



Flathead Conservation District
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901
Phone: 406-752-4220 Fax: 406-752-4077
Web site: www.flatheadcd.org

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE: Chairman Ronald Buentemeier called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present: Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman; Pete Woll, Vice Chairman; Camisha Sawtelle, Secretary/Treasurer; Dean Sirucek, Supervisor; John Ellis, Supervisor; Mark Siderius, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Also in attendance were: Valerie Kurth and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Sarah Bowman, Big Sky Watershed Corps & FCD; Leo Rosenthal and Kenny Breidinger & Leo Rosenthal, MFWP; Bob Storer, Flathead River Commission; Mikel Siemans, Core Water Consulting; Roger Noble, Applied Water Consulting; Dan Evans; Lew & Larel Weaver; Tom Esch; Patrick Sullivan, Swift Eagle Ranch; Don Murray.

MINUTES: Verdell Jackson made a motion “to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016, business meeting as presented.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. DEQ 318 Permit, Federal Hwy Administration, Sprague Creek/Jackson Creek/Avalanche Creek/Unnamed Creek
 2. Whitefish Planning Board March 17, 2016, meeting agenda
 3. Area III is hosting Supervisor Summit, Wednesday, April 6, 2016, in Great Falls
 4. Liberty County CD is hosting “New Trends in Agriculture” seminar, March 23, 2016, Shelby Civic Center, contact Liberty County CD 406-759-5778, ext. 102.
 5. March 3, 2016 issue of “The Montana Conservationist”
 6. Whitefish Lake Institute winter issue of “LakeFront” newsletter
 7. NACD February 29, 2016, “Forestry Notes”
 8. StormCon convention, August 22-25, 2016, Indianapolis. Contact Scott Nania, StormCon Director, 805-679-7636
 9. DEQ storm water construction training classes, May 9-11 in Big Sky, and May 12 in Billings. Contact Christopher Romankiewicz, DEQ, 406-475-2138.
 10. Cascade CD February 2016 newsletter “Conservation Chronicle”
 11. McCone CD March 2016 newsletter “Conservation News”
 12. NACD “Goat Power” webinar March 17, 2016, Noon-1:00 ET on using goats to manage invasive species in Oregon. Contact Deb Bogar, debbogar@nacdnet.org
 13. Notice: The next Haskill Basin Watershed Council meeting is scheduled for 4/26/2016.
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FINANCIAL: The following bills were reviewed:

1. Byte Savvy \$110.00
2. Flathead Beacon \$528.00
3. MontanaSky Networks \$20.00
4. Montana States Leasing – Kalispell \$1545.56
5. Flathead Land Trust \$15,000.00
6. VISA \$1042.58
7. Envirothon \$400.00

Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve the bills as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Patrick Sullivan, Swift Eagle Ranch, reported the neighbor across the stream (Foley) did an emergency 310-permit several years ago for bank stabilization on Swift Creek. One of the logs used in the stabilization project has recently moved into the stream channel and now the bank is eroding on the Swift Eagle Ranch side of the stream. He said had talked to Ronald Buentemeier about a notice of emergency, but needs permission from Foley before beginning work to move the woody debris back to Foley’s side of the stream before high water. Mr. Sullivan passed around photos. Discussion held.

DEEP AQUIFER PRESENTATION: Bob Storer, Flathead River Commission, thanked the board for supporting the upcoming presentation by Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology on April 6, at FVCC. Bob noted the Flathead Beacon designed the posters, which have been distributed throughout the valley. Press releases, radio broadcasts, ads and articles will precede the presentation.

(310):

DIXON, FL2015004, Whitefish River, violation: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “based on the recorded covenants, the violation has been satisfied and the permit shall be valid. The work completion form paperwork will be sent to Dixon’s attorney, so a final inspection can be done.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

EVANS, FL2016012, Flathead River, dock & lift: An on-site inspection was set for Tuesday, March 22, 8:30 A.M. at the site.

EVANS, FL2016013, Flathead River, dock & lift: An on-site inspection was set for Tuesday, March 22, 8:30 A.M. at the site.

HARDY, FL2015051, Stillwater River, bank stabilization (*tabled*): Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to send the landowner a letter asking if he wants to proceed with the project or withdraw the application.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



JACOBSON, FL2015073, Whale Creek, debris removal (*tabled*): An on-site inspection was set for Tuesday, April 5, noon at the site.

MSU AG STATION, FL2016011, Blaine Creek, road/bank stabilization: Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “this is not a project under the CD jurisdiction, as it is under the jurisdiction of FWP for a 124 permit.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PEURA, FL2016006, Whale Creek, tree thinning/brush cutting: An on-site inspection was set for Tuesday, April 5, noon at the site.

ROBBINS, FL2015015, Flathead River, permit extension request: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve a one-year permit extension.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

STALOWY, FL2016007C, Bear Creek, complaint: An on-site inspection was set for Thursday, March 17, 1:15 PM at the site.

Don Murray asked that the team look at the site to determine if the project is under the jurisdiction of the Flathead CD, and, if so, to assert authority as there is no other agency that does have jurisdiction.

Tom Esch stated the USGS maps show Bear Creek goes through the project, and noted the boardwalk was permitted by the FCD. The project is delayed at this time, but recently the stream was flowing and showed some turbidity. Mr. Esch also asked that the Flathead CD assert jurisdiction.

STALOWY, FL2016008C, Bear Creek, complaint: An on-site inspection was set for Thursday, March 17, 1:15 P.M. at the site.

STALOWY, FL2016009C, Bear Creek, complaint: An on-site inspection was set for Thursday, March 17, 1:15 P.M. at the site.

VARDELL, FL2016010C, Whitefish River, complaint: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to write a letter to Mr. Gerrish stating that the district conducted an on-site inspection on 12/17/2015 and found no violation under #FL2015065C. The permit #FL2015042 is valid until 9/14/2016, and the applicant (Vardell) has until then to complete the work. *The district board has asked that John Ellis work with staff to construct the letter to Mr. Gerrish.*” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

WANGERIN, FL2016003, Flathead River, dock: Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to table the application waiting further information as discussed on-site.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ZIEHL, FL2016004, Swan River, water diversion structure: Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to approve the application as submitted.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



NEW BUSINESS:

FLOOD AWARENESS DAY EXPENSES: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to authorize up to \$850 for Flood Awareness Day expenses.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPUTING SERVICES AGREEMENT: Discussion held. Joh Ellis made a motion “to approve the Byte Savvy Computing Services agreement for 3 computers to begin on 3/23/2016 and end 3/23/2017.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MEDICAL INSURANCE PAYMENTS: Discussion held. Camisha Sawtelle made a motion “to move forward and sign up for BCBS online bill pay with electronic confirmation being received for payments.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RECORDS DISPOSAL REQUEST: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to approve the request for records disposal and submit to the state.” Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

- MACD Dues
- DNRC Workplan Survey
- FRC posters for Deep Aquifer presentation
- Weed Workshop update
- Livestock management near streams. Valerie Kurth will draft a standard letter and bring to the business meeting for review.
- Trumbull Creek
- Floodplain and Lakeshore Regulations. Supervisors were asked to submit their comments to Valerie Kurth for compilation.
- Yellowstone River Cumulative Effects Assessment Symposium
- Dean Sirucek state he had submitted comments regarding the *Montana Stream Permitting - A Guide for Conservation District Supervisors and Others* to DNRC.

The next 310-meeting is scheduled for Monday, 1, 2016, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell.

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Siderius made a motion “to adjourn.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Submitted By: Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

3/28/2016 Pete C. Woll Vice-Chairman
(Date) (Signature) (Title - Chairman, Vice-Chairman, etc.)

