



Flathead Conservation District
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901
www.flatheadcd.org 406-752-4220

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chair Ronald Buentemeier called the May 13, 2019, 310-Stream Permit meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present:

Ronald Buentemeier, Chair; Pete Woll, Vice Chair; Lori Curtis, Supervisor; John Ellis, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Board members absent: Dean Sirucek, Secretary/Treasurer. Absence is excused.

Also, in attendance were Valerie Kurth, Hailey Graf and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Leo Rosenthal and Kenny Breidinger, MFWP; Harold & Connie Hogan; Travis Tennison; Dan Evans; Olie Ervin; John Murer; Brady Kazmier; Kalleigh Crawford; Lech Naumovich; Cole Dykhuizen; Susan Dykhuizen; Roger Noble; Bethany Ford; Josh Knight; Norm Hayek; Gordie Jewett, Flathead County Weed/Parks Dept.

MINUTES

Lori Curtis motioned "to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2019 business meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete Woll motioned "to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2019 special meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email: **Meetings/Events**
 - a. Whitefish Planning Board meeting, Thursday, May 16, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Whitefish City council Chambers. www.cityofwhitefish.org
 - b. Montana Range Days, June 17-19, Beaverhead County Fairgrounds, Dillon, MT. Contact 406-683-3802 www.montanarangedays.org
 - c. Montana Youth Range Camp, June 25-28, Bozeman, www.gallatin.macdnet.org 406-282-4350
 2. Email: **Newsletters, publications**
 - a. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) *eResource, Conservation Clips*, <https://www.nacdnet.org/>
 - b. Montana Watershed Coordination Council *Watershed News* <http://mtwatersheds.org/app/>
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- c. Flathead Audubon *Pileated Post* www.flatheadaudubon.org
 - d. Petroleum Conservation District newsletter *District Dirt*
<http://petroleumcd.com/>
 - e. MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks Aquatic Invasive Species newsletter
Calling on anglers to help prevent the spread of AIS by following these 3 simple steps: **Clean, Drain, Dry**. For more information on aquatic invasive species or to find the locations of watercraft inspection stations, visit cleandrainedrymt.com or call 406-444-2440.
 - f. Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) and Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) *the Montana Conservationist*
<https://swcdm.org>
 - g. Montana Watershed Coordination Council *Watershed News*
<https://mtwatersheds.org/app/>
3. **Other**
- a. Thank-you card from Whitefish Lake Institute to Flathead CD for sponsoring and providing scholarships for the Montana Lakes Conference.

FINANCIAL

The following bills were reviewed:

- 1. Byte Savvy \$55.00
- 2. Flathead Beacon \$528.00
- 3. FVCC \$1,000.00
- 4. MontanaSky Networks \$33.25
- 5. Montana State Fund \$629.79
- 6. Montana State University Bozeman \$1,000.00
- 7. Susan Hulslander CPA \$207.00
- 8. Montana State University Bozeman \$1,000.00
- 9. VISA \$670.44

Lori Curtis motioned “to approve the bills as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one was present to comment on items not listed on the agenda.

Lori Curtis introduced Lech Naumovich, and stated that he works locally and has a Master’s degree in Environmental Sciences from Yale’s School of Forestry. He has been the Executive Director for Golden Hour Restoration Institute, and he has extensive experience in rare plant surveys, vegetation mapping, restoration ecology, and conservation plans. He has served on the steering committee for Conservation Lands Network and teaches technical courses in restoration ecology. Lech stated he is learning about the county, Flathead Valley, and Crown of the Continent, and he has worked with Conservation Districts and NRCS offices in the past doing conservation-related activities.



College Scholarship Recipients: Hailey Graf stated we have four of our college scholarship recipients in attendance. She asked each student to introduce themselves and speak briefly about their education plans.

- Cole Dykhuizen plans to attend FVCC for two years, then transfer to pursue a degree in business administration with a minor in applied agriculture.
- Bethany Ford plans to attend Montana State University to pursue an animal science degree.
- Brady Kazmier plans to attend Montana State University to pursue a degree in sustainable food and bioenergy systems.
- Kalleigh Crawford plans to attend Montana State University Bozeman to study animal science and pursue a veterinary degree.

The board thanked the students for attending and wished each good luck. The students also thanked the board.

310

Allison, FL2019030, Whitefish River, expand deck: John Ellis stated the application is for a dock modification. An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 10:45 A.M. at the site.

Big Mtn/Whitefish Mtn Resort, FL2019021, First Creek, bridge: Lori Curtis stated the application is for a bridge on a recreational mountain bike trail across First Creek. It will impact approximately 10 feet of water way. It is a 5-foot wide bridge in a vegetated area and work will be done by hand. An onsite inspection was scheduled for Wednesday, May 29, 10:00 A.M. at the site.

Bolhuis, FL2019018, Swan River, bank stabilization: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 10:00 A.M. at the site.

Bolhuis, FL2019029E, Swan River, notice of emergency: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 10:00 A.M. at the site.

Daisy Property Holdings LLC, FL2019028, Flathead River, culvert/fill: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Wednesday, May 29, 1:30 P.M. at the gate. Roger Noble, Applied Water, stated a wetland delineation has been done and there are no wetlands.

Evans, FL2019024, Flathead River, roof over boat lift and dock: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 8:30 A.M. at the site. Dan Evans explained that the dock is already built. The application is to place a roof over the dock.

Evans, FL2019025, Flathead River, roof over boat lift and dock: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 8:30 A.M. at the site. Dan Evans explained that the dock is already built. The application is to place a roof over the dock.



Glacier Village Greens HOA Inc., FL2019026, Whitefish River, road: Ronald Buentemeier stated the project is for work on an irrigation system. An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 1:00 P.M. at the Clubhouse.

Hayek, FL2019015, Stillwater River, bank stabilization: Ronald Buentemeier stated the application is for bank stabilization near the location where the Stillwater River crosses Whitefish Stage. He explained that the project is extensive because it addresses severe bank erosion. Kenny Breidinger stated that it is a high vertical bank, which is close to the house, and there are some remnants of an older stabilization project that was done with concrete, scrap, and rebar. They will slope the bank and use larger rock. Ronald noted that the landowner would pull the concrete back and lay fabric on top of it. He will also remove the old car body parts. The bank sloped to a 1.5:1 slope. The rock will extend approximately 150 feet and be keyed into the bank at both ends. Vegetation will be planted above the rock to stabilize the upper part of the bank. Ronald reviewed considerations in the Team Member Report. Kenny stated he believed they were planning to remove whatever metal garbage they found.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “to approve the application with modifications per the Team Member Report.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hogan, FL2019004, Rose Creek, well/cistern/excavation/structs/utilities: Pete Woll stated he, Kenny Breidinger and Valerie Kurth inspected the project site. Photos from the inspection were shown on the wall using the projector, and Pete explained that the site is between Fox Creek and Rose Creek. Pete explained that it is difficult to define the top of bank. One photo showed where Mr. Hogan was standing at the normal highwater mark. The water from Flathead Lake and River backs up into Rose Creek. Pete explained how there is reed canary grass where he and Kenny were standing in the photo, but the area proposed for the house has been tilled and seeded with grass. Pete asked Mr. Hogan if he knew the elevation difference between the normal high water and the center of where the house would be built. Mr. Hogan replied it would be about 6 ½ feet. Pete continued to describe the project and where it was located between Rose and Fox Creek and how the landowner planned to drill under the slough towards the county road for a septic line and a utility line. Kenny passed around a diagram of a site plan and explained where the house would be built. He said that it was all very low elevation and slopes downward from the center stake to the water when it is at full pool. He added that he thinks the center stake is the top of the immediate streambank. Ronald Buentemeier asked him why he thought that. Kenny replied that there is very little change in grade from the high water to the stake and they are very near to each other. Ronald asked where the normal highwater mark is, and Mr. Hogan said where his right foot was in the photo is where he identified the full pool.

Lori Curtis asked how far the distance was between the stake and full pool. Pete responded that it is about 38 feet on the Rose Creek side and 26 feet on the Fox Creek side.

Leo Rosenthal asked for clarification on the house location in relation to the flagging and stakes. Mr. Hogan explained that he initially had the stakes out to delineate where he had requested the Letter of Map Amendment from FEMA, but after the site inspection, he put out stakes and flagging to show where the house would be built. There is a stake marking



the approximate center of the house. He also noted that he purposely put the house perimeter outside of the 20-ft setback requirement. Ronald asked about the change in elevation between the corner stakes for the house and the highwater mark. Pete guessed it was 3 feet at maximum and recommended that the board hire a hydrologist or engineer to do a review of the application. He explained he was nervous about this application, especially because of the precedent set by the houses upstream that were built without 310 permits.

Pete Woll motioned “to hire an engineering or hydrologic firm to review the application and submit a report.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete asked Valerie to explain to the Hogan’s how the review would be done. Valerie explained that she will contact a few consultants to provide cost estimates for the review, and then the district will select one. Hopefully, they can get it done quickly. Mr. Hogan asked if he would have to pay for it. Pete explained that the district will pay for it, and it will help us make a decision.

Mr. Hogan asked if his dock request would have to wait until the review was done. Pete stated that although there will probably not be issues with getting the dock approved, he preferred to wait. In addition, the water is already rising.

John Ellis motioned “to continue the application to the June 310- meeting.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jacobson, FL2019023C, Whale Creek, complaint: Ronald Buentemeier stated this complaint is on Whale Creek. Mr. Jacobson had a permit to do bank stabilization last year, but it expired in December. His neighbor is alleging that Mr. Jacobson recently placed rock along the bank. Mr. Jacobson told Ronald in December that he had not completed the project, and Ronald told him to apply for a new permit.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “to send the standard complaint letter to the landowner.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Juno, FL2018034C, Walker Creek, complaint (tabled): Ronald Buentemeier stated the adjoining landowner did work on the creek which was on Juno’s property but without their permission. Mr. Juno then received 310-permit #FL2018038 to correct the unauthorized work, and the permit will expire 8/1/2019. The last communication from Mr. Juno said he was waiting for a floodplain permit to begin work. Ronald asked if the board wanted to continue to table the complaint or send a reminder since this has been on the agenda since last July. The board agreed that a remind letter should be sent.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “to send a reminder letter to Mr. Juno regarding the complaint.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Krost, FL2018070C, Stillwater River, complaint: Verdell Jackson stated that he, Kenny Breidinger and Ronald Buentemeier did an onsite inspection on April 18th. Verdell showed photos of the site and explained the situation. When the Krost's purchased the property in 2017, there were burn piles and downed trees so he cleared the downed trees and removed slash. Then, in 2018, he lost another 5 trees in a windstorm, which he is working to clean up. Several logs and one burn pile remain. Ronald thought the trees would continue to fall because of an underground stream that would saturate the soil, which overlays clay, and Verdell noted that there were three large trees leaning over the river. He had subsequently talked to the landowner about removing the tree boles before high water under a 310 Notice of Emergency to preserve the bank.

Kenny stated that the landowner had done work on the streambank without a permit. He had been cutting downed trees, burning slash, and operating his vehicle on the streambank. During the onsite inspection, they talked to Mr. Krost about submitting an after-the-fact permit application (to satisfy the complaint) for the work that had been done, and to include in the application the additional work he wanted to do to remove trees that are leaning over the river. Verdell noted that some of the work had been done before the Krost's moved to the property and it was hard to distinguish what he had done. Verdell noted that Mr. Krost submitted an after-the-fact permit application (#FL2019019).

Kenny stated that the site was unique and interesting. There was a big slumping bank that was falling towards the river. Trees were leaning, and there were crevices running perpendicular to the river where the earth is moving apart. He noted that there are other places like this on the Stillwater River, and it is a unique geologic feature.

The board discussed the notice of emergency process and the status of Mr. Krost removing the three trees. Mr. Krost had not submitted a notice of emergency, only a permit application. It was uncertain whether he had removed the trees before the water started to rise. The notice needed to be submitted within 15 days of cutting the trees. However, Mr. Krost had included the three leaning trees in his permit application. He had not distinguished between work he done previously and work he planned to do.

Leo Rosenthal asked if application #FL2019019 satisfies the complaint. Kenny replied that it was not clear what had been done in the past and what the landowner was proposing to do because he had combined it into one project. Leo suggested Verdell talk to the landowner and have him specify in the application the things that are necessary to satisfy the complaint. John asked that the landowner be notified via letter that the complaint and application are tabled, and that the landowner's presence would be appreciated at the June 10th 310-meeting.

Verdell Jackson motioned "to table the complaint." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Krost, FL2019019, Stillwater River, tree & debris removal, bank stabilization: Verdell Jackson motioned “to table the application until the June 10th 310-meeting pending further information from the landowner.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously. John stated that a letter should be sent to the landowner that his current application needs more detail.

Morscheck, FL2019027, Flathead River, bank stabilization: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 9:00 A.M. at the site.

95 Karrow LLC, FL2019017, Whitefish River, trail/dock/ret wall/bk stabilization: John Ellis stated the application is to develop the Idaho Timber property along Whitefish River. An onsite held April 11th, and John, Kenny Breidinger, Lori Curtis, Valerie Kurth, Hailey Graf, and multiple representatives from the 95 Karrow project all attended. No one from the City of Whitefish attended. Several days after the onsite inspection, John talked with Karin Hilding, City of Whitefish. He let her know the project would be discussed at the next 310-meeting and recommend the City of Whitefish get involved. The City of Whitefish then contacted and met with Lori Curtis. The City of Whitefish and 95 Karrow have asked to table the discussion until the May 28th business meeting to give them time to compile a presentation for the Flathead CD board. John thought this would be fine. John described the project as huge and requiring the removal of a large amount of debris that accumulated when the site was a timber mill. He said that he had a hard time envisioning where the trail would be when the debris was removed. There is not a trail on that side of the Whitefish River, and the trail cannot go much further unless all landowners on that side, including Mindful Designs, which has already developed their property, give the City permission to do so. Because this is not a simple project, John thought the board would do well to table the discussion and listen to the City and the developers at the next meeting. John asked about the possibility of permitting the project in stages, so potentially issuing a permit for debris removal, but not the trail yet because it is impossible to see exactly where the trail will be right now, and it could be some distance from the top of the bank. Roger Noble explained that they would like to postpone this discussion until to the business meeting for because they want to make sure their presentation is thorough and detailed. It is a complicated project and he did not think all the components of it will fall under 310-jurisdiction. He wants to ensure the board can make an informed decision. Kenny Breidinger said he was available on the 28th, and he asked Roger to bring copies of the most recent site plan to the meeting.

John Ellis motioned “to table the application until the May 28th business meeting.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Leo Rosenthal asked if the board was planning to make a decision on the permit at the business meeting. He explained that there are people who probably read the agenda for the 310-meetings but do not necessarily read it for the business meetings. If they wanted to comment on this, they would miss their opportunity. John asked Leo what he thought they should do. Leo replied that he did not know. John and Lori agreed that the meeting would be an opportunity to make a decision on the permit. Leo stated he did not have a suggestion, he just wanted to point out the potential issue with deciding this permit at the business



meeting. Ginger Kauffman noted that all meetings are noticed and published on the district website.

Sethre, FL2019016, Flathead River, dock/stairs/gangway: Dean Sirucek was unable to attend the meeting. Kenny Breidinger stated the project is on Church Slough. He and Dean did the onsite inspection on April 25th. The bank is very steep, and the landowner is proposing to build a stairway down to the highwater mark and install an 8'x16' floating dock at the bottom of the stairway. Dean and I specified that the stairway should not go below the full pool elevation. In the Team Member Report, we said we would approve it with modifications, specifying that the stairs would just go down to the full pool elevation.

The board asked Kenny questions about the topography in that area. Kenny explained that the grade flattens out where the water is, so it's possible to step on rocks at the bottom. He also said that the landowner plans to install a gangway between the stairs and the dock. Hailey Graf stated the Team Member Report notes that there was already a deck completed, which is a permit modification. Valerie Kurth read from Dean's report that the deck is 14'x30'. Ronald asked for clarification on the deck and how it relates to the stairs. Kenny explained that the stairs will be next to the deck, but not coming off of it. The application did not include the deck because the two are separate.

Ronald asked if the motion should include attaching the stairway to the deck or not. Kenny replied that he was fine with doing it either way. Hailey said that Dean had not specified this in his team member report. Ronald suggested the motion specify what the board would allow.

Hailey stated that Dean's only instructions were to approve with the modification of including the deck and to waive the 15-day waiting period. The board discussed if the already-built deck could be included as a modification or should be a separate after-the-fact permit. Pete read the Team Member Report which states *Mod. #2 A deck has been constructed on the top of riverbank. Dimensions are 14'x30'. The deck is being treated as a modification to this existing permit rather than an after-the-fact permit.* Ronald stated that he could agree with it if the word "permit" was changed to "application" because it has not been permitted. Lori Curtis suggested having Dean change it on his report and initial it.

Lori Curtis motioned "to approve the application with modifications, and with one correction in the Team Member Report. The 15-day waiting period is waived." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Tennison, FL2019020, Flathead River, dock/gangplank: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 10:30 A.M. at the site.

Voss Family Rev. Trust, FL2019022C, Viking Creek trib., complaint: Lori Curtis motioned "to send the standard complaint letter." Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ronald asked what the complaint was about. Lori explained the complaint is for extensive work being done on Viking Creek tributary near Whitefish Lake; photos were included.



Roger Noble stated the contractor contacted him and asked if he would get involved because Applied Water is working on a ground water right for this project. Roger asked to be copied on the correspondence.

Weber, FL2019013, Flathead River, bank stabilization/dock/boat ramp:

Kenny Breidinger explained that an onsite inspection was done some time ago. Weber purchased property on the lower Flathead River then proposed 840' of rip rap, however, not all of it needed to be rip rapped. He didn't realize what he was getting into, so he asked to have the application tabled. He hired an engineer to help him with this project and will submit an amended application eventually.

Pete Woll motioned "to table the application until further information is received." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER

Leo Rosenthal stated he had received a phone call from a landowner on Echo Lake who was concerned about the level of the lake. Leo monitors the water level of Echo Lake, and said it is very low right now. The landowner is concerned because water is not flowing into Echo Lake from Noisy Creek and wondered if someone was altering the diversion. No water was coming down Krause Creek either. Pete Woll stated the water is just beginning to flow in that area. Leo informed the landowners that it is mostly ground water in that area, but they were still concerned because of the history of the diversion.

NEW BUSINESS

Flathead County Weed Dept. Weed Sprayers: Gordie Jewett, Flathead County Weed Dept., stated Flathead County Weed Dept. and Flathead CD have cooperated in the past in the purchase of rental sprayers for the general public. Approximately 200 rental sprayers are used each year, May 1st through the fall. Over the course of their lifetime, the sprayers are well used. The sprayers cost over \$4,000 and are rented for \$45 per day and \$55 for a weekend. It takes a long time to pay for the sprayers and it is hard for the Weed Dept to come up with the funds. There are 6 units available for rental, and two of them need to be replaced. Each unit holds 110 gallons and covers approximately 5 acres calibrated at 20 gallons per acre. The rental sprayer program gives the general public an option to spray their noxious weeds themselves instead of hiring a private applicator, which some people could not afford. The Weed Dept. is requesting funds from Flathead CD for the purchase of two rental units at a cost of \$4366 each. Pete Woll explained that the request is just for the sprayers - the renter must furnish their own chemicals. Gordie added that the Weed Dept helps landowners with information about what chemicals and rate they will need to apply, and they can purchase the herbicides locally.

Lori Curtis asked about the budget and John Ellis asked about rotation of the sprayers. Valerie Kurth stated there is still \$14, 447 in the budget under Conservation Practices Other. The last time the district supported the purchase of two sprayers was 5/22/2013. Gordie stated that sprayers are rotated approximately every four years and the cost of the sprayer



is directly translated into on-the-ground weed control. It is not generating profit for the Weed Dept, but it helps landowners control weeds in the county.

Lori Curtis motioned “to support the Flathead County Weed Dept. request in the amount of \$8732.00 to purchase two 110-gallon range/pasture sprayers.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Pete Woll abstained from voting.*

John Ellis asked about repairs and Verdell Jackson asked about replacing parts. Gordie replied that the Weed Dept. does all the repair and service work. Some parts are kept on hand and sprayers are serviced in the spring prior to rental season.

Lech Naumovich asked if the Weed Dept. has any monitoring data on weed populations and treatment areas. Gordy replied that they do not have general data, but, if it is an enforcement case, the education and compliance officer submits a report.

Local Working Group (LWG): Sean Johnson, Flathead Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) Resource Conservationist, Lorraine Vogt, NRCS Missoula Resource Conservationist, and Mindy Gauthier, Missoula NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, joined the meeting via conference call. Sean stated they would be glad to address concerns and answer any questions the board has regarding the Local Working Group process or the Montana Focus Conservation method, which NRCS is in the process of transitioning to.

Ronald Buentemeier stated that he thought this seemed very different than what had been done in the past, and he wondered how they envision this working in the Flathead. Sean explained that this transition is occurring statewide, and all other counties are going through the same process. He said that since he is new to the county, he has a lot to learn, but this is part of why the LWG will be important to him, landowners, and land use professionals. It will allow them to better understand the county resource concerns and where Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) resources should be focused to benefit the county in the best way possible. The focuses may fluctuate over time because of the mixed land usages of forestry and agriculture.

Ronald asked what kind of projects are you envisioning in the Flathead? Sean explained that he had applied for a thinning project in the North Fork, but it did not get approved. He plans to refine the project and submit it next year because he learned a lot in the application process. He has also heard from some irrigators about concerns they have about improving irrigation efficiency. He would like to pursue soil health projects. All concerns will be considered, and we are counting on the LWG to help establish priorities. r

Ronald asked, how do you envision Flathead CD being involved in this process? Sean stated he has talked to Valerie Kurth about this, and we would like NRCS and Flathead CD to work together more closely than what has been done in the past. He recognized the concerns about the district signing off conservation plans because the district is unaware of the project details. The Flathead CD is not currently signing off on our NRCS conservation plans, but I hope to build our relationship up to the point where the board is comfortable signing off on our conservation plans. For the LWG process, the conservation district is in charge of



the local process by policy. However, with this transition, Sean said he is taking the lead on initiating the LWG meeting, and he is happy to do so. In the future, the conservation district may want to lead the LWG or there could be co-sponsorship.

Mindy stated that the conservation districts are a vital partner in this process. We will be developing a long-range plan and will be working closely with the districts to identify the resource concerns within the county. When that long-range plan is developed, Sean will use it to identify Targeted Implementation Plans (TIPs) within the county. We have special initiatives which have been utilized by Flathead County quite a bit in the past, such as high tunnels, pollinators, and soil health. The Targeted Plans are a narrow focus plan within the county. You would identify, through the LWG process, which the conservation district has always been a vital partner in that process and still is, the resource concerns and then prioritize those concerns within the county. NRCS would then focus on developing and working within those targeted areas. So, conservation districts still play a vital role in entire process.

Ronald stated his personal feeling is that NRCS has a lot of work to do in the Flathead because the CD has not been a part of this program for long time. He would like to be given information to make his own decision before being expected to agree or disagree with their proposals. Sean said that he recognized where the two agencies are. It is no longer required that conservation district sign off on NRCS conservation plans. My goal is to help improve the relationship between NRCS and Flathead CD such that we can coordinate resources better and support each other so we are not such distinct entities. Ronald stated that it sounds like a good idea if we can make it happen. Sean thought that it will take work and time, but he will do his best to make it happen.

Mindy offered to attend a board meeting, and both she and Sean could talk about focused conservation, long range plans and Targeted Implementation Plans in a little more depth. If the district is interested, we could schedule something with Valerie. Board members agreed that would be a good idea and thanked Sean, Mindy and Lorraine for calling in.

Watershed Symposium Grant #23G-18-3598: Valerie Kurth stated the district sponsored an HB 223-grant for the Watershed Symposium held locally last fall, and it took time to get all the documentation. Now we need the board to approve the invoice in the amount of \$10,000.00 to submit to DNRC for payment.

Lori Curtis motioned “to approve the invoice for the Watershed Symposium grant in the amount of \$10,000.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) Mini-Grant MOA: Hailey Graf stated at the last business meeting the board signed the SWCDM Mini-Grant Memorandum of Agreement so that she could start charging in-kind match to the project. The board just needs to approve the phone poll.

Pete Woll motioned “to approve the SWCM mini-grant phone poll.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Training: Valerie Kurth stated a few weeks ago after the business meeting, she received an email from Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC) about a Workplace Communication series that would be held every Thursday in May. The cost for the whole series was \$150. Valerie noted she has attended two already and they have been good. There are two left.

Lori Curtis motioned “to approve the phone poll for the FVCC Workplace Communications Series.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Officers & 310 Areas: Ronald Buentemeier explained that he wanted to step down as Chair and at a previous meeting had talked about changing 310 boundaries for the supervisors. Valerie provided a map showing the proposed new areas. Supervisors discussed current areas and possible conflicts of interest. They also discussed the second appointed supervisor position and the need to send a letter to the City of Whitefish. Lori Curtis stated she will send information to Valerie Kurth.

Lori Curtis motioned “to appoint Pete Woll as Chair.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete Woll motioned “to appoint Lori Curtis as Vice-Chair.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

John Ellis motioned “to approve the boundaries for supervisors as shown in the handout, showing new supervisor’s areas.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

College Scholarship Awards presenters:

- Glacier High School – John Ellis
- Flathead High School – Lori Curtis
- Columbia Falls High School – Ronald Buentemeier

Family Forestry Expo (FFE): John Ellis asked how FFE went. Hailey replied it went well.

Permitting in Stages: John Ellis asked board members about partial approval of permits and asked if the board had every permitted projects in stages, such as 95 Karrow. He wondered if the board had ever done it in the past. Pete Woll and Ronald Buentemeier did not think it had been done in the past. Parts of permits had been modified or denied, but not approved in stages. The board discussed this possibility, and the general sentiment was that permitting could not be done that way.

The next business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2019, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell.

Adjournment: Lori Curtis motioned “to adjourn.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 P.M.

Submitted By:

Ginger Kauffman Administrator	Valerie Kurth, Ph. D. Resource Conservationist
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Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>5/28/2019</u>	<u>Pete C. Woll</u>	<u>Chair</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title - Chair etc.)

