



CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chair, Pete Woll, called the February 26, 2024, Business meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present: Pete Woll, Chair; Roger Marsonette; Vice Chair; Donna Pridmore, Secretary/Treasurer; Bill Yankee, Supervisor; Mike Kopitzke, Supervisor; Scott Rumsey, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Board members absent: None.

Also, in attendance were Samantha Tappenbeck and Jessie Walthers, Flathead CD Staff; Mark Siderius, Associate Supervisor; Sean Johnson, NRCS; Mark Noland; Bill Meyers; Deb Starling; Brian Bay; Aaron Connors; Brad Fields; Zack Wenza, Blue Cat Boat Rentals; Holly McKenzie, DNRC; Jedd Sankar-Gordon.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Item 1: Signature Authority

- Authorization for Samantha Tappenbeck to sign on behalf of Supervisors attending the meeting virtually.

Consent Agenda Item 2: Minutes

- 1/22/2024 Business Meeting Minutes

Consent Agenda Item 3: Financial

Check Detail dated 2/14/2024

1. Fisher's Technology \$330.05
2. Land-Tech Landscaping Inc \$240.00
3. MACD \$4,000.00
4. Mountain States Leasing – Kalispell \$1,884.86
5. School District #5 – Vo Ag \$5,000.00
6. Susan D. Hulslander, CPA \$488.00

Consent Agenda Item 4: Correspondence

- TD&H Engineering request for input on impact criteria report for proposed subdivision along Cow Creek immediately downstream of ongoing restoration site.

Donna Pridmore motioned “to approve the consent agenda.” Mike Kopitzke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vocational Agriculture (Vo Ag) students and director Brian Bay shared information and photos about their program and old swather which they are replacing with funding provided by Flathead Conservation District and other sources. Fundraising efforts continue.

NEW BUSINESS

USGS Foys Bend Gage: Partner Funding Request: Samantha Tappenbeck

- Request for \$4,066 to fund annual maintenance and operation costs
- Partner funded gage
- Mark Siderius will provide overview of the value of this gage site on the mainstem Flathead River

Mark Siderius explained the history of installation and use of the Foys Bend gage. The Bureau of Reclamation denied using it but there had never been an issue after that until 2022. Mark felt that now the gage is going to be more important than it has been in the past. It is in an important spot in the river system because it catches the backwatering from Flathead Lake elevation and informs users regarding impacts to landowners and agricultural production in the lower valley. Other partners use it in management decisions, but nobody wants to step up and share in the cost to operate the gage. Pete Woll asked if we might touch base with those partners that are using it in order to identify and track how it is being used. 2900 feet on the gage indicates passing out of high water and into economic impacts.

Donna Pridmore motioned "that we fund the annual maintenance and operations costs in the amount of \$4,066 for the Foys Bend gage." Bill Yankee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Forestry Expo: Partner Funding Request: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that Family Forestry Expo submitted a request for funding to support direct student costs. Last year the district provided \$3,500 for printing of the student workbooks.

The 2024 budget included with request

Bill Yankee motioned "to support the FFE partner funding request for \$3,500 for 2024." Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Flathead Waters Cleanup: Partner Funding Request: Jessie Walthers presented a request in the amount of \$500 for the reusable bag order and recommend funding from Education Supplies or Partner Programs. She explained that the reusable cleanup bags are handed out during the Flathead Waters Cleanup event and at designated stations around the valley and river access points. Pete Woll asked if the AIS Education Specialist might carry a supply to hand out as well. Mike Kopitzke motioned "that we provide \$500 from Education Supplies for the cleanup bags." Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Youth Camp Sponsorship Request: Jessie Walthers explained that Rachel Petrone submitted a camp sponsorship request in the amount of \$213.75, for her son to attend the Land to Hand Art in the Garden camp.

Donna Pridmore motioned "that we grant the sponsorship request in the amount of \$213.75." Bill Yankee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Education Grant Request: Jessie Walthers explained that the district received a new application (#FCD EG 2024-06) from Whitefish Legacy Partners for field trips and bus costs in the amount of \$2,400.00. Donna Pridmore motioned "to give \$1500 towards bus trips." Mike Kopitzke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Education Grant Final Report: Jessie Walthers explained that the Whitefish Middle School had received education grant #FCD EG 2024-02, for frogs for dissection. They have submitted the final report, and she recommended approval of reimbursement in the amount of \$1,206.06.

Donna Pridmore motioned "to approve the final reimbursement of \$1206.06 for the education grant." Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

End of Month Reports: Donna Pridmore reviewed July, August, September, October 2023 End of Month Reports with the Board. Donna Pridmore motioned "to approve the July, August, September, and October 2023 End of Month Reports." Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution to Transfer Funds: Samantha Tappenbeck presented the Resolution to Transfer Funds from account #7201 to the CIP fund #7235. Donna Pridmore motioned "to transfer funds from fund 7201 to 7235." Bill Yankee seconded. Discussion over whether it is necessary to transfer these funds or if we might use those funds in other ways in our budget. Question about whether we allocated \$5000 to the CIP fund or \$100. Need to come back to this. Donna Pridmore retracted the motion. Second agreed to retract. Samantha will get further information and bring it back to the March business meeting.

CDA Grant Application: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that she had drafted the grant application for reimbursement of \$3500 for MACD dues expense. The application would require approval and signature on the authorization form. Donna Pridmore motioned "to approve the draft grant application for reimbursement of \$3500 for the MACD dues." Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Equipment Disposal: Samantha Tappenbeck requested disposal of the district's earth auger. She explained that the coil is not starting, the repair shop cannot get a replacement part, the motor needs to be replaced, and it is totaled. Donna Pridmore motioned "to dispose of the Predator soil auger". Bill Yankee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that Ginger Kauffman had a satisfactory annual performance review, and she is due for a step increase per the schedule in our Personnel Policy to Grade 8, Step 10. The increase would be made effective Pay Period #6. Donna Pridmore motioned "to give Ginger Kauffman the step increase as per the personnel policy." Bill Yankee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Flathead CD Staff: Attached

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Attached

DNRC Conservation Districts Bureau: Attached

Flathead County Planning Board (FCPB): Attached

Haskill Basin Watershed Council (HBWC): The next meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2024.

Flathead River Commission (FRC): Donna Pridmore reported that there has not been a recent meeting, and they are waiting on the finalized report and database from Tetra Tech for the Flathead River Boat Wake Erosion Study.

Western Montana Conservation Commission: Attached

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

Meyers Bigfork Bayside Request:

- Request for letter of support from landowner in Bigfork Bay
- Bill Meyers and other stakeholders plan to attend the meeting and present the request

Mr. Meyers provided overview of certificate of survey for property in Bigfork Bay. Provided history of work on the stream bottom and current condition of gravel deposit. Explained that dozens of people have bottomed out their boats and hit props on the gravel deposit. Discussed placement of buoys to direct traffic to safe access point. Proposals in development for expansion of marina pending property sale; want to ensure safe access for boat traffic. Meyers is willing to donate 180 feet to provide deep channel access into public dock. Mr. Miller described the damage to many boats trying to access the area. Senator Noland is in support, has discussed with DNRC, FWP and the Governor's office, and they believe it's a great idea. Legislators (9) are in support of it, seems like a no brainer. Asking for encouragement and support from FCD to express support to DNRC. FWP legal is not interested because there is no adjacent park land.

Roger suggested we table it until we get more information on whether or not DNRC or FWP is in support. Mr. Meyers clarified that they need to go before the Governor and agencies to identify the problem and see support for addressing the issue.

Samantha asked if Mr. Meyers envisioned excavation to be necessary. No, and FWP concurred that it would not be necessary. Discussion of placement and anchoring of buoys. FWP would need to place the buoys, but DNRC would need to accept the land donation.

Mike Kopitzke motioned "to have staff draft the letter and consider it at the next meeting."
Donna Pridmore seconded.

Bill Yankee asked to discuss the content of the letter and how we might compose the letter. Donna Pridmore added that we should encourage FWP to take care of buoy management to address the safety issues and access issue.

Vote: In favor: All but one; Roger Marsonette opposed. Motion carried.

NRCS MOA Review: Sean Johnson, NRCS,

- Annual review of MOA between NRCS-FCD
- Annual review of Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist

MMIA Health Insurance Option: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that MACD is seeking input from CDs on interest in a health insurance option for agencies. CDs could choose to use MMIA insurance for employees and supervisors may also be eligible. Samantha submitted a response to the survey indicating Flathead CD may be interested for district employees and supervisors.

MT Plant Conservation Conference: Jessie Walthers explained that the Montana Plant Conservation conference will be held April 11-12 in Bozeman. The conference will cover restoring native plant communities.

The next 310-permit meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2024, 1:00 P.M. in person and via ZOOM.

Adjournment: Donna Pridmore motioned “to adjourn”. Bill Yankee seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 P.M.

Submitted By:

Samantha Tappenbeck
Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>3/25/2024</u>	<u>Pete Woll</u>	<u>Chair</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title – Chair etc.)

Staff Report: February 2024

Samantha Tappenbeck, Resource Conservationist

Jessie Walthers, Conservation Program Manager

Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Office and Administration

310

- 2024 total 310's to date = 16
- Processing of 310's
- Scanning of older 310-files continues
- The 2023 310 Report was submitted to DNRC. If funding becomes available, DNRC uses the numbers in the report to determine 2024 310 Administrative Grant funds for the district.
- McDonald Creek violation, Ambler vs. FCD litigation:
 - Coordinated closed meeting with Supervisors and attorney
 - Correspondence with insurance company for status update
- Consulted legal counsel and DNRC 310 Permit Coordinator on several 310 related issues:
 - List of state navigable waters
 - Bear Creek violations and format/receipt of application submitted for remediation
 - Request for reevaluation of permit decision
- Worked on draft revisions and edits to Adopted Rules

Bookkeeping

- Processed daily bookkeeping items: payroll, payroll reports and payments, invoices, credit card receipts, deposits, grant billing/vendor invoices, program payments, and reconciliation of statements.
- Updates to district files made as needed.
- Worked on End of Month reports to date for FY 23/24.
- Investigated QuickBooks subscription issue.

Office Management and Support

- Staff meetings held weekly per staff availability.
- Drafted job description and budget for AIS Education Specialist position; Met with contact interested in the position; Scheduled meeting with FWP and CSKT to discuss program implementation and opportunities for collaboration.
- Coordinated with USGS regarding funding request for Foy's Bend gage
- Drafted and reviewed 2024 Annual Work Plan
- Noticed regular and special meetings
- Dealt with VISA statement issue and obtained refunds for rooms from Missoula motel
- Dealt with district vehicle damage, tow, and repair
- Staff performance evaluation

Projects

Cow Creek Restoration Project

- Seedling delivery pending in spring 2024
- Drafted tentative work plan for spring planting, maintenance, and reed canary grass mitigation; arranged meeting with Montana Conservation Corps regarding availability of MCC crew
- Met with DNRC Water Resources Specialist for the Clark Fork & Kootenai Basins regarding drought impacts to Cow Creek

Trumbull Creek Restoration & Aquifer Protection Project

- Met with GPIA contact to review final designs and discuss challenges to implementation
- Project designs are complete but insufficient funds have been secured for construction and implementation of this project
- Cost estimates:
 - Secured funds for project construction = \$75,939
 - TOTAL project construction estimate = \$311,841
 - Birch Grove Rd crossing construction estimate = \$152,713
 - Channel grading, streambank restoration, private culvert crossing construction estimate = \$159,128
- Landowner commitment remains uncertain; Plan to host landowner/stakeholder/partner meeting to present final project design this winter

Study of Boat Wakes and Erosion on the Flathead River

- Grant contracts #WMG-22-0089A and 23G-22-3725 termed out on 12/31/2023; Contract for Services with Tetra Tech termed out on 12/31/2023
- Waiting on final report and database deliverables from Tetra Tech
- Approximately 10% (\$10,246) of project funding remains in budget; will hold until final report is complete and deliverables provided

Programs

College Scholarships

- Received two college scholarship applications to date.

Conservation Grant Program

- Conducted several in-office landowner consultations for 2024 applications.
- Received two conservation grant applications.
- Conducted one site visit.

Education Grant Program

- Received several inquiries and one new application.
- Received one final report.

Pollinator Initiative

- Received three inquiries and sign-ups for pollinator initiative.

Rain Garden Initiative

- Worked on Rain Garden Presentation for Montana Native Plant Society Go Native program.
- Coordinated with Rain Garden partners for spring and summer outreach planning.

Seedlings & Native Seed Program

- Conducted consultations and provided support for landowners ordering seedlings.
- Conducted outreach and provided information on seedling and native grass program.
- Processed one cost share agreement for native grass mix.

Watershed Support Program

- Program funding is currently allocated to support of the Trumbull Creek Restoration & Aquifer Protection Project and the Flathead River Boat Wake Erosion Study

Youth Camp Sponsorships

- One Youth Camp Sponsorship request was received this month, and several additional questions and inquiries.
- Conducted outreach for MT Natural Resources Camp
- Met with Land to Hand to discuss good ways to facilitate scholarships to their camps.

Education & Outreach

Education Events

- Coordination with partners for Land Stewardship Series planning. Opened registration this month.
- Created and printed outreach materials and posters for upcoming outreach events including Land to Hand and Home & Garden Show.

Local news media

- Staff interviewed with KPAX for press release and article about the Living in the Flathead Guide: <https://www.kpax.com/news/local-news/flathead-county/living-in-flathead-online-guide-helps-people-learn-how-to-responsibly-live-in-montana>

Demonstration Garden

- Several Demonstration Garden winter photos shared on Social Media.

Website

- Posted approved meeting minutes and agendas; Updated website with information about 2024 meeting schedule and new zoom information
- Maintenance and updates: WordPress, plug-ins, calendar events
- Updated website with upcoming workshops and classes, including registration forms.
- Website visited by 1.7K Users; Impressions = 37K; Total Clicks = 402

Social Media

- Facebook (last 28 days): Page followers = 1,021; Post Reach = 195
- Instagram (last 30 days): Page followers = 910; Accts Reach = 2

The Local Dirt eNewsletter

- Distributed on 2/5/24 to 802 recipients.

Partnerships, Meetings, Trainings

- Land Stewardship Series Planning Meeting 1/29/24
- Family Forestry Expo Planning Meeting 1/31/24
- Somers Beach State Park Restoration Meeting 2/9/24
- Flathead Waters Cleanup Partner Meeting 2/13/24
- River to Lake Initiative Meeting 2/14/24
- CD Roundtable/DNRC Training: Emotional First Aid/Resilience 2/21/24
- Employee Organization Board of Directors Meeting 2/21/24

Upcoming:

- Family Forestry Expo Planning Meeting 2/28/24
- Haskill Basin Watershed Meeting 2/28/24

Photos



The District vehicle was vandalized. They stole gas and the Rolling Rivers Trailer!

NRCS DC Report – 2/26/2024

Sean Johnson

➤ Programs

- EQIP and Joint Chiefs
 - Able to get our first contracts funded for the year through the ACTNOW process which is months ahead of when we usually get our first contracts fully funded.
 - Finished ranking all EQIP applications last week, waiting on next round of selections to take place for funding decisions
- CSP
 - No new CSP applications for FY24

➤ Review Items

- Reviewed all new TIPs submitted in Missoula Area
- Soil Health Symposium in Billings
- North Fork InterLocal Meeting
- FireSafe Flathead Meeting

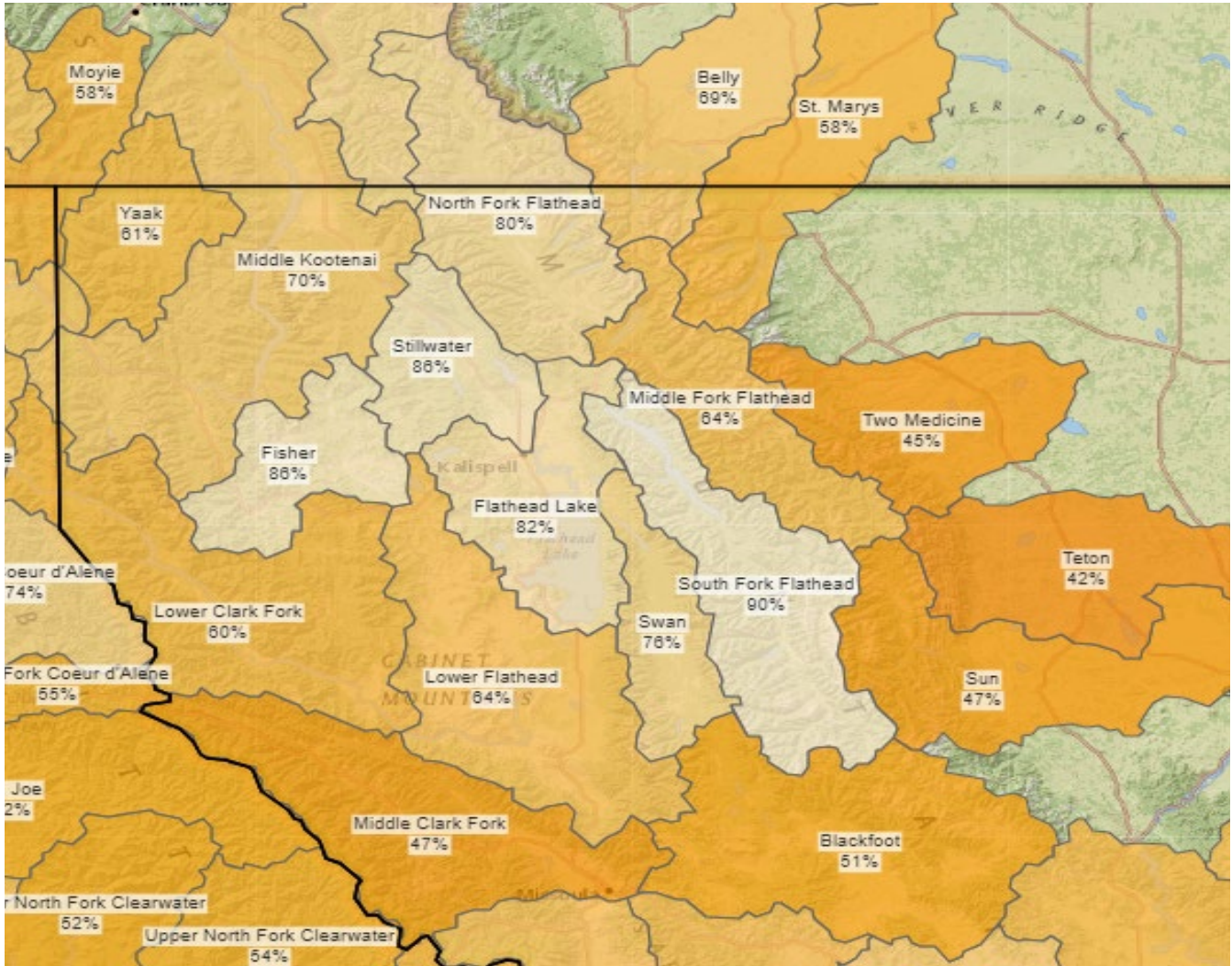
➤ Upcoming Items

- Staff attending stock water/irrigation design training the week of March 4-8
- FireSafe Flathead Meeting, March 20th
- Continuing Resolution set to end on March 2nd as of right now
- Kalispell is currently set to get a forestry intern for the summer although its still early and that could change

➤ Miscellaneous

- Snow Survey
 - Flathead Basin up from 61% to 72% of normal. Sub-basins range from 90% (South Fork) to 64% (Lower Flathead & Middle Fork).
- Drought – About half of Flathead has moved from “Moderate” to “Severe”.
Increase in drought across the state overall
 - None – 12%, D0 – 45%, D1 – 25%, D2 – 18%, D3 – 0%, D4 – 0%, February
 - None – 31%, D0 – 47%, D1 – 19%, D2 – 3%, D3 – 0%, D4 – 0%, January
 - None – 67%, D0 – 7%, D1 -17% , D2 – 9%, D3 – 0%, D4 – 0%, November
 - None – 57%, D0 – 7%, D1 – 13%, D2 – 20%, D3 – 3%, D4 – 0%, October
 - None – 53%, D0 – 8%, D1 – 14%, D2 – 15%, D3 – 10%, D4 – 0% - September
 - None – 46%, D0 – 16%, D1 – 24%, D2 – 13%, D3 – 0%, D4 – 0% - August

February Snow Report



Montana

[Home /](#)

February Drought Monitor

Map released: Thurs. February 15, 2024

Data valid: February 13, 2024 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

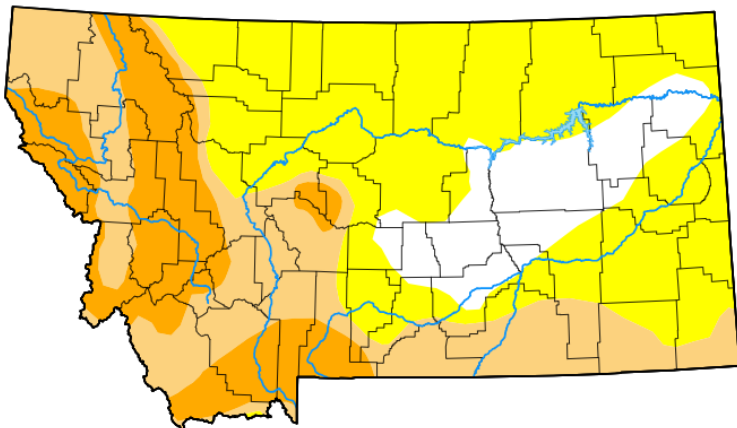
Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

[Deborah Bathke](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Richard Tinker](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC





REPORT TO WESTERN CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
FEBRUARY 2024

ELECTION RELATED Q & A

Q: What are the dates in 2024 that a CD supervisor candidate can file a Declaration for Nomination and Oath of Candidacy?

A: January 11 – March 11

Q: Should a conservation district provide supervisor candidate information as a service to the public on their platform? (i.e.: website, social media)

A: The Code of Ethics Use of Public Resources for Political Purposes, [2-2-122](#), MCA states:

- Except as provided in this section, a judicial officer, public officer, legislator, or public employee may not use or permit the use of public time, facilities, equipment, state letterhead, supplies, personnel, or funds *to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue unless the use is:* Exceptions in MCA not applicable.

Even if a conservation district is not supporting or opposing a candidate, it's best practice to direct the public to the county elections office.

Q: Who can administer oaths of office to elected or appointed supervisors?

A: Officers who may administer oaths [1-6-101](#), MCA

- Every court, judge, clerk of any court, justice, notary public, and officer or person authorized to take testimony in any action or proceeding or to decide upon evidence has power to administer oaths or affirmations.

Q: Are there different types of oaths?

A: Yes, there are three.

Form of ordinary oath [1-6-102](#), MCA

- An oath or affirmation in an action or proceeding may be administered by the person who swears or affirms expressing that person's assent when addressed with "You do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that the evidence you will give in this issue (or matter), pending between and, is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God".

Variation of oath to suit witness' belief [1-6-103](#), MCA

- The court shall vary the mode of swearing or affirming to accord with the witness' beliefs whenever it is satisfied that the witness has a distinct mode of swearing or affirming.

Affirmation or declaration in lieu of oath [1-6-104](#), MCA

- Any person who desires it may instead of taking an oath make a solemn affirmation or declaration by assenting when addressed with "You do solemnly affirm (or declare), etc.", as provided in 1-6-102.

SURETY BONDS UPDATE

While surety bonds are required by state statute, [76-15-315 \(a\)](#), conservation districts have had difficulties finding a broker that will write a bond. Further, most CD liability insurance policies include or can include Crime Coverage for the Employee(s) and Fiduciary Coverage for the Elected Supervisors. In this case, coverage is equivalent what would be provided in a surety bond. Purchasing duplicative insurance is not a good use of taxpayers dollars. Both local government officials and MACD are aware of this issue and are exploring options to correct duplicative purchasing. The CD [Accountability Assessment](#) has been updated to reflect this issue and can be found on the [CD Resources Webpage](#).

CD BOARD MEETING MINUTES REQUIREMENT

It is important that board meeting minutes follow the statutory requirements. Meeting minutes must be submitted to stay in compliance. The statutes are available in the [Accountability Assessment](#) and as follows:

1. 76-15-315. Administrative functions of supervisors (3) *The supervisors shall furnish to the department copies of ordinances, rules, orders, contracts, forms, and other documents that they adopt or employ and other information concerning their activities that may be required in the performance of their duties under this chapter.*

2. 76-15-324. Minutes. The board of supervisors shall submit the minutes of its proceedings for electronic storage within 30 days after the minutes have been approved by that body for electronic storage and retention in accordance with the provisions of Title 2, chapter 6, part 12. *The board of supervisors shall submit the minutes for electronic storage to the county clerk and recorder of each county within the jurisdiction of the district.*

Meeting minutes need to be sent to both DNRC and your county clerk and recorder. To submit them to DNRC send them to Amy Personette APersonette@mt.gov and your CD Specialist.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

February 1	CD Planning, Project, and Pollinator Grant Cycle Opens
February 6-8	Soil Health Symposium, Billings, MT
February 16	CDAC Meeting, Great Falls, MT
February 19	Presidents Day
March 1	CD Administrative Grant Applications Due
March 1	310 Permit Survey Due to Hailey.Graf@mt.gov
March 15	CD Planning, Project, and Pollinator Applications Due
April 30	Renewable Resource Grant Applications Due

MMIA HEALTH INSURANCE SURVEY

The Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) has been working with the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA) to gain access to the MMIA Health Benefits Pool for conservation districts. This would mean that districts could choose to use the MMIA insurance for their employees. Additionally, district supervisors could also be eligible to access the pool if their district decided to extend eligibility.

MMIA would like to know how many districts would be interested in participating in the Employee Benefits (health insurance) pool through MMIA, including estimated numbers of employees, supervisors, and family members. Please note: No district would be obligated to participate in the MMIA pool. This survey is for information purposes only and it is not a commitment.

Please complete this survey during your January Board Meetings. **Surveys need to be returned by January 31st at the latest.** Please let MACD know if your district cannot complete the survey by this date.

Please read more about the available insurance and associated costs PRIOR TO completing this survey. Additional information and a printable version of the survey is [available here \[docs.google.com\]](#) (+ attached). You can also [fill out the survey using Google Forms here \[docs.google.com\]](#).

I hope everyone has a great month! Please contact me with any questions.



Catey Bauer

W. MT Conservation District Specialist
Conservation Districts Bureau

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<https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation-Districts>

AGENDA
FLATHEAD COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
February 14, 2024
Conservation District Report

1. **FZC-23-18** A zone change request from Sands Surveying, Inc. on behalf of Dana L. Kuzma, for property within the Bigfork Zoning District. The proposal would change the zoning on a parcel located off Conifer Lane in Bigfork, MT from *SAG-10 (Suburban Agricultural)* to *SAG-5 (Suburban Agricultural)*. The total acreage involved in the request is 26.656 acres.

Public Comments: Much of the area was divided into 5-acre parcels before the area was zoned.
 Concern about fire damage
 Additional lights
 Noise from Conifer Lane

Met the Bigfork Neighborhood Plan BFLUAC recommended approval 7-0
Met all the requirements for the zone change.

Approved 6-0

2. **FZC-23-19** A zone change request from Sands Surveying, Inc. on behalf of Jill L. Frampton Revocable Trust, for property within the Hodgson Road Zoning District. The proposal would change the zoning on a parcel located at 125 Wagon Wheel Road, Whitefish, MT from *SAG-10 (Suburban Agricultural)* to *SAG-5 (Suburban Agricultural)*. The total acreage involved in the request is 15.24 acres.

Public Comments: Safety on roads
 Wagon Wheel Road Condition

No board discussion

Approved 6-0

3. **FZC-23-20** A zone change request from Elvina Shelko on behalf of Mariya & Ivan Shelko with technical assistance from Sands Surveying, Inc., for property within the Highway 93 North Zoning District. The proposal would change the zoning on a parcel located at 58 Wintercrest Ridge near Kalispell, MT from *SAG-5 (Suburban Agricultural)* to *R-2.5 (Rural Residential)*. The total acreage involved in the request is approximately 5.74 acres.

No Public Comment

Approved 6-0

4. **FZC-23-21** A zone change request from Breckenridge Surveying and Mapping Inc. on behalf of Ronald & Jill Catlett and Susan Nicely for properties within the Evergreen Zoning District. The proposal would change the zoning on four separate parcels located at 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, and 544 East Evergreen Drive, Kalispell, MT from *R-1 (Suburban Residential)* to *R-4 (Two-Family Residential)*. The total acreage involved in the request is approximately 3.34 acres.

Public Comment: How would the development affect the neighboring property values?

Board Discussion: Two of the duplexes were already built in violation of the zoning.
I was adamant about not increasing the density in the 100 year Flood Plain.
The staff report did not adequately address the flood plain issue.
The two existing duplexes received a LOMA exemption.

My discussion was the only board discussion

Approved 4-1
1 member recused

5. **FPP-23-18** A request from Winter Sports, Inc., with technical assistance from Sands Surveying, Inc., and Carver Engineering, Inc. for preliminary plat approval of East Village Subdivision, a proposal to create eighteen (18) single-family residential lots and one (1) recreational lot on 17.279 acres. The proposed subdivision would be served by Big Mountain Water Company and Big Mountain Sewer District for water supply and sewage treatment. The property is located along Glades Drive, Whitefish, MT.

This project is in Big Mountains Master Plan.

No Public Comment

Passed 6-0

6. **FPP-23-23** A request from Sands Surveying, Inc., on behalf of C & J Land Development, LLC for preliminary plat approval of Bitterroot Flats East, a proposal to create four (4) single family residential lots on 37.463 acres. The proposed subdivision would be served by individual septic systems and individual wells. The property is located off Lower Lost Prairie Road, Marion, MT.

No public Comment

No board discussion

Passed 6-0

7. **FLP-23-100** A request from Derek & Tami Larsen for a lakeshore construction permit to install a T-dock and two (2) sets of stairs within the lakeshore protection zone (LPZ) of Lake Five. The property is located at 1547 Grizzly Spur, West Glacier, MT

No public Comment

No board discussion

Passed 5-0
1 Recused

Summary: Western Montana Conservation Commission Meeting- 2/7&8/24 Polson, Mt.
Scott Rumsey -FCD Rep.

Commission Staff been building staff by adding 3 additional
Executive committee introduced

Staff Updates-

- Introduced 3 new hires

- Partner meetings

- Creating EPA Grants

- Drafting strategic Mission & Vision

Commissioner Randy Brodel discussed issues with Flathead Septage facility and county's progress on securing a site in conjunction with Lakeside Sewer.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Panel Discussion

- Pumper Position- Conrad Eckert

- Environmental Program Sup.- Lewis & Clark Co.

- Research Economist FLBS- Nanette Nelson

Project Proposal Process & General project info.

Committee Formation and Lead Appointments

- Education & Outreach- Kate

- Aquatic Invasive Species- Tom Wolfe

- Resource Monitoring & Coordination Committee- Leck N.

- Septic & Stormwater- Mike Coopal

Potential Future Committees

- Stormwater

- Septic

- Additional ?