

**STILLWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Columbus USDA office Conference Room
COLUMBUS, MT
August 1, 2017**

Chairman Steve Story called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Supervisors present were Steve Story, Bob Van Oosten, Will Downs, Noel Keogh, and Rod Fink. Also present were Garrett Larson, Krist Walstad, Jason Rhoten, Lindsey Clark, Deborah Edeler, Bruce and Theo Yanzick, and Tanya Lester. Corky Kem, Butch Behrent and Jim Edwards (Associate) were excused.

MINUTES

Noel Keogh moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with a correction to Will Downs seconding the motion on the minutes. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bob Van Oosten moved to accept the treasurer's report and pay bills as presented. Will Downs seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Noel - The SVWC BBQ is scheduled for the 12th with the float and pull the next day. There will be 50/50 fundraiser with the proceeds going to help the fire recovery of the Lodge Pole Complex Fire. Rowers are needed for rafts for the weed pull on the 13th if anybody is interested.

Rod - The City/County Planning Board is working on updating the Zoning rules.

Bob - The County Planning Board meeting for August is tomorrow.

Tanya - Upcoming meeting dates: September 22nd Area 4 MACD Meeting in Harlowton, Kick Start Supervisor Summit in Great Falls October 31st - November 1st, MACD Annual Meeting in Bozeman November 14th - 16th. Still working on setting up a meeting with Chad, Dan, Lindsey, and landowners over upcoming RRG project.

Krist - Looking forward to getting a new employee settled in the Joliet office. His name is Mike Hess. The Bozeman Area NRCS are having a retreat this week and both the Columbus and Joliet offices will be attending.

Garrett - On July 18 went to look at a Forage Kochia Plot studies in Carbon County. The 20th - 27th Garrett and Cedar have been out doing Range Inventories. Have received funding for 2 new EQIP grazing contracts.

Public Comment: None

310 APPLICATIONS & COMPLAINTS

17-E02 – Cove Ditch Emergency – Water is still not down far enough would like to look at scheduling inspection in September.

17-009 – Grizzly Wind Utility Project – Project is to bore utility lines under Kenyon Creek, Cow Creek, Keyser Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Toll Creek, and Berry Creek. Will Downs moved to make this a project. Rod Fink seconded. Motion carried. Will Downs moved to approve as proposed with an expiration date of 12/31/2020. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried.

17-010 – Black Bear Wind Utility Project – Project is to bore utility lines under Toll Creek, Stuck Creek, N. Fork Valley Creek, East Keyser Creek, and Greenwood Creek. Bob Van Oosten moved to make it a project. Noel Keogh seconded. Motion carried. Bob Van Oosten moved to approve as proposed with an expiration date of 12/31/2020. Will Downs seconded. Motion carried.

17-011 – Wahl - Bridge Maintenance – Project is to put in riprap to protect the abutment on the east side of the bridge. Noel Keogh moved to make it a project. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried. Noel Keogh and Jason Rhoten presented the Team member report from the inspection. Noel Keogh moved to approve the project with modifications. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Updates:

RRG-14-1605 – Kevin will be finishing up work on this grant in the next 6 months. Need to have public meeting to present results. Still waiting for the quarterly billing from Montana Tech.

RRGL application Yanzick/Brey Riddle – Working on a MOA with the ditch users to pay for the match portion of grant. Need to work out some date issues.

223 Grant – Lower Stillwater Assessment – Warren walked both side of the river from Johnson Bridge to White Bird Fishing Access last week. He will be returning the week of August 21st to walk the lower half. He will contact Lindsey to let her know who we need to call ahead.

FY 2018 Admin/310 Grant – Waiting for contract from DNRC.

ST1601 Hamilton Water Reservation – The Cove Ditch has not met yet to approve this application coming out of the Cove Ditch.

NEW BUSINESS

Hiring Committee Report – Received 7 resumes for the Administrator position. The committee will get together as soon as Corky is back in town. As soon as the hiring committee has a recommendation a special meeting will be called.

Special Fund at Yellowstone Bank – Yellowstone Bank contacted the district to let them know that there was a dormant account that has \$5 in it and has had no activity. They asked if the district would like to close the account. Bob Van Oosten moved to close the account. Rod Fink seconded. Motion carried.

Pine Crest Subdivision CCR's – An email was received from a real estate agent asking about the number of horses a landowner can have on a 20 acre plot in Pine Crest subdivision. The CCR's state "On all tracts, the number of animal units permitted shall not exceed the maximum recommended by the Soil Conservation District Officer in Stillwater County, taking into consideration not only the available forage on the tract, but also the availability of forage on other tracts or public land on which the owner of the tract has grazing rights to." It was decided that the SCD has no official position, but common sense would dictate the one horse would be plenty. Garrett has discussed issue with the realtor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2017 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Lester
Administrator

Steve Story
Chairman, SCD

Robert Van Oosten
Secretary, SCD