

**STILLWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Columbus USDA office Conference Room  
COLUMBUS, MT  
March 3, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Steve Story at 7:25 PM. Supervisors present were Steve Story, Butch Behrent, Corky Kem, Bob Van Oosten, and Noel Keogh. Also present were Tanya Lester, Travis West, Alicia Stickney, Ken Joki, David Pals, Ralph Saunders, Garrett Larson, Jason Rhoten and Lindsey Clark. Supervisors Rod Fink, Will Downs and Jim Edwards (Associate) were excused.

**MINUTES**

Bob Van Oosten moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Noel Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Noel Keogh moved to accept the Treasure's report and pay bills as presented. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

Noel – Attended BWMA meeting in Columbus on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Interested in the cheatgrass soil amendment and would like to see how we could work with the county weed district and/or the SVWC to see about buying a 250 gal drum for trial use in the area. The BWMA is also looking at boot washing stations and weed awareness signs for trailheads in the Beartooth area. Range Days is moving forward in Carbon County they are always looking for donated funds.

Tanya – Attended Range Days meeting in Joliet on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. Was assigned to work on website. Will be attending the next meeting March 12<sup>th</sup>. Have been requested to work on the website for the YR CDC, will be attending meeting in March to find out more details. Started working on Stillwater Conservation Day for May. Will be working on budget for approval at next meeting.

Jason – Approved a 124 Permit for North Stillwater Road where the rock slide occurred. Would like to set up AIS/Mussel Response Update Presentation for our next meeting.

Garrett – Attended a Sugarbeet Symposium Jan 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Liked the format and would like to incorporate it into future workshops. Attended expiring CRP meeting and a Sage Grouse Initiative meeting. Has been asked by the State Conservationist to serve on her advisory board. Working on 2017 EQIP funding now will know more about this later in the month. 2018 EQIP application deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Went over Civil Rights Review with SCD Supervisors present.

Public Comment: None

**PRESENTATION**

DOJ – Natural Resource Damage Program - \$12 million ExxonMobil oil spill settlement – Alicia Stickney  
Alicia provided an overview of the Natural Resource Damage Program as it is attached to the Montana Department of Justice. Then she explained the \$12 million settlement and how it could be used in Stillwater County.

### 310 APPLICATIONS & COMPLAINTS

17-003 – Thompson Rip Rap – Travis West was on hand to answer questions about changes to the plan. DNRC floodplain requested a new calculation in regard to rock size, but it did not change the size of the rock. In regard to the ACOE and mitigation issues, the length of the rip rap area was downsized to 233'. FWP had requested that willows be incorporated in the plan, which was done. Corky Kem moved to approve the revised project. Noel Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

17-005 – Peck Road Maintenance AMP – The application is to get an annual maintenance permit to maintain a road along the Stillwater River. Bob Van Oosten moved to make it a project. Noel Keogh seconded. Motion carried. Butch Behrent and Jason will inspect in March.

Evans Tree Removal – Barbara Evans called the SCD asking about liability of flooding if a tree is to fall in the river. The board decided they cannot give advice on the liability of the homeowner, but if an application is received they would make it a project and take a look.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Grant Updates:

RRG-14-1605 – Quarterly billing was paid.

RRGL application Yanzick/Brey Riddle – HB14 which includes RRGL grants has gone through executive action and is now awaiting appropriations.

223 Grant – Lower Stillwater Assessment – Lindsey is working on the Limited solicitations. She currently has 2 responses for the assessment.

#### Applications

RPG – Osborne/Foard Headgate Rehab PER – This is to look at options to work on a headgate on Fishtail Creek. Bob Van Oosten moved to sponsor this grant application. Noel Keogh seconded. Motion carried.

WVG – Comprehensive Implementation of SVWC's Natural Resource Enhancement Goals – This grant is to help with the funding of SVWC's current and future workload dealing with natural resources. Noel Keogh moved to sponsor this grant. Butch Behrent seconded. Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2017 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Lester  
Administrator

Steve Story  
Chairman, SCD

Robert Van Oosten  
Secretary, SCD