

# Lake County Conservation District Minutes

Regular Meeting, 6:30 pm

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Location: NRCS Service Center, Ronan



## Attendance:

### **Present Supervisors and Associate Supervisors:**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Niemeyer, Chair       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig McClure        | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Hoffman, Assoc. excused              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sigurd Jensen, Vice Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Gardner        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Sturman, Assoc. at 7:30PM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curt Rosman, Treasurer    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allen Branine - Zoom | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Simpson, Assoc., excused               |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Max Krantz           |   |

### **LCCD Staff, Partners, and guests:**

- Caroline McDonald, LCCD
- Daisy Coyne, LCCD BSWC
- Leo Rosenthal, FWP Excused
- Amy Elkins, NRCS – Excused
- Angie Knoll, prospective associate

## **1. OPENING**

- a. Call to order: Caroline called the roll. Observing a quorum, Jan called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- b. General Public Comment – None

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

April Minutes were approved with the following corrections: correcting next meeting date and clarifying 310 instructions regarding beaver dam removal or other alternatives for LA26001.

|            |                   |        |       |
|------------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| FIRST      | Craig             | SECOND | Susan |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |       |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |       |

## **3. SB-310 PERMITTING:**

- a. LA26001 Cotton, Cilly Creek – Beaver Dam Removal Update: Caroline reported that the Beaver Conflict Specialist has completed a site visit and will be (likely) following up with a new 310 Application in June as the recommended strategy will be more involved than the current, active 310 Permit would suggest.
- b. *Other open 310s—no action required:* LA2 5001 Andrews, Crystal Creek; LA25002 Bliss, Forrey Creek; LA25003 Hubbard, Kaser Creek

## **4. FINANCIALS**

- a. Approve Monthly Financial Reports – April, as presented.

|            |                   |        |       |
|------------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| FIRST      | Curt              | SECOND | Craig |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |       |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |       |

b. Schedule Budget Committee Meeting

Max, Jan, and Curt volunteered to work with Caroline to develop a draft FY27 budget to present to the full board for consideration in June.

**5. BUSINESS**

- a. Having attended 3 regular meetings of the LCCD board, it is recommended that Max Krantz be appointed to fill the open Supervisor position created when Zoe Lilja resigned at the beginning of the year.

|            |                   |        |      |
|------------|-------------------|--------|------|
| FIRST      | Sigurd            | SECOND | Curt |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |      |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |      |

Max Krantz accepted the appointment, and Amelia Wieder administered the oath of office. Max also executed LCCD's Ethical Code of Conduct.

c. Schedule Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship committee met on May 4<sup>th</sup> to evaluate three applications received. Recommend the \$1000 LCCD 2026 Scholarship be awarded to Elsie Detert of Charlo. Caroline will reach out to Elsie and invite her to the next meeting. We will let her know that we will send a check to the school as soon as information on where she is enrolled is shared.

|            |                   |        |        |
|------------|-------------------|--------|--------|
| FIRST      | Curt              | SECOND | Sigurd |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |        |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |        |

c. Report from 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ag Days

Approximately 335 students attended over 2 days. Sigurd did the hay wagon. Daisy did the pollinator presentation with Carey Swanberg, beekeeper.

d. Establish 310 Adopted Rules Changes Timeline.

With additional guidance from the DNRC's 310 Specialist and information from the 310 working group, it was determined that the board will postpone updating the current adopted rules until the new 310 fee structure is adopted so that all proposed changes may be presented to the public and adopted at once.

e. MT Biological Weed Control Donation Request

Original \$100 donation motion withdrawn by Sigurd. Sigurd introduced a new motion for increasing the donation to \$200.

|            |                   |        |       |
|------------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| FIRST      | Sigurd            | SECOND | Allen |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |       |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |       |

The board indicated additional exploration into bio control and spraying for whitetop. Interested in a presentation by the weed district to the board.

f. Revised Personnel Policy Discussion and Adoption

It was recommended that the presented personnel policy be adopted with the following revisions: None

|            |                   |        |       |
|------------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| FIRST      | Susan             | SECOND | Craig |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |       |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |       |

g. CDB Mini Education Grant for Fall Workshops

Caroline is considering several possible workshops for fall/spring, e.g. irrigation, biocontrol strategies, virtual fencing, etc. If determined financial assistance is needed, the board approves the pursuit of DNRC mini-education grant funding to assist.

|            |                   |        |      |
|------------|-------------------|--------|------|
| FIRST      | Sigurd            | SECOND | Curt |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |      |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |      |

h. Rental Program Expansion Discussion

There has been significant interest expressed by participants in the pollinator program for establishing a sod cutter rental program. After much discussion, the board determined that the best course of action would be to refer interested parties to commercial rental programs and continue to support turf removal with education.

**6. COORDINATOR REPORT:**

Caroline reviewed the status of existing projects and ongoing outreach activities that are included in her written report. Supervisors noted that native plantings along roadsides can help with dust control and should be included in our native plant benefits education.

**7. COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION**

- a. NRCS District Conservationist: Amy was absent but submitted her report in advance in writing. Amy would like to report with Rebecca on Rejuvra in July.
- b. Resource Exec. Committee: Sigurd; None
- c. City/County Planning: Jan; none
- d. County planning – Sigurd, none

**8. Final Public Comment**

Craig provided information about the Mesonet station at the Bison Range. Allen will be traveling the next two months. David expressed interest in a dry-land farming workshop.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Supervisors adjourned the meeting at 8:36 PM.

|            |                   |        |     |
|------------|-------------------|--------|-----|
| FIRST      | Craig             | SECOND | Max |
| DISCUSSION | None              |        |     |
| RESULTS    | Passed, unanimous |        |     |

***The next regularly scheduled meeting of the supervisors will be June 11, 6:30 PM at the district offices.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Supervisor Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Preparer Signature) Caroline McDonald