Lake County Conservation District Minutes

Regular Meeting, 6:30 pm

Thursday, October 10, 2026

Location: NRCS Service Center, Ronan

Attendance:

Present Supervisors and Associate Supervisors:

☒ Jan Niemeyer, Chair
☒Sigurd Jensen, Vice Chair
☒Curt Rosman, Treasurer
☒ Craig McClure
☐ Susan Gardner Absent
☒ Allen Branine – Via Zoom
☒ Max Krantz
☐Steve Hoffman, Assoc. EXCUSED
☒David Sturman, Assoc. at 7:14PM
☒Angie Knoll, Assoc.

LCCD Staff, Partners, and guests:

☒ Caroline McDonald, LCCD
☐ Daisy Coyne, LCCD BSWC - Excused
☐ Leo Rosenthal, FWP - Excused
☒ Rebecca Shoemaker, NRCS
Guests: Stan Kittock, Renovo Farm (via Zoom); Lynn Kelley; Buddy Westfall; Sandy Golden (310)

1. REGULAR SUPERVISOR MEETING OPENING

a. Call to order: Caroline called the roll. Quorum was noted and Jan called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
Public Comment: None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION	Approve September minutes as presented without corrections.		
FIRST	Curt	SECOND	Sigurd
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	NA		

3. SB-310 PERMITTING:

a. Extension Request- LA25004 Golden, Swan River
A one-year extension request is requested for LA25004 due to a delay in getting the additional permits from Army Corps and DEQ. Work will be done this fall, but weather conditions could cause delays beyond the October expiration date.

MOTION	Grant one year extension for existing permit		
FIRST	Allen	SECOND	Sigurd
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	Send permit w/ new date of expiration to landowner and copy FWP		

b. Other Open 310 Projects (no action needed)

1. FINANCIALS

a. Caroline reviewed the monthly financials.

MOTION	Approve Monthly Financial Reports - September 30, 2026, as presented.		
FIRST	Curt	SECOND	Max
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	None		

b. Meeting Owl Replacement Consideration

Caroline informed the Board that the Owl Meeting Camera is nearing the end of its useful life and may need to be replaced sooner than anticipated. The approximately $1,200 replacement was not included in the current budget. Caroline requested Board authorization to replace the camera, if necessary, with funds moved from reserves to cover the purchase.

MOTION	Grant Caroline meeting owl purchase authority		
FIRST	Sigurd	SECOND	Allen
DISCUSSION	None.		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	Caroline will purchase a new owl.		

2. BUSINESS

a. 310 Model Rules Review

Caroline continued a facilitated review of the 2021 LCCD Construction Standards for possible inclusion in the DNRC updated model rules. All suggested revisions will be compiled and provided to the board for final review once all standards have been considered in upcoming board meetings.

b. Meeting Updates

- Area V Annual Meeting: Allen & Craig reported on their attendance at the meeting.
- Virtual Fencing Roundtable: Rebecca reported on the Virtual Fencing Roundtable hosted by LCCD and NRCS for our producer community. Interest in doing a follow up in a year or so with locals who have adopted.
- LWG Meeting: Caroline provided a written report on the well-attended LWG including the identification of local resource priorities, specifically, irrigation, weeds, and land preservation.
- Pollinator Workshop: Caroline reported on the successful fall pollinator seed giveaway and Daisy's fall workshop. Board members requested staff investigate opportunities to revive the lunch and learn format with realtors with a focus on small acreage landowners.

c. Supervisor's Reference Binders Discussion – add Montana Code that covers Conservation districts.

d. Review Proposed Resolutions: Caroline reviewed the resolutions that were discussed at the Area V meeting, with the understanding that all passing resolutions will be considered by supervisors at the November meeting prior to convention.

e. Montana CD Employee Organization Donation
Caroline requested Board approval for a $200 donation to the Montana Conservation District Employees Organization (EO), in lieu of providing a physical item or package for the EO's annual auction that supports its work.

MOTION	Support the EO through a $200 donation.		
FIRST	Craig	SECOND	Max
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	Caroline will cut a check		

f. Holiday Board Meeting Planning
Caroline informed the board that Ninepipes has been reserved for the December board meeting to be held on December 10th.

g. Longevity Awards
Caroline noted that longevity awards were given during the Area V meeting in Eureka last month. Three current supervisors will be recognized at the December holiday meeting for their service.

h. Associate Appointment
Having attended 3 board meetings and other LCCD events, associate supervisor status was offered to Stan Kittock, Renovo Farms. Stan accepted the nomination.

MOTION	Appoint Stan Kittock to the Board of Supervisors as an associate member		
FIRST	Craig	SECOND	Sigurd
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP			

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:
Caroline reviewed the status of existing projects and ongoing outreach activities that are included in her written report. Caroline highlighted the new grants status reporting section.

7. COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION

a. 10-Minute Trainings: Officer Duties- DNRC Materials. Postpone until 310 updates are done.
b. (Acting) NRCS District Conservationist: Rebecca – 21 site visits in recent days.
c. Resource Exec. Committee: Sigurd—Stacy Barta has resigned from Rangeland Resources and will be replaced by Veronic Wolf from DNRC CD Bureau.
d. City/County Planning: Jan – Had a discussion of Polson's inventory of privately owned streets. Planning board recommended that the City annex privately owned streets within the city limits and provide services.
e. County planning – VACANT

8. Final Public Comment

David - Ronan Farmer's market is over. Dillon grazing conference attendance confirmed

Max attended training on Landfill management.

Lynn announced that the landfill has changed their policies on which plastics they will take and recycle.

Adjourn

MOTION	Observing no further public comment, move to adjourn the meeting.		
FIRST	Max	SECOND	Craig
DISCUSSION	None		
RESULTS	Passed, unanimous		
FOLLOW UP	The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.		

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the supervisors will be November 12, 6:30 PM at the district offices.

(Date) (Supervisor Signature)

(Date) (Preparer Signature) Caroline McDonald