



CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chair, Pete Woll, called the June 26, 2023, Business meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

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

Board members absent: Gordon Ash, Supervisor. Absence is excused.

Also, in attendance were Samantha Tappenbeck, Jessie Walthers, Ginger Kauffman, FCD Staff; Bill Yankee, Associate Supervisor; Trent Baker, legal counsel for Ambler's, Mary T. McClelland; Terese Kashi; Camisha Sawtelle, DNRC legal counsel; Mike Koopal, Whitefish Lake Institute; Sean Johnson, NRCS; Chris Hindoien; Kenny Breidinger and Leo Rosenthal, FWP; Elizabeth Blacker; Laurie Zeller; Monica Jungster; Chuck Brasen; Drew Paslawsky; Roger Bybee.

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

- FCD Business Meeting Minutes, 5/22/2023

Consent Agenda Item 3: Financial

Check Detail dated June 19, 2023

1. VISA – Samantha Tappenbeck \$891.11
2. VISA – Donna Pridmore \$65.60
3. Charter Communications \$162.95
4. CHS \$175.00
5. Montana State Fund \$377.43
5. University of Montana (College Scholarship - Kehoe) \$1,000.00

Check Detail dated June 21, 2023

1. Alan Davis (Conservation Grant) \$5,000.00
2. Gerald M. Osborne (Conservation Grant) \$2,246.76
3. Stuart Ward Fremgen (Conservation Grant) \$4,785.12
4. Walter Bastiannse (Conservation Grant) \$723.75

Consent Agenda Item 4: Correspondence

- EPA grant awards to WMCC and Flathead Lake Biological Station
- Thank you cards from College Scholarship recipients.

John Ellis motioned “to approve the consent agenda as presented.” Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

310's

Bybee, FL-2023-063C, Ashley Creek, complaint: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Friday, June 30, 9:00 A.M. at the site.

Hodges, FL-2022-071, Giefer Creek, fill: Scott Rumsey explained the onsite inspection was held May 10, 2023. Scott recommended denial and noted that filling for the purpose of expanding existing land area and filling of wetlands is prohibited per Adopted Rules Chapter 3, Section I, standard I, j. Drew Paslawsky disagreed with the recommendation citing Adopted Rules Chapter 3 section Q, Utility lines, and stated the application is to attain a 50-foot setback between a 2” sewage pipeline and surface water. Leo Rosenthal agreed with Scott that the application should be denied as it is in violation of the AR’s regarding fill and extension of land and they both noted that utilities in the Adopted Rules does not apply in this situation. Discussion held.

Scott Rumsey motioned “that the project as proposed be denied per the reasons cited in the Adopted Rules and the Team Member Report.” Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried with three in favor of the motion and two opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

WLI AIS Report: Mike Koopal, Whitefish Lake Institute, presented the FY23 Summary Report for the AIS Decontamination Station highlighting the number of mussel infested boats that have been stopped at inspection stations, control efforts of Curly-leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil, septic leachate synthetic DNA testing, and pharmaceutical and personal care product testing in local streams and lakes; he also noted that the MT Lakes Conference will be held October 18-20. Mike thanked the district for past funding support of the station and made a request for funding for fiscal year 2023/2024. Supervisors stated that the funding request will be discussed at the upcoming budget meeting.

Request for Revised Scheduling Order, Declaratory Ruling: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that the district has received a request for a revised scheduling order from Trent Baker, legal counsel for the Ambler’s. She stated the district can only address the issue of the district’s jurisdiction and if it is a project under 310-law and noted that items 2 and 3 in the Petition would have to be addressed through a judicial review. Legal counsel, Camisha Sawtelle, added that she is preparing a response on behalf of the district for Board review and approval, and signature of the Flathead CD Board Chair. Camisha noted that the scheduling order should and will stand as Hearing Officer Laurie Zeller first issued it and will not be revised.

April 2023 End of Month Report: Donna Pridmore presented the April End of Month Report to the Board. Donna Pridmore motioned “to approve the April End of Month Report.” Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Records Destruction Request: Ginger Kauffman explained she sent Records Destruction document RM88 for destruction of 2003 310-files to the MT State Archives (MSA) for review and MSA approved disposal. Donna Pridmore motioned “to approve the Records Destruction for 2003 310-files.” Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CD Insurance Policy Quote: Chris Hindoi, Rocky Mountain Insurance Services LLC (RMIS), explained they are based in Choteau and have been working with districts statewide to find an insurance option as MACO no longer will insure special districts (fire, water, conservation, etc.). RMIS currently insures approximately 304 special districts throughout Montana, and they are working with forty-seven conservation districts. Samantha Tappenbeck stated Flathead CD reached out to RMIS for a policy quote for the coming year. Chris reviewed coverages, premiums, cost and noted that RMIS can also manage Work Comp through the State Fund. Samantha noted that the district insurance premium quote is double from last year, however, Payne West could not provide any other quotes to the district. Samantha expressed concern if there were a lapse of coverage as coverage with MACO ends June 30th.

John Ellis motioned “to accept the insurance quote from RMIS LLC.” Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Conservation Grant Final Reports & New Applications: Jessie Walthers reviewed the 2022/2023 FY Final Grant Reports, reimbursements, an extension request, and provided project photos to the Board.

Donna Pridmore motioned “to extend FCD-CG2022-03 for Pete Wade.” Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jessie reported the district received twelve grant applications for FY 2023/2024 and noted that the total cost-share budget for the coming fiscal year is \$25,000.00. Jessie reviewed conservation grant applications, discussed ranking, and provided funding recommendations to the Board.

John Ellis motioned “to approve the 10 conservation projects as recommended by Jessie Walthers.” Roger Marsonette 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): Samantha Tappenbeck reported that discussion at the May HBWC meeting included the diversion of water from Haskill Creek into Viking Creek for the City of Whitefish's municipal water use and the draft grant application to address this issue long-term. The next HBWC meeting is July 12, 2023, 6:00 P.M., Whitefish City Hall in the Glacier conference room.

Flathead Basin Commission (FBC): Samantha Tappenbeck stated FBC received a \$7 million EPA grant and will be hiring staff and expanding programs. Flathead Basin Commission and UC3 are now the Western Montana Conservation Commission. Samantha will request Western Montana Conservation Commission staff attend an upcoming FCD board meeting to provide updates and more information.

Flathead River Commission (FRC): Donna Pridmore reported that during the June 21st meeting Samantha Tappenbeck presented the boat wake study. Members discussed what they wanted from the final report and where they go from here for the next phase of study, including the possibility of more intensive monitoring at one to two sites to compare high and low streamflow boat traffic, and funding requests to Flathead CD. The next FRC meeting will be in August.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

Adopted Rules Checklist:

- At the 310 Supervisor Training in April 2023, Supervisors and Staff agreed that copy-pasting sections of the Adopted Rules into the 310 Permit Attachment is not necessary.
- Supervisors have been provided with a spiral-bound and laminated copy of Adopted Rules for use during onsite inspections.
- Staff created an Adopted Rules checklist for Supervisors to check relevant sections to permit applications.

Samantha Tappenbeck asked if the checklist is useful. If so, how do we use it and incorporate this information in permits. Supervisors agreed that the Adopted Rules Checklist does not need to be attached to the Team Member Report but could be used as a separate resource.

Agenda with Notes:

Samantha Tappenbeck explained that the Agenda with Notes takes a substantial amount of time for staff to prepare, asked if Supervisors are using it, and if Staff should continue to create and distribute this document for meetings. Supervisors stated it is helpful and they would like to continue using the Agenda with Notes.

Schedule Budget Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2023, 10:00 A.M. at the Flathead CD office.

Northwest Montana Fair: Jessie Walthers explained that the NW Montana Fair is August 16-20. Past partnering entities (Forest Service and Glacier National Park) have already secured the Search and Rescue building, so the district will only pay a portion if the Board decides to have a booth. Discussion included the amount, costs and benefits of Staff and Supervisor time. Samantha noted that one option would be an un-staffed informational booth. Supervisors agreed that the Home & Garden Show has shown more interest and left the decision regarding participation in the Fair up to the discretion of the Staff.

The next 310-permit meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 10, 2023, 7:00 P.M. in person and via ZOOM.

Adjournment: Roger Marsonette motioned "to adjourn." Scott Rumsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 P.M.

Submitted By:

Ginger Kauffman
Administrator

Reviewed By:

Samantha Tappenbeck
Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>7/24/2023</u>	<u>Pete Woll</u>	<u>Chair</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title – Chair etc.)