



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; Camisha Sawtelle, Secretary/Treasurer; Dean Sirucek, Supervisor; John Ellis, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Board members not in attendance: Pete Woll, Vice Chairman; Mark Siderius. Absences are excused.

Also in attendance were: Valerie Kurth and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Leo Rosenthal and Kenny Breidinger, MFWP; Aaron Clausen, Flathead Lakers; Dick Zoeller.

NOTE: Verdell Jackson, Supervisor, came into the meeting late.

MINUTES: Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2015 business meeting as presented.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notice from BJ Grieve, Flathead County Planning Director, announcing a February 11, workshop to discuss the next steps in transitioning lake and lakeshore regulations, and planning and zoning in rural areas outside Whitefish city limits. The agenda is posted on the Flathead County website flathead.mt.gov/planning_zoning
2. February 3, 2015 issue of “The Montana Conservationist”
3. Whitefish Planning Board meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2015.
4. Email - MACD (Montana Association of Conservation Districts) is offering two \$500 scholarships. For details see MACD website macdnet.org
5. January 27, 2015 issue of “Forestry Notes”
6. Free Montana State Fund Work Compensation Workshop “Detecting Workers’ Compensation Fraud and Investigating Incidents”, March 12, 2015, 8:30 AM – Noon, Hampton Garden Inn, Kalispell. To register go to safemt.com or call 1-800-332-6102 ext. 5361 (Kirk Smith).

FINANCIAL: The following bills were reviewed:

1. Byte Savvy \$60.00
2. Crown Trophy \$12.85
3. Flathead Beacon \$264.00

Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve the bills as presented.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Dick Zoeller, from Whitefish, stated he was not sure who would have jurisdiction, but wanted to bring some problems to the attention of the board. He said he had also talked to the Brand Inspector and Mike Koopal, with Whitefish Lake Institute.

Mr. Zoeller stated:

- In November someone brought 120 horses in from somewhere else, and temporarily pastured them on a 5-10 acre parcel along Cow Creek, which was dry at the time.
- The stock were down in the creek bottom. He was concerned about nitrates from the manure in the creek, and was “advocating for his grandkids.” He noted his granddaughter, from California, was not allowed to drink tap water there because of high nitrate concentrations; and when she saw him drinking tap water here, she was concerned it would make him sick.
- Burdock was on the horses, leaving seed pods in the creek bottom; so, the area will have to be sprayed, affecting the water.
- When he saw the stock in the creek bottom, he thought of another problem. Certified weed seed free hay is sprayed. It is fed to stock, and has a 16-month residual, so the manure will kill any broadleaf.
- He noted, the horses are now fed on a 120 acre parcel.

Mr. Zoeller said he is not complaining, he just sees so many problems; like an injured doe he recently saw that was hobbled and wrapped up by hay twine. He stated the problems all magnify, and someone needs to “head them off” so neighbors do not become enemies.

Mr. Zoeller cited Bill Voerman as a good example in taking care of streams. Ronald Buentemeier stated Bill fenced the creek after his high school daughter, who at the time was taking a Project FEEFLOW class, talked to him about the need to fence the cows out of the creek. Funds were provided to help pay for fencing, and “Bill said that was the best thing they could have done for the stream.” Bill uses best management practices and good grazing practices along the stream.

Mr. Zoeller said we need to think about what we do with our water, the effects on future generations; and stated maybe the board could address these issues with stockowners and small landowners over a period of time.

Further discussion held regarding water quality, voluntary best management practices, and education. The board directed Mr. Zoeller to also contact DEQ, Montana Water Quality Bureau.

(310):

FLATHEAD RIVER RANCH, FL2014056, Flathead River, bank stabilization: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to approve the application with modifications per Ronald Buentemeier’s and Kenny Breidinger’s team member reports.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

HAMILTON FAMILY TR, FL2015002C, Flathead River, complaint: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to table, awaiting a response.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ILLICH, FL2014033C, Flathead River, complaint: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to table until spring and the site is viewable.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MALBERG, FL2015003, Flathead River, bank stabilization: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to table until the next 310-meeting.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion failed.

Discussion held. This project was previously permitted under FL2014003. More work may need to be done, however, the landowner did not contact the FCD office for an extension prior to the permit expiring. There are no new revisions to the application. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to approve the application with modifications per Ronald Buentemeier’s and Mark Deleray’s team member reports.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MARSHALL FMLY TR, FL2014002, Flathead River, permit ext. request: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve a one-year permit extension.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OLIVO, FL2014055C, Crystal Creek, complaint: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to table until spring and the site is viewable.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PANISSIDI, FL2015004, Flathead River, bank stabilization: This is additional information for FL2014056, and not a new application. Application # on the submitted addendum was corrected.

NEW BUSINESS:

ENVIROTHON TEAM SPONSORSHIP REQUEST: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to approve \$2469.15 for the two Whitefish teams to attend Envirothon.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried. *Camisha Sawtelle abstained from voting.*

Dean Sirucek made a motion “to amend the motion to state - with the estimate of \$2469.15, the bills will be paid on actual receipts received.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried. *Camisha Sawtelle abstained from voting.*

REPAIR & CAPITALIZATION POLICY: Discussion held. Camisha Sawtelle made a motion “to approve the Repair & Capitalization Policy as presented.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RLK HYDRO PAYMENTS: Valerie Kurth reported she had contacted John Kouns and Mild Fence regarding non-payment from Russell & Dawson Architecture & Engineering which purchased RLK Hydro. Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “if Mild Fence & John Kouns have not received payment by 5:00 P.M., Thursday 2/12/2015, that either the Chairman or Valerie Kurth contact the county attorney for advice on how to proceed.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

HASKILL CREEK ROAD SURVEY: Valerie Kurth reported DNRC has approved \$1000 in technical review funds for the Haskill Creek road survey. Estimated cost is \$1250. Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to authorize \$250 additional funding for the Haskill Creek road survey.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING: Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion “to approve \$75 for Valerie Kurth to attend the Management Training in Missoula on February 25.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MACD BY-LAWS: Valerie Kurth supplied the board with copies of the MACD By-Laws, and reported the By-Laws survey needs to be completed by the end of March. Jeff Wivholm and Elena Evans, MACD, will be attending the February business meeting. Discussion held regarding dues, voting rights, and mill levies. MACD By-Laws will be placed on the business meeting agenda.

OFFICE RENT: Discussion held. Camisha Sawtelle made a motion “to pay Mountain States Leasing – Kalispell, February office rent.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried. *John Ellis abstained from voting.*

(COUNTY) BOARD TRAINING ISSUES: Dean Sirucek reported he had attended the county board training, at which the County Attorney recommended a separate email account be set up for board members. Discussion held regarding legal issues and costs. No action taken.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

- Supervisors Training Video Conference, February 10, 1:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
- Montana State Fund Work Compensation Workshop, March 12, 2015, 8:30 AM – Noon, Hampton Garden Inn, Kalispell
- FCD office closed Monday, February 16, President’s Day
- Board & Staff reports guidelines for meetings
- Whitefish and Coon Lake planning rules
- MACD notes re: current legislative bills

The next business meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2015, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell.

ADJOURNMENT: Dean Sirucek made a motion “to adjourn.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Submitted by: Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>2/23/2015</u>	<u>Ronald Buentemeier</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	Title – (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, etc.)