



*Flathead Conservation District*  
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901  
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Web site: [www.flatheadcd.org](http://www.flatheadcd.org)

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

Also in attendance were: Lori Curtis, Associate Supervisor; Mike Koopal, Whitefish Lake Institute; Valerie Kurth, Ginger Kauffman and Kari Musgrove, FCD staff; Kenny Breidinger, MFWP; Roger Noble; Andrew Buechel.

**MINUTES:** Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2014 310-meeting as presented.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. 12/15/2014, 12/24/2014 & 1/5/2015 issues of “The Montana Conservationist”
2. 12/2014 issue of Missoula CD newsletter
3. MACD, along with many other councils and agencies will host an evening of “Conservation & Conversations”, Thursday, 1/22/2015, 5:30 PM, at The Montana Club in Helena.
4. Top 10 policy initiatives by Western Governors’ Association
5. Whitefish Planning Board meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2015, 6:00 PM
6. Fall & Winter issues of “Forestry Notes”
7. Bitterroot Stockgrowers seminar “Ranching for Profit”, January 17, 2015, 10AM-3PM, St. Mary’s Family Center, Stevensville.
8. Grazing, Winter Feeding & On-Farm Financial Security seminar, January 15, 2015, 9AM – 4PM, Ruby’s Inn & Convention Center, Missoula
9. Notice regarding CD’s having a seat on the newly formed Invasive Species Council. Interested Supervisors contact Elena Evans, MACD.
10. 12/2014 issues of “Inside Agroforestry”
11. Notice: DNRC will hold a Conservation District Chairman/Vice-Chairman workshop via NRCS video teleconference, Tuesday, February 10, 1:30 – 4:00 PM, USDA conference room, Kalispell.
12. Flathead CD received a dividend check from Montana State Fund (Work Comp) for 2012, \$209.92.
13. DNRC 2015 Winter Grazing Seminar, January 21 & 22, Billings Hotel & Convention Center
14. Notice: Next River to Lake meeting will be held in March.
15. Estate & Business Planning for Agriculture Producers, Tuesday, January 13, 10AM – Noon, Gallatin Conservation District conference room, Manhattan.
16. Haskill Basin Watershed Council meeting, January 13, 6:00 PM.
17. MACD “News from the Front” – 1<sup>st</sup> week of legislative session
18. Local Working Group resources from DNRC

**FINANCIAL:**

The following bills were paid as they were due, and there was no business meeting in December.

1. Three Rivers Bank \$35.00
2. Flathead County Weed Dept. \$2736.09 (re-issue)
3. Century Link \$195.00
4. CenturyLink \$24.87
5. RLK Hydro \$16,334.45
6. Whitefish Lake Institute \$925.00
7. VISA \$4368.27

The following bills were reviewed:

1. Byte Savvy \$45.00
2. Flathead Beacon \$264.00
3. Flathead County Weed Dept. \$43.15
4. MontanaSky Networks \$34.95
5. Mountain States Leasing – Kalispell \$1545.56
6. Susan D. Hulslander – CPA \$2032.00

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** No one was present to comment on items not on the agenda.

**OATHS OF OFFICE:** Ronald Buentemeier, Mark Siderius, and Verdell Jackson read their Oaths of Office, which will be completed, signed and recorded with the Flathead County Clerk & Recorder’s office.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to nominate Ronald Buentemeier as *Chairman*.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to nominate Pete Woll as *Vice-Chairman*.” Dean Sirucek seconded.” Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to nominate Camisha Sawtelle as *Secretary/Treasurer*.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS:** Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to add Camisha Sawtelle as a signer for the district.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Other signers remain the same.

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:** Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to approve the modifications made to the various board representatives as follows: Haskill Basin – Camisha Sawtelle; Clark Fork Task Force – Verdell Jackson; Clark Fork Task Force Alternate – Marc Spratt; Clark Fork Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate – Ronald Buentemeier.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**WFLI - WATER QUALITY PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES:** Mike Koopal & Lori Curtis, Whitefish Lake Institute (WFLI), presented the following requests to the Board for the purpose of conducting Preliminary Engineering Reports (PER's) in Whitefish neighborhoods with septic leachate issues:

- 1) to sponsor two grant applications to TSEP, and DNRC RRGL
- 2) for funding in the amount of \$10,000
- 3) for participation by FCD Resource Conservationist

Discussion held. John Ellis made a motion "that FCD sponsor planning grants to the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP), and the DNRC Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) program for the purpose of conducting a PER for the east lake shore area of Whitefish Lake; funding in the amount of \$10,000 if the grants are received, and participation by the Resource Conservationist." Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**310:**

**FEHLBERG**, FL2014043, Mill Creek, debris removal: Discussion held. Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion "to withdraw the application due to lack of information." Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**FLATHEAD RIVER RANCH**, FL2014056, Flathead River, bank stabilization: Discussion held. Buentemeier made a motion "to table pending further information." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**HESS**, FL2013058, Flathead River, permit extension request: Discussion held. Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion "to approve a one-year permit extension." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**ILLICH**, FL2014033C, Flathead River, complaint/follow-up: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion "to table until the spring when the site is viewable." Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**KELLEY**, FL2014065, Flathead River, mining: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion "to approve the application with modifications per Ronald Buentemeier's and Kenny Breidinger's team member reports." Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.  
*Note: Kelley was spelled incorrectly as Kelly in the Technical Report.*

**MARSHALL**, FL2014064, Flathead River, irrigation structure: Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion "to approve the application with modifications per Dean Sirucek's and Kenny Breidinger's team member reports." Pete Woll seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLIVO**, FL2014055C, Crystal Creek, complaint: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion "to table, and send a letter to the landowner that an on-site will be set in the spring when the site is viewable. A copy will be sent to the complainant." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SETHRE**, FL2014063, Flathead River, bank stabilization: *Mark Siderius excused himself from the table and sat in the audience, as the contractor.* Discussion held. Dean Sirucek made a motion “to approve the application with modifications per Dean Sirucek’s and Kenny Breidinger’s team member reports.” Camisha Sawtelle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. *Mark Siderius returned to the table.*

**WILD GOOSE ISLAND LLC**, FL2015001, Flathead River, bank stabilization: An on-site inspection was set for Tuesday, January 20, 10:00 AM at the site.

**OTHER 310’S**

**HAMILTON**, FL2015002C, Flathead River, complaint: Discussion held. Ronald Buentemeier made a motion “to send the standard complaint letter to the landowner.” Mark Siderius seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**DNRC FLATHEAD RIVER STEWARD GR. #RCG-15-0019:** The board was informed DNRC Flathead River Steward grant Agreement #RCG-15-0019 was received in the FCD office and signed by Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman, on 12/17/2014.

**DNRC FLATHEAD RIVER STEWARD GR #223-15-3392:** The board was informed DNRC Flathead River Steward grant Agreement #223-15-3392 was received in the FCD office and signed by Ronald Buentemeier, Chairman, on 12/17/2014.

**MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF**

- **RIVER STEWARD INTERNET ACCESS & PRINTING:** Discussion held. Pete Woll made a motion “to continue the River Steward agreement, which was established in 2014, for internet access and printing.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- **LEGISLATIVE MEET & GREET:** January 22, Helena. Discussion held. Mark Siderius made a motion “to approve Valerie Kurth, and any other supervisors, to attend the Legislative Meet & Greet.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- **TRUMBULL CREEK:** Discussion held regarding RLK Hydro closing, and related issues.
- **FLOODPLAIN PERMITS**

The next business meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26, 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 9:05 P.M.

Submitted By:                      Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

*Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:*

1/26/2015                      Ronald Buentemeier                      Chairman  
(Date)                                      (Signature)                                      (Title - Chairman, Vice-Chairman, etc.)