

# Minutes

## Stillwater Conservation District

October 10<sup>th</sup> 2023, at 7:00 PM

Columbus USDA Center (334 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Columbus, MT 59019)

The meeting was called to order by William Downs at 7:13 pm. A quorum 4 present.

Absent Board Members: Steve Story, Kylie Ballbach, Noel Keogh

<u>Members/Staff</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
William Downs	
Bob VanOosten	
Butch Behrent	
Ben Walker	
Garrett Larsen, NRCS	
Sharon Fletmetis, Administrator	
Ashley Thompson, Assistant Admin.	

### UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from previous meetings: **Butch**

Seconded: **Bob**

Vote: **Approved**

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion to approve September Financial Report and Bills to be paid: **Ben**

Seconded: **Bob**

Vote: **Approved**

Motion to approve transfer of \$3000 to debit: **Will**

Seconded: **Bob**

Vote: **Approved**

### REPORTS

Will Downs  
 Bob Van Oosten  
 Butch Behrent  
 Noel Keogh

Steve Story  
 Kylie Ballbach  
 Ben Walker  
 Darryl Thompson, Assoc.

Sharon Fletmetis, Admin  
 Ashley Thompson, Assist. Admin  
 Garret Larsen, NRCS

**Public Comment (3 Minute Limit)**

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### 310 APPLICATIONS, EMERGENCY FORMS, AND COMPLAINTS

APPL. #	Name	Stream	Project	Rec'd	Decision
#23-071	David Oltrogge, Kathleen Cochrane	Rosebud Creek	Modifications requested in emergency notice	9/5/23	Vote: <b>Approved with Mods</b> Motion: <b>Butch</b> Second: <b>Bob</b>
#23-072	Charley Parker	Stillwater River	Stillwater River	9/12/23	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#23-073C	Al Hogan	Keyser Creek	Frequent machinery through waterway	9/17/23	Vote: <b>Letter to be Sent</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#23-074	Kaylie Aldous, Mountain LTD	Multiple	Utility Boring	9/14/23	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#23-075	Kaylie Aldous, Mountain LTD	Multiple	Utility Boring	9/14/23	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#23-076V	Darren Donnes	Rosebud Creek	Work Without a Permit	9/29/23	Vote: <b>Violation – work done without a permit</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Will</b> Vote: <b>Submit a 310 Permit Application for work that was done after-the-fact assess a fine of \$500</b> M: <b>Will</b> S: <b>Bob</b>

### 310 APPLICATION EXTENSIONS

APPL. #	Name	Stream	Project	Rec'd	Decision
#22-034ext	Sandra Peck	Stillwater River	Approved As Is on 11/2/22	6/25/22	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#22-037ext	Chris Clark	Rosebud	Approved with Modifications on 10/6/22	6/24/22	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#22-135ext	Arnold Green	Stillwater River	Approved with Modifications on 10/6/22	8/29/22	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>
#22-177ext	Burton Williams	Fishtail Creek	Approved with Modifications on 11/2/22	11/1/22	Vote: <b>Approved As Is</b> Motion: <b>Bob</b> Second: <b>Ben</b>

### UNRESOLVED COMPLAINTS & VIOLATIONS

- #23-052V Judy Krone – Yellowstone River

- Another \$500 Fine will be assessed if a joint application for work done and fine have not been received by next board meeting.
  - Motion: Will
  - Second: Bob
- **#23-064V and #23-070V** Montana Rail Link – Yellowstone River
  - MRL Contested violation on grounds of exemption for cleanup. None of Conservation District violations have been in relation to cleanup/removal operations. Violations have been regarding the installation of the pad and bridge.

### GRANTS

- EWP
- Mendenhall

### NEW BUSINESS

- **Convention Panel – Ideas & Available Board Members**
  - Sharon, Will, Bob and potentially Butch will be in attendance.
- **2023 Convention Resolutions – Board will review and vote next meeting.**
  - **Passed at Area 1**
    - 23-01 *A resolution to coordinate reuse of used infrastructure materials*  
Policy Statement Petroleum County CD CD Operations
  - **Passed at Area 5**
    - 23-02 *Natural Water Bodies and Land Preservation Disclosure*  
Policy Statement Missoula CD Water Resources
  - **Passed as amended at Area 1**
    - 23-03 *Irrigator Water Rights*  
Legislative Directive Roosevelt CD Water Resources
  - **Passed as amended at Area 3**
    - 23-04 *Opposition to BLM's proposed Public Lands Rule for Conservation Leasing*  
National Directive Phillips CD National + Soil and Land Use
  - **Passed at Area 1**
    - 23-05 *Resolution to Support the Governor's Recommendation to Exclude Grizzly Bear Encroachment into Eastern Montana*  
Policy Statement Valley County CD Soil and Land Use
- **Personnel – Ashley will be leaving the Conservation District. District will begin advertising the position.**
- **Garret Larsen presents NRCS EQUIP & CSP Contracts**
  - Motion to approve all 14 Contracts: Bob
  - Seconded: Butch

### SAVE THE DATES

- November 7<sup>th</sup> – November Board Meeting
- November 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – MACD Convention
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Holiday, Office Closed
- December 5<sup>th</sup> – December Board Meeting
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – Holiday, Office Closed

#### **Close Meeting**

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING:

SECONDED:

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:00 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED: November 7, 2023

310 Applications must be received by 12pm 7 days before the meeting and have been inspected to be reviewed.

Agenda items must be submitted to the CD Office by noon the Monday before the scheduled meeting. Agendas are available at the CD Office upon request.

All meetings of the CD are open to the public and are voice recorded for accuracy.