



Stillwater Conservation District

Po Box 48 * 334 North 9th Street Columbus MT

406-322-5359 ext 101 * sharon.flemetis@mt.nacdn.net

June 11th, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Location: USDA Service Center Conference Room (334 N. 9th Street, Columbus, MT)

Meeting called to order by: Robert Van Oosten at 6:04pm

Supervisors Present: Robert Van Oosten (*Chairman*), Noel Keogh (*Vice Chairman*), Butch Behrent (*Treasurer*), Steve Story (*Secretary*), Ben Walker (*Urban Supervisor*), Nathan Jones (*Urban Supervisor*), Darryl Thompson (*Associate Member*)

Supervisors Approved Absent:

Others Present: Sharon Flemetis (*District Admin*), Garret Larson (*NRCS*), Ben Bailey (*FWP*), Colton Shimer (*USACE*), John Simmons

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from 03/05/24 Meeting: **TABLED**

Seconded:

Discussion:

Vote:

Motion to approve minutes from 04/02/24 Meeting: **TABLED**

Seconded:

Discussion:

Vote:

Motion to approve minutes from 05/09/24 Meeting: **TABLED**

Seconded:

Discussion:

Vote:

Public Comment

*** 3 Minute Limit * The Public will conduct themselves in a professional manner or be asked to leave.***

John Simmons presented his complaints with detailed historical information on the Agency Ditch and on his view of the water rights of Lincoln Powell.

REPORTS

Robert "Bob" Van Oosten – None

Butch Behrent – None

Steve Story – None

Darryl Thompson – None

Noel Keogh- None

Ben Walker- None

Nate Jones – None

Garrett Larson- None

Sharon Fletmetis – None

Celeste Barnett – absent

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Presented by Sharon Fletmetis – Draft Report Given

GRANT UPDATES

EWP- No Discussion

Mendenhall – No Discussion

Forest Service/ERLA - No Discussion

ARPA Danford- No Discussion

ARPA Orchard- No Discussion

EC – No Discussion

NEW BUSINESS

Storage Unit – We need more storage space; we are looking into options for a shed or container to place out behind the building.

Flood Recovery Flight – Sharon has been invited to attend a flood recovery flight July 10, 2024 and speak about the EWP projects. The flight will be free, but she would still be paid her wages for the day.

Motion to for Sharon to attend the flight and be paid for the day: Butch

Seconded: Ben Discussion: None Vote: Approved

OLD BUSINESS

Health Insurance – Need for Health Insurance plan for Sharon. She found various plans that would work and the District could afford. She prefers the Blue Cross Blue Shield Platinum Plan. A new permissive Mill Levy will fund some of this. Celeste has opted out of getting insurance through the District.

Motion to purchase the Platinum Policy and for the District to pay 100% of the cost of the policy: Nate

Seconded: Ben Discussion: None Vote: Approved

Conservation Day – Payment for Cotter’s Septic System for the Porta Potties

Rain Barrel Workshop - postponed

310 APPLICATIONS AND COMPLAINTS

APPL. #	Name	Stream	Project	Rec'd	Decision
#24-08	Greg Langford	Yellowstone	Bank Stabilization	4/11/24	Motion To Approve: Noel Second: Nate Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-09	Noel Keogh	Stillwater	Bank Stabilization	4/17/2024	Tabled
#24-010	Sandra Peck	Stillwater	Bank Stabilization	4/19/24	Tabled
#24-012M	Dempster Ditch	West Rosebud	Maintenance	5/20/24	Motion to Approve a 5 year permit with Modification of work can only be done 50' above the headgate: Noel Second: Nate

					Discussion: Suggest consider a removable block to divert water to the headgate during low flow Vote: Approved
#24-013	Neils-Thomas Ditch	West Rosebud	Headgate Maintenance	5/20/24	Motion to Approve with the modification of it being a 5 year permit: Nate Second: Steve Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-014E	Kelly Excavating	Fishtail Creek	Beaver Dam Removal	5/17/24	Motion to Approve: Nate Second: Ben Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-015	John Skiles	Stillwater	Rip Rap Repair	5/22/24	Tabled
#24-016	SVWC	E & W Rosebud, Stillwater	Debris Removal	6/3/24	Motion to Approve with the modification any new crossing will need a new app: Nate Second: Ben Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-017	Stillwater Mine	Nye Creek	Weir Placement	6/5/24	Motion to Approve: Noel Second: Nate Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-018	Northwestern Energy	Rosebud Creek	Gas Line Relocation	6/3/24	Motion to Approve: Nate Second: Ben Discussion: none Vote: Approved
#24-019E	Tim Schaff	West Rosebud	Tree Removal	6/10/24	Motion to Approve: Nate Second: Ben Discussion: none Vote: Approved

#23-088 D4 Properties – Permit Expiration 4/3/25 – No Discussion

#23-052V Judy Krone – Discussed how to proceed with the attorney and are filing a complaint with the court.

#23-064V Montana Rail Link & #23-070V Montana Rail Link – Sharon, Bob, and Ben Bailey visited the site 6/10/24, water was too high to determine anything, TABLED until another visit can be made.

John Simmons Complaints-

#24-020C – Motion: Activity is not a violation as defined by District rules: **Nate Seconded: **Noel** Discussion: **None** Vote: **Approved****

#24-021C – Motion: Activity is not a violation as defined by District rules: **Nate Seconded: **Ben** Discussion: **None** Vote: **Approved****

John Skiles Complaint – waiting for the as-built from the engineer - TABLED

Save The Dates

June 19, 2024 – Juneteenth

June 27, 2024 - Site Inspections

July 4, 2024 – Independence Day

July 9, 2024 - Monthly Board Meeting 6pm

August 1, 2024 - Site Inspections

August 6, 2024 - Monthly Board Meeting 6pm

August 29, 2024 - Site Inspections

September 2, 2024 – Labor Day

September 3, 2024 - Monthly Board Meeting 6pm

September 26, 2024 - Site Inspections

October 1, 2024 - Monthly Board Meeting 6pm

October 14, 2024 – Columbus Day

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING: Bob Van Oosten

SECONDED:NA

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 10:10pm

Minutes Approved on:

Minutes Approved By _____ Date: _____

310 Applications must be received by 12pm seven days prior to 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 and at stillwatercd.org once finalized. All meetings of the CD are open to the public. Meetings may be recorded by the district for note taking purposes and then will be destroyed once minutes are approved. Once approved the minutes will be available at stillwatercd.org and the County Clerk and Records Office.