, all approve May minutes as presented.

**Open Mic**

- Siguard asked for a meeting with the farm bureau for 4th Grade Ag Days planning. Sarah will be scheduling a meeting for all involved entities.

- Sarah Ogden- asked about weed fabric and if we should order more once we are out. Heidi notified us that we ordered one pallet in July of 2020 and suggested that we order once a year. The board agreed that we will order it once a year.

## **I. SB-310 APPLICATIONS**

- A. 310 complaint—Meadow Creek - Heidi and Leo confirmed that Complainant is not sure if there is a violation and does not have an address or alleged violator, but believes someone upstream is diverting water out of the creek somewhere above his property. Leo made the suggestion of finding out who the land owner is and asking if they have made any changes to the creek, but we would need a formal complaint. Jan suggested we find out who is up the creek and then ask Russ if he would like to make a formal complaint. Heidi agreed to follow up with the complainant.
- B. LA21003—Wisener—Carney Creek—Wetland Project—There was discussion about the listing of Canary creek FWP identified it is listed as intermentient which makes designation complicated, however, Canary does flow into a perennial stream. Jan asserted that we would try to have a discussion with the landowner to see if he would consider alternatives to the project as the area has been identified as valuable wetland by FWP. Allen suggested talking to Armycorps and is willing to contact them and see what they think about the project. Due to the unsurety of creek designation Allen made a motion to extend the project decision for another 60 days, Curt Seconded all approved. Sarah will contact and notify the applicant.
- C. LA21005—VanRy—Cilly Creek—Tributary Project Curt, Allen Jan and Leo scheduled a site visit on Tuesday the 15th was the decided date. Sarah will correspond with the land owner to confirm.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. 2021 Permissive health care Levy- LCCD held a public meeting to gather any community feedback about their plan to implement a Permissive Mill Levy to help with employee healthcare costs. There being no public comment Allen made a motion to formally adopt a \$5,112.00 Permissive Mill Levy. Sigurd seconds, all vote in favor of implementing the Permissive Mill Levy.
- B. Pollinator Initiative - Staff updated the board on Pollinator plot installation and the drive in showings of the film the pollinators on June 26th.
- C. Finance Committee—Yearly Budget—The board reviewed the budget created by Heidi and reviewed by the finance committee. Susan made a motion to approve the budget and Zoe seconded. All were in favor.
- D. Personnel Committee - Jan explained that Sarah Klaus will be moving into the Conservation Coordinator position and Heidi will move into the forestry project manager and finance position. Sarah Ogden’s new title is Habitat specialist. Heidi

mentioned that staff are still reviewing work plans and are going to be switching roles officially July 1. Jan informed the board that the Personnel committee approved the job descriptions for Sarah Klaus, and Sarah Ogden.

- E. DNRC forestry cost share - Heidi explained the need for parameters on the forestry cost share. Heidi will work with Allen to develop these parameters and will have parameters at the July meeting for the Board to approve.
- F. LCCD Natural Resource office - There has not been a meeting, Jim was not here to schedule a meeting

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 310 Model Rule Adoption - Curt explained the modification. Jan suggested that we have a goal to adopt the rules in August. Zoe moved to approve 310 process summary Sarah Klaus created, Curt seconded. All voted in favor.
- B. Bills and Financial Report - Heidi asked for preliminary approval, and asked for final approval over email or via the finance committee. Zoe made a motion and Sigurd seconded for the finance committee to approve the bills and finance report on Friday June 11th. All voted Aye.

### **IV. REPORTS**

- A. BSWC—Jill and Abby—Jill updated that the septic program is going strong; they have over 50 applications. Jill is going to be on the radio ad for the program. She will be tabling for education and outreach, also she attended the MACD meeting Abby updated the board on her outreach with the Boys and girls club, the pollinator initiative and social media. She is currently working on Jr. Conservationist Curriculum and SOP for the Pollinator initiative.
- B. NRCS—Ben - not present
- C. LCCD—Sarah K., Sarah O.— Sarah Klaus has been working on updating the LCCD 301 rules, process summary and general filling systems. She has created a job description for the Conservation Coordinator role she will begin in July. She has been working to wrap up other projects like Pollywog park. Sarah Ogden updated on opportunities to rent out the drill elsewhere, she explained that she went out with NRCS to test soil amendments. Sarah has been preparing for bumblebee surveys and the whitetop symposium. Heidi talked about the forestry cost share and the new parameters she is working on for the program. She also attended the MACD meeting.
- D. MACD—Curt and Jim - no meeting
- E. EO—Heidi - Attended the MACD meeting. There is an effort to figure out how to compensate EO members for all their extra time.
- F. Flathead Basin—Jim
- G. County Planning—Sigurd - Meeting was about a subdivision where a storage unit is going in over in Pablo 17 acres, 26 buildings, this project was approved. They

talked about lakeshore protection of lake mary ronan and the swan and the levels of the water concerned that they are low.

- H. Rangeland Resource Executive Committee—Sigurd— Sigurd reported that they met in Billings. The youth camp is going to be cancelled this year from lack of participation.
- I. City-County Planning –Jan No meeting this month.

David is going to range days and is hosting showings of what he is doing at his farm. SEFAC and MMAPP.

There being no further business Zoe moved to adjourn the meeting. Susan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:29. The next Regular Supervisors Meeting for July will happen on **Thursday, July 8th at 6:30 pm at the Lake County Conservation District office.**

Submitted By:

Sarah Klaus, Conservation Coordinator

Minutes approved by LCCD Board motion made on:

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(Date)

(Signature) Jan Niemeyer, Board Chair