

Lake County Conservation District Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting, 6:30 pm

Thursday, August 15, 2024

Location: District Offices, 64352 US HWY 93, Ronan



Attendance confirmed with roll call:

Present Supervisors and Associate Supervisors:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Simpson, | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan Niemeyer (Excused) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Hoffman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curt Rosman | <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Gardner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Sturman, (at 7:23) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sigurd Jensen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allen Branine (Zoom) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zoe Lilja | | |

LCCD Staff and Partners:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caroline McDonald, LCCD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Elkins, NRCS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caroline McClung, BSWC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leo Rosenthal, FWP (Zoom) |

Members of the Public: John Rouane, NRCS Ret., Jim Thomas (310), Lena Sturman

1. Noting the presence of a quorum, Jim called meeting to order at 6:28pm.

Roll Call was taken. Attendance is as noted above.

No public comment

2. Minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

First: Curt

Second: Sigurd

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

3. SB-310 PERMITTING:

a. LA24005, Serenity Swan Mountain Haven, LLC, Application to Dredge Canal

There is no perennial stream that is impacted by this project. The ingress and egress of this canal is Swan Lake. The owners should contact the Lake County Planning Dept. to obtain any necessary Lake Shore Protection Permitting. LCCD does not have jurisdiction. Supervisors determined that this was not a project.

First: Sigurd

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

b. LA24003 & LA24004 Ben Cotton, Cilly Creek and Swan River

Still active; no action taken

4. Coordinator's Report

Caroline reviewed the status of existing projects and ongoing outreach activities

5. BSWC Member Report

Caroline McClung BSWC discussed her previous month's activities and projects to date.

6. Bills & Financial Reporting

- a. Review monthly financial reports & approve bills

First: Sigurd

Second: Curt

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

- b. Approve Coordinator Salary Increase effective 8/1/2024

The personnel committee recommended a 4-5% salary increase at the conclusion of Coordinator's review if final budget and County tax valuation received in August would allow. Increase in value of levy allows for a 4.5% increase.

First: Curt

Second: Sigurd

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

- c. Review and approve FY25 Final Budget

The FY25 Budget that was approved in June, has been updated to include the anticipated increased mill receipts for FY25 and the Coordinator's 4.5% salary increase.

First: Sigurd

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

7. BUSINESS

- a. New Building Development Next Steps

Our USDA Procurement contact requested a proposal package be submitted by the end of August. A 6-month extension request was made. No response was received from USDA. Curt, Jan, and Caroline met with the County Commissioners on August 12th. Commissioners were very enthusiastic about supporting a proposal from LCCD. Concern about how much time this would take and how much support we would get from USDA. Supervisors instructed Jim to act on their behalf and inform USDA that LCCD will be withdrawing from the procurement process.

First: Curt

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

- b. Lake County Recycling Initiative

Jim proposes LCCD task Caroline to investigate opportunities to promote efficiencies in our waste management, specifically, recycling. Would the transfer station like us to promote

valuable recycling efforts? What is the transfer station doing with those “commodity recycling” items? Are there partner opportunities?

First: Sigurd

Second: Curt

Discussion: None

Passed: unanimous

c. Approve Appointment of Caroline to WMCC Board

First: Sigurd

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

d. Change next regularly scheduled board meeting to: September 19th

Jan will chair this meeting as Jim will be excused.

First: Curt

Second: Sigurd

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

e. Review and Approve Accountability Assessment completed for DNRC

First: Sigurd

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

f. Supervisor Attendance at AREA V meeting (Sept. 26, Trout Creek)

Interest: Jim, Sigurd, Zoe, Jan

g. MACD requesting committee volunteers

Informed Board of MACD’s request.

h. AR Sandbox requested by Green Mountain CD for one week to be delivered during the AREA V meeting and will be returned by Green Mountain one week later.

First: Curt

Second: Sigurd

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

8. COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION

a. NRCS—Amy: NRCS application deadlines have been released: Equip Program (includes HIP TIP) 10/25; and the Conservation Stewardship Program (5-year program enrolling all producer’s land) 12/27

- b. MACD— Jim, Resolutions are being reviewed
- c. County Planning—Sigurd, N/A
- d. Rangeland Resource Executive Committee—Sigurd N/A
- e. City-County Planning –Jan, N/A

9. Final Public Comment

Lena and others are going to the Regenerative AG Conference in November 6-8 in Denver.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Supervisors voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm.

First: Allen

Second: Zoe

Discussion: None

Passed: Unanimous

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the supervisors will be September 15th at 6:30 pm at the Conservation District Offices in Ronan

(Date)

(Signature) *Jim Simpson, Chairperson*

Prepared by Caroline McDonald, Conservation Coordinator