

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chair, John Ellis called the Business meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

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

Board members absent: Pete Woll, Chair. Absence is excused.

Also, in attendance were Gordon Ash, Associate Supervisor; Ginger Rigdon and Ginger Kauffman, FCD Staff; Shane Barfoot; Mike Cotton, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Item 1: Signature Authority

Authorization for staff to sign on behalf of Supervisors attending the meeting virtually.

Consent Agenda Item 2: Minutes

- 1. Business Meeting 6/27/2022
- 2. 310-Permit Meeting 7/11/2022

Consent Agenda Item 3: Financial

Check Detail dated 8/8/2022

1. Fisher's Technology \$249.50

Check Detail dated 8/17/2022

- 1. CHS \$250.00
- Mountain Trader \$80.
- 3. VISA Samantha Tappenbeck \$4,166.39

Consent Agenda Item 4: Phone Poll

• Cubicle partitions were received and set up. Staff realized we need to exchange one for a different size and order two wall mount brackets. The vendor (Versare) will refund the district for the return, and we do NOT have to ship it back to them. We can keep, donate, or dispose. Total cost for the 4x6 with window + 2 wall mounts + shipping = \$601.20, so once the return/refund is processed, the new partition and wall mount brackets would end up costing us an additional \$266.00. The phone poll to approve additional purchase of cubicle partition and wall mount brackets in the amount of \$266.00, was done 8/11/2022.

Consent Agenda Item 5: Correspondence

- 1. August 2022 issue of DNRC CDB newsletter Conservation Matters
- 2. August 3, 2022, issue of MACD District Dispatch

Donna Pridmore motioned "to accept the consent agenda as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Shane Barfoot explained that he wanted to sit in on the meeting to see what the district does, and that he would like to learn more about programs offered by the district. Ginger Rigdon stated he could contact her or Jessie Walthers for that information.

Later in the meeting Mr. Barfoot stated last year he had filed a complaint against his neighbor, which was determined not a violation. He added that he wanted to educate himself on what work is/is not allowed on streams and asked if he needed a permit for work on an intermittent stream. John Ellis stated we would have to look at the site to determine that. Staff added that he would need to submit a 310-permit application and go through the process so the board could make a decision. Mr. Barfoot described the site and neighborhood situation. Donna Pridmore stated that the complaint was determined not a violation as defined by district rules because there was no defined channel or perennial stream. She noted that there was no water at the time of the onsite inspection, but there was a wetland. Mr. Barfoot stated there is a defined channel, that water flows with spring melt then dries up historically in early July. He was concerned that the neighbor placed the culvert too high. He asked what he could do if he disagreed with the Board's decision. John Ellis explained that he could request a Declaratory Ruling per Rule 20 (page 25) of the Adopted Rules. Mr. Barfoot added that he wants to put in a bridge or culvert and asked if he needed a permit. Board and Staff again suggested he submit a 310-permit application and go through process; that way he would either get a permit or a letter stating it is not a project/not under the jurisdiction of the Flathead CD. Staff provided him with copies of the application, Adopted Rules, and the Guide to Stream Permitting; Ginger Rigdon provided her contact information.

310's

F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co, FL-2022-053, South Fork of Canyon Creek, rock diversion: John Ellis explained F.H. Stoltze applies for the permit each year to divert the water. Mike Cotton added that Stoltze has applied for the same permit for many years. John stated that in the future Stoltze may want to consider applying for a maintenance permit. Roger Marsonette noted that Adopted Rules page 7, #35 states, "Plan of Operation "or "annual maintenance plan" means an annual plan for a project of recurring nature that, if approved by the supervisors, authorizes a specific activity for a period not to exceed (ten) 10 years. John added that Kenny Breidinger sent an email waiving the onsite and supported approving the permit. John Ellis motioned "to approve application FL-2022-053 as submitted and to waive the 15-day waiting period." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

District Accounts: The district requested and received information from the bank regarding district's accounts. The Board reviewed the information and discussed the possibility of investing the Settlement funds to earn higher rates. John Ellis and Donna Pridmore will research this further.

Demonstration Garden Volunteer Workday: Ginger Rigdon explained the Demonstration Garden Volunteer Workday is scheduled for Tuesday, August 30th, 8:00 A.M. - Noon. Supervisors were encouraged to sign up to help. Staff requested approval of funds to provide lunch to volunteers (approx. 10-15) at a cost up to \$250, which would be charged to the Demonstration Garden line in the budget. Donna Pridmore motioned "to approve \$250 for the Demonstration Garden Workday lunch." Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Flathead Basin Commission appointment: Gordon Ash expressed interest in the appointment to the Flathead Basin Commission. Donna Pridmore motion "to appoint Gordon Ash to represent the Flathead CD on the Flathead Basin Commission." Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

City of Whitefish Urban Supervisor appointment: John Ellis explained that the Whitefish City Council appointed Angela Jacobs to fill the vacant urban supervisor position for the duration of the term (12/31/22) or until we receive interest from another person. John encouraged staff to call Angela directly. Donna Pridmore noted that Linda Saul may be interested and explained that Linda is a retired hydrologist from DNRC and lives in Whitefish. Donna Pridmore motioned "to approve Angela Jacobs to fill the remaining term of the vacant urban supervisor which expires 12/31/2022." Roger Marsonette seconded. Motion caried unanimously.

Letter to Fish & Wildlife Commission: Donna Pridmore provided information that the Water Policy Interim Committee has recommended that Flathead CD reach out to the Fish & Wildlife Commission (FWC) regarding SJ28 and the study of erosion on the Flathead River. Samantha Tappenbeck drafted a letter to the Commission, and MACD Executive Director Becca Boslough-King will attend the FWC meeting on August 25th to present the letter during public comment; she will also present a supporting letter from MACD. Scott Rumsey stated that the role of the Commission is to set policy such as wake zones for boats and personal motorized watercraft. Gordon Ash expressed that any outreach to the Commission is imperative; and that to provide this letter and to engage with them would be worthwhile. Scott Rumsey motioned "to send the letter to the Fish and Wildlife Commission and have MACD present the letter to the Commission." Donna Pridmore 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): Verdell Jackson reported a hearing was held with West Glacier and North Fork property owners regarding a neighborhood plan.

Whitefish City Planning Board (WCPB): John Ellis reported the WCPB approved one accessory building and the Whitefish Transportation Plan. John noted that the Whitefish sewer main will be replaced in September and October.

Haskill Basin Watershed Council (HBWC): No report

Flathead Basin Commission (FBC): Attached.

Flathead River Commission (FRC): Donna Pridmore reported the next meeting is September 14th. She noted that Samantha Tappenbeck had contacted Mark Siderius regarding the letter to the Fish & Wildlife Commission.

Church Slough Working Group: Donna Pridmore reported at the last meeting the group agreed on a recommendation. Donna and two others from the group will be on the editing team to help FW&P come up with a written recommendation that will go to the Fish & Wildlife Commission. They agreed on the 200 foot no wake zone from the shore, and no jet skis. That will allow people to put up no-wake zone signs on the end of their dock, and to place no-wake buoys (coastguard approved) 200-feet out from shore, that must be approved by the Fish & Wildlife Commission, which the state regulates.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

Area V Meeting: Ginger Kauffman reminded the Board that the Area V meeting will be held, Wednesday, October 5th, 8:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M. at the Swan River Community Hall. Lunch will be catered by Vista Linda, and a field trip to the Krause Creek Restoration Project will be held afterwards. Registration will cover meeting expenses. The Chairperson of the host district should chair the meeting, unless the host district chooses to designate someone else to chair (ex. Vice Chair, Area Director, etc.).

The next 310-meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2022, 7:00 P.M. in person and via ZOOM.

Adjournment: Donna Pridmore motioned "to adjourn." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

Submitted By: Reviewed By:

Ginger Kauffman Samantha Tappenbeck Administrator Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

9/26/2022 Pete Woll Chair

Date Signature Title - Chair etc.



Staff Report: August 2022

Samantha Tappenbeck, Resource Conservationist Jessie Walthers, Conservation Program Manager Ginger Rigdon, Public Outreach Specialist Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Office and Administration

310

- Office received fifty-two 310 applications and complaints to date
- Scanning of older 310-files continues
- Received and processed 310 Administrative Grant agreement
- Whitefish Trail: Reviewed shapefiles provided by City of Whitefish Public Works for permitted trail sections, requested additional information; Assisted chair of Bike/Ped Committee with request for 310 permit records

Bookkeeping

- There are three pay periods in August. The last pay period in August will be processed the end of August along with payroll reports, and State and Federal monthly reports and payments
- Processed daily bookkeeping items including payroll, invoices, credit card receipts, deposits, grant billing/vendor invoices, program payments, and made updates to district files as needed
- Compiling documents for Annual Financial Report to submit to CPA
- Began setting up FY 2022/2023 bookkeeping files

Budget

Waiting for final budget sheets to come from Flathead County Finance Office

Office Support

- Staff meetings held weekly
- Planning for Area V Meeting

Projects

Trumbull Creek Restoration & Aquifer Protection Project

- Project is inadequately funded and will require \$150K-\$160K in additional funding for the project as designed; if modified and scope reduced, \$65K needed in additional funding
- Met with DEQ staff to determine eligibility for NPS-319 Program Funding
- Next steps involve a request for additional funding from:
 - o Flathead County Commissioners ARPA funding, or
 - o DEQ NPS-319 Program, or
 - Glacier Park International Airport

Study of Erosion on the Flathead River/SJ28

- Monitoring instrumentation and equipment deployed at 4 sites; Visited monitoring site to reset glitching data logger and follow-up visit to download data
- Requested space on agenda for presentation of preliminary results to Water Policy Interim Committee at Sept 20-21 (final meeting of interim session)
- Drafted letter to Fish & Wildlife Commission and coordinated with MACD for presentation at August 25th meeting

Krause Creek Restoration Project

- Worked with River Design Group and landowners to begin planning, coordination, and permitting for Phase 2 installation: October 17-21
- Coordinated with landowners to arrange field trip as part of Area V meeting

Cow Creek Restoration Project

- Met with landowner at project site to assess failure at livestock crossing and feasibility of offsite water
- Provided guidance on management of reed canary grass, information on permitting for possible mitigation strategies

Programs

College Scholarships

No activity this month

Conservation Grant Program

- Finalized contract paperwork with FY22/23 participants
- Review of program management procedures
- Strategic planning for future program implementation
- Check-in conducted with all current grantees and extended contracts from FY21/22

Education Grant Program

No activity this month

Pollinator Initiative

 Beginning correspondence with 2022 program participants for FCD monitoring of gardens in September and self-monitoring worksheets.

Rain Garden Initiative

- Samantha met with gardening magazine reporter for profile on Rain Garden program and visit/photo-op at Kalispell homeowner rain gardens.
- Consultation/Site visit conducted with interested participant on 8/2/22. Additional visit planned for September.

Seedlings & Native Seed Program

- Worked with one landowner to cost-share native grass seed through CHS Kalispell
- Contacted Conservation Grant participants to notify them of timing for seedlings, if they are planning to order seedlings or utilize grass cost share this season.

Watershed Support Program

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

Youth Camp Sponsorships

No activity this month

Education and Outreach

Education Events

- Flathead Waters Cleanup completed August 13th: 210 volunteers picked up 5,100 pounds of trash; 140 miles of riverbank and lakeshore cleaned; 760 volunteer hours
- Watershed Enviroscape Model Workshop conducted with Glacier Institute Summer <u>Day</u>
 Camp, 6 children, 3 adults, at GI office site, outdoor pavilion in Columbia Falls. August 3rd
- Hosted a booth at the NW Montana Fair August 17-21st
- Volunteer Workday in the Demonstration Garden is scheduled for August 30th.

Demonstration Garden

Routine maintenance including mowing and weeding – done as time allows

Living in the Flathead Guide

- FCD provided funding support for development of this resource; Flathead Lakers have secured \$17,000 to fund development
- Flathead Lakers staff has begun working on a website structure for organizing and presenting information
- Mid- to late-August is the projected start date for editing content, creating graphics, and starting work on the handbook project

Advertisements

- Flathead Beacon Flathead Waters Cleanup (8/3/22)
- Flathead Beacon 310 Permits (8/24/22)

Website

• Website visited by ~1,200 users this month

Social Media

- Facebook page followers 830 (July) 847 (August)
- Instagram page followers 523 (July) 549 (August)

eNewsletter

The Local Dirt was distributed on 8/1/2022 to approximately 739 recipients

Partnerships

- Flathead River Commission meeting on 8/3/22
- Meeting with Area V CDs about native seed cost-share programs 8/9/22
- MACD Legislative Ad Hoc Committee meeting on 8/10/22



NRCS DC Report - 8/22/2022

Sean Johnson

> Programs

- o EQIP and Joint Chief
 - We ended up with some late funded applications we are wrapping up
- o CSP
 - Finished up for the year

> Review Items

- Completed Forest Insect and Disease training held by DNRCS at Wayfarer's State Park
- Our Pathway's Intern, Willa Nagel, wrapped up her summer on Friday August 19th

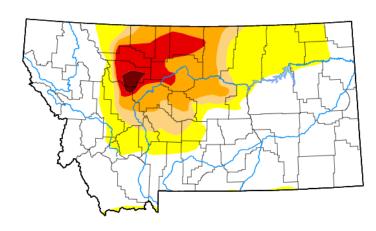
Upcoming Items

- o Kalispell Field Office Quality Assurance Review the last week of August
- FireSafe meeting on Thursday August 25th

Miscellaneous

- Drought Overall impacted area has increased but severity has decreased is the harder hit areas
 - None 49%, D0 22%, D1 13%, D2 12%, D3 4%, D4 0% August
 - None 61%, D0 18%, D1 6%, D2 9%, D3 5%, D4 0.6% July
 - None 5%, D0 19%, D1 46%, D2 16%, D3 9%, D4 4% June Report
 - None 5%, D0 8%, D1 20%, D2 46%, D3 19%, D4 0% May report

Montana



Map released: Thurs. July 21, 2022

Data valid: July 19, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT







No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

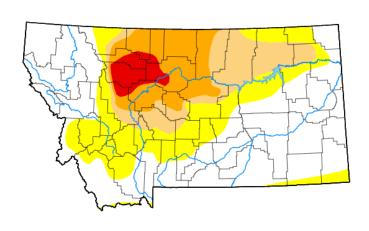
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s): Ahira Sanchez-Lugo, NOAA/NCEI

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying **text summary** for forecast statements.

August Drought Monitor

Home > Montana

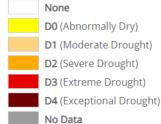
Montana



Map released: Thurs. August 11, 2022

Data valid: August 9, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity



Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s): Richard Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

Denise Gutzmer, National Drought Mitigation Center

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying **text summary** for forecast statements.



REPORT TO WESTERN CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ALIGUST 2022

UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINE

September 1 – October 15: Conservation District Project (formerly HB223) Grant Applications Open!

- All grant funding must benefit a public natural resource, and projects that benefit multiple natural resources will be more competitive.
- All applications must be submitted through Submittable. Please use a <u>CD account and not an individual</u> employee's, as this will enable the account to be maintained in the event of staff turnover.
- Applications can have a <u>preliminary review</u> completed. Please reach out to me prior to the deadline. The earlier the review, the better the assistance that can be provided.
- All projects are subject to the Montana Environmental Protection Act (MEPA). For projects that will physically impact
 the environment, the <u>MEPA checklist</u> will be required with application submittal. Please let me know if you need a
 copy of this checklist.

CDB "OFFICE HOURS"

We will be hosting weekly "office hours" on Thursdays at 2 PM, starting August 4th. The intent of these informal meetings to provide an opportunity for CD staff and supervisors to ask questions, express concerns, and discuss CD operations. In August we will focus on the recent updates to CD grants, so everyone is prepared for the next application window, open September 1 – October 15.

CD FUNDING STUDY COMMENT PERIOD OPEN

Don't miss your chance to comment on the draft bill being considered by the Environmental Quality Council (EQC)! The EQC is considering a bill draft that would provide conservation districts up to \$6 million a year. Whatever portion of that amount doesn't come from coal taxes, would be filled with taxes on marijuana. Tax revenue on adult sales of marijuana tax, which went into effect in 2022, is exceeding expectations. Please submit comments on this draft via the EQC Public Comment Form by August 24, 2022. Or email jkolman@mt.gov, Subject: HJ27 CD Funding.

AREA MEETINGS

- Area 5 October 5th, hosted by Flathead CD
- Area 6 September 30th, hosted by Gallatin CD

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, program development ideas, or projects that you need assistance with, please reach out.

-Hailey Graf



Hailey Graf

Conservation District Specialist Conservation Districts Bureau

Phone: (406) 437-4435 Email: hailey.graf@mt.gov

Samantha Tappenbeck

From: Wilson, Kate <Kate.Wilson@mt.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 5:13 PM

To: Bostrom, Mark; Brian Hughes; Brumm, Peter; Casey Lewis; Dykes, William C; Jack Potter; Jasmine

Brown; Jim Simpson; Anderson, Lee; kurt.steele; Mark Reller; Freeman, Michael; Kelly, Myla; Randy

Brodehl; Rich Janssen; Sandy Beder-Miller; Steve Stanley; Roemer, Dave M

Cc: Bender, Cassidy; Henry, Emilie; Bourret, Sam; Samantha Tappenbeck; Tomlin, Teagan L; Mike Koopal;

Ferch, James; Hammond, Katharine (Kate)

Subject: Flathead Basin Commission Info + Updates August 2022

Attachments: Flathead Basin Commission appointment_2022-07-25.pdf; Flathead Liason letter.pdf; Courtesy Copy:

FBC Summer Newsletter; pump party 2022.png

Importance: High

Dear members and committee leads – at our strategic planning session in May, you expressed interest in hearing updates from staff on a more regular basis, so here we go! Please provide any feedback or suggestions in the way of format, topics, length, etc. Thanks so much (and pls keep reading)!

FBC Updates & Information:

- Lech Naumovich has recently resigned from the Flathead Conservation District so will no longer be the FCD representative on FBC. We would like to give Lech a big shout out for his service, commitment, and work as the co-chair of the Education & Outreach Committee! He was instrumental in the development of the Montana Waters Campaign and will be missed. I'll be sending him a thank you package next week. The Flathead Conservation District board will designate a new supervisor to represent them on the FBC shortly. See letter attached.
- I would also like to thank Kate Hammond for her outstanding engagement and participation during her
 acting role as the Glacier National Park Superintendent. During her tenure here, she attended multiple
 FBC meetings, had a briefing with me, and was a joy to work with. She also looked into the role of the
 park as a voting member of the FBC and explored with the National Park Service's Standards of Ethical
 Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch and it was decided that they may actively participate
 but will no longer be voting member. See letter attached.

Committee updates:

- a. <u>Executive Committee:</u> Conduct business between meetings including but not limited to setting agendas for Commission meetings, project management, and financial updates/decisions. Current members include Rich Janssen (Chair), Casey Lewis (Vice Chair), Sandy Beder-Miller, Jasmine Courville Brown, our DNRC member (currently vacant) and staff. The Ex Comm meets every other Tuesday @ 11:15 and is open to all of you and the public as well. Contact me for participation information. The next meetings are 8/2, 8/30, and 9/15.
- b. Onsite Wastewater Treatment Committee: The Onsite Committee met June 29 (virtually) and discussed the outcomes of the Septic Leachate Pollution + Water Quality Workshop, the content that will be in our committee report/analysis of options for better addressing the septic leachate pollution issue in the basin. We're reassessing our representation on the committee as there have been a fair amount of turnover in the last 2 years (retirements, resignations, movement to other jobs, etc.). We discussed the approach and format of the septic pollution GIS risk map "road show," which we'll be rolling out this month/September in advance of our Oct meeting. Relatedly, the GIS septic risk map will be publicly available on our website in next

- few months. And the synthetic DNA study is well underway, as is the <u>septic reimbursement</u> program for the Flathead Basin, hosted by Lake County Conservation District.
- c. Edu & Outreach: The launch of the Montana Waters campaign is going well we are working on a website and materials that will be available to all of our partners to utilize as well. The Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the "waterbody specific" tagline option and any graphics or needs they may have associated with the campaign. As a reminder, the campaign is not only intended to be an "umbrella" under which we hope to more effectively engage residents and visitors in water quality issues/calls to action AND strike that chord of pride of place that can be a powerful tool in mobilizing/changing behaviors. Think our version of Tahoe Blue. We'll showcase more materials at our upcoming meeting:)
 - i. Flathead Waters Clean Up Event is planned for August 13 register here to clean up your favorite waterbody, and join us after at Sacred Waters Brewery! We would like to have a big showing at the event from FBC as a lead partner.
 - ii. Calling all volunteers: Anyone want to help us staff a booth at the upcoming NW fair in Kalispell? Engage passerby with games and promotional materials, spread the good word about water quality! Aug 17-21.
 - iii. **"Pump Party"** hosted by Lake County Conservation District **September 1**st (see attached).
- Board vacancies: Currently we have one Governor-Appointed member vacancy, our DNRC liaison (voting member) replacing Kathy Olsen, our FCD representative (voting member) replacing Lech Naumovich, a dam representative (I will be approaching Energy Keepers about this soon), and a BC representative (in statute the focus is on mining). I will work on filling these seats – please send any interested parties in the Gov Appointed position my way and I can explain the process.
- Strategic Work Plan/Priorities: Thanks so much for your participation and engagement in the last FBC meeting and follow up strategic planning session. I'm working on a short and more visually appealing "plan," given that we decided to lean in to our NPS focus and continue to focus on septic leachate pollution, stormwater pollution, ag/land runoff and other key issues stemming from NPS pollution. Stay tuned!

See more updates in our bulletin that went out last week (if you aren't getting these, please let me know ASAP!). Our next meeting is **October 5**th. **If you have an idea for a venue/location or topic, please let me know ASAP!** We'll be discussing it at the FBC Executive Committee meeting tomorrow and coming up with some ideas. The focus is likely going to be growth and development in the basin. Hope that you're having a great summer and look forward to connecting soon.

Cheers,

Kate Wilson

Administrator

Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation

Flathead Basin Commission

<u>Upper Columbia Conservation Commission</u> Phone: 406-542-4282 Mobile: 406-241-7475 2705 Spurgin Road. Missoula, MT 59804

Email: kate.wilson@mt.gov

