

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

Chairman Steve Story called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Supervisors present were Steve Story, Butch Behrent, Corky Kem, Bob Van Oosten, Noel Keogh, and Will Downs. Also present were Tanya Lester, Garrett Larson, Krist Walstad, Jason Rhoten, Lindsey Clark, and Heidi Stadel. Supervisors Rod Fink and Jim Edwards (Associate) were excused.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Duane (Butch) Behrent and William Downs were sworn in as Conservation District Board Supervisors by Stillwater County Clerk and Recorder Heidi Stadel.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Noel Keogh moved to re-elect the current slate of officers: Steve Story, Chairman; Corky Kem, Vice Chair; Bob Van Oosten, Secretary; and Butch Behrent, Treasurer. Bob Van Oosten Seconded. Motion Carried.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Noel Keogh moved to approve the updated slate of appointees as: Rod Fink, City/County Planning; Bob Van Oosten, County Planning; Steve Story, YRCDC (Noel agreed to assist); Bob Van Oosten, Beartooth RC&D; Butch Behrent, SVWC; and Will Downs, MSCA. Corky Kem seconded. Motion carried.

**MINUTES**

Noel Keogh moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Butch Behrent seconded. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

**REPORTS**

Noel – Range Resource Executive Committee's Winter Grazing seminar is Jan 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> in Glasgow. Range Days is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> in Carbon County. Krist mentioned they could use some help with fundraising. SVWC's annual meeting will be Jan 28<sup>th</sup> in Fishtail at the Community Center. Lindsey has a presenter scheduled to talk about a Cheatgrass Biocontrol Agent, NRCS will give an update and may talk about upcoming Range Days, and if there is a new Stillwater County Weed coordinator Lindsey will invite them to give an update

Bob – County Planning Board is working on new regulations to help alleviate confusion between City/County Planning and County Planning. He will report on the Water Reservation meeting he attended in Billing at our next meeting.

Tanya – SCD is hosting a Livestock Nutrition Workshop for the NRCS at the fire hall on Jan 24<sup>th</sup>. MACD is hosting a Meet and Greet with the Legislators on Jan 24<sup>th</sup>. Invitations to our legislators have been sent. SVWC ranked projects from the Rosebuds and Fishtail Creek Assessments and there may be a planning grant request coming in March.

Jason – There was a 124 violation that has been taken care of for an unpermitted stream crossing over the West Rosebud. He is looking at a future 124 permit for a new bridge at Spring Creek. Still concerned about the finished product on the walking path that crosses Keyser Creek.

Steve – YRCDC meeting in December was cancelled and moved to January 20<sup>th</sup>. He went to Bozeman with Lindsey and Tanya to present on the 223 grant application for the Lower Stillwater Assessment.

Garrett/Krist – NRCS had a CSP training November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. NRCS hoping to be working on ranking EQIP soon to know funding possibly in March. Garrett attended MACD annual meeting in Sidney along with Bob and Tanya. Garrett attended a NRCS soil health committee meeting with Mark Doely. There is an upcoming Soil health workshop in Billings on January 18<sup>th</sup> featuring Dr. Dwayne Beck and Dan Forgey and an upcoming Montana Sugarbeet Symposium on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Public Comment: None

### **310 APPLICATIONS & COMPLAINTS**

15-002 – Dave Oltrogge requested an extension to for this project that has portions on the Stillwater and on the Rosebud due to the fact that the weather changed so quickly. Noel Keogh moved to allow a 1 year extension. Bob Van Oosten seconded. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Grant Updates:**

RRG-14-1605 – Received an extension for this grant. The new completion date is Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2017.

CBMPP Grant – Final payment and the final report have been finished. Montana Tech still believes they are missing a check. Tanya is looking into the matter.

RRGL application Yanzick/Brey Riddle – The application was ranked 10<sup>th</sup> out of 93 applications. A board member will need to go to Helena to present; Bob and Noel said they may be available. Chad, Lindsey, Theo Yanzick, possibly John Noe and Tanya will be meeting on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> to go over what is needed for the presentation.

223 Grant – Lower Stillwater Assessment – Lindsey, Steve, Tanya, and Bill Mytton presented in Bozeman at the RCAC meeting. The grant was received. DNRC contract has been approved. Tanya and Lindsey are working on a contract for SCD and SVWC.

YCD Letter about Forest Service – Since the board did not receive a copy of the letter that YCD requested the SCD board to sign and they read a letter that SGCD had previously sent it was agreed that the matter had been addressed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

2016 Annual Report – The annual report was presented and Noel requested one change: Noel Keogh Ranch be changed to Key O Inc. Ranch under the education portion.

2017 Annual Work Plan – Bob Van Oosten moved to approve the 2017 Annual Work Plan. Corky Kem seconded. Motion carried.

CSP Conservation Plans - At 8:40 pm Chairman Steve Story closed the meeting for NRCS to present CSP Conservation Plans. At 8:50 pm the meeting was reopened. Cory Kem moved to approve all 4 CSP Conservation Plans. Will Downs seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2017 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Lester  
Administrator

Steve Story  
Chairman, SCD

Robert Van Oosten  
Secretary, SCD