

MINUTES TO THE AUGUST 14, 2017 MEETING
USDA SERVICE CENTER
12 3RD Street NW
Great Falls, MT
Corrected 9/11/2017

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gayla Wortman called the meeting to order at 12:47 pm. A quorum was present. The meeting attendees were as follows:

Supervisors: Gayla Wortman, John Chase, Alan Rollo, Elliot Merja, Stevie Neuman

Staff: Tenlee Atchison, Laura Crawford

Guests: Matt Crampton, NRCS; Travis Wilson, Sun River Watershed Group; Jim Larson, Cascade County Commissioner

310's: Susan Conell, Cascade County Planning; Greg Wirth, Stathly Engineering, Sharon LaFaver, Devil's Kitchen Ranch; Kurt & Ronda Wiggers; Cory Person

Rollo moved to excuse supervisors Scott Brown and Marc Shane. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

MINUTES

Rollo moved to approve the June 22, 2017 special meeting minutes as corrected. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chase moved to approve the July 14, 2017 regular meeting minutes as corrected. Rollo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Rollo moved to pay the unpaid bills with additions for a total of \$30,652.15. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Wortman moved to approve the monthly treasurer's report. Rollo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

WORK CALENDAR

- AIS Planning meeting – September
- Newsletter – October
- Review/Evaluate education programs – October
- Supervisor Summit – October & November

DISTRICT REPORT

***Administrator:** Atchison reported the following:

- The Annual Convention of Montana Association of Conservation Districts will be held in Bozeman at the Holiday Inn on November 14-16, 2017.
- The next Aquatic Invasive Species meeting will be held September 29, 2017 **in Great Falls at the Cascade Conservation District office.**

Rollo moved to not send Atchison to MACD Meeting unless resolutions are proposed. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

***Supervisors:**

Neuman reported the following:

- **Water Pollution Control Advisory Council** committee next meeting will be held in September.

Wortman reported the following:

- The next Resource Conservation Advisory Council meeting is a conference call on September 13, 2017.
- Wortman was appointed for another 2-year term with the Resource Conservation Advisory Council.

***Secretary:** Crawford reported the following:

- Crawford will be out of the office Wednesday, August 16 – Friday, August 25, 2017.
- Fergus and Petroleum County Conservation Districts are hosting the Montana Range Tour on September 6 & 7, 2017.
- Montana Watershed Coordination Council is hosting a tour of the Musselshell Watershed September 18-20, 2017.

PARTNER'S REPORTS

CASCADE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jim Larson reported the following:

- Aquatic Invasive Species testing has continued and the tests have come back negative on mussels in the Tiber Reservoir and Canyon Ferry.
- Cascade County is in Stage 1 of the fire restrictions as of the beginning of August.

NRCS

Matt Crampton reported the following: *note that the NRCS report was authored by Matt Crampton and is printed here in its entirety and in original form at Crampton's request.

- Programs – Here is a summary of the dates coming up for programs.

EQIP – The technical service provider, TSP, is moving forward with installation of practices on Irrigation contracts. Summer resource assessment of applications is on hold until we can meet the CSP deadlines.

CSP – Working on the one application we have here but also have 4 in Judith Basin. All are to be obligated by September 1st. There are three renewals in Cascade County that we need to get started on.

CRP – I am working on the 3 TIPs and there are two early out contracts to complete.

Fergus, Phillips, and Blaine have all been approved for ECP. Phillips has some EQIP fire special initiative applications. Staff are also trying to assist the Miles City area with their ECP and EQIP fire SI applications.

Friday was Bryce's last day. He was a lot of help for the summer. We will miss him.

No weather handouts.

Matt Crampton
District Conservationist
Great Falls & Stanford Field Offices

MISSOURI RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS COUNCIL

As a submitted written report:

- The Ranching for Rivers program funding will end on September 30, 2017.
- A float trip is planned on the Lower Missouri looking at treating saltcedar. Rachel Frost has been working with McCone Conservation District and the Big Sky Watershed Council member to finalize details for the trip.

SUN RIVER WATERSHED REPORT

Travis Wilson reported the following:

- Travis met with watershed partners to continue updating the SRWG 10-year work plan.
- Travis met with irrigation managers to discuss inter-organizational water needs, use and river flow issues.
- Funding is being pursued to continue the Muddy Creek project including the nutrient and sediment monitoring station and the flow gage station.

CASCADE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Elliot Merja reported the following:

- The planning board meeting will be held Thursday August 18, 2017.

310 - BUSINESS

CAV-18-17 – DEVILS KITCHEN RANCH/MARK PIELOCH ALLEGED VIOLATION

UNNAMED STREAM/DRAINAGE ROAD BUILD

A complaint was received about a road built over a water drainage that was creating a significant amount of sedimentation being deposited into the Missouri River, perennial, navigable stream. A site visit was held on June 20, 2017. Jason Mullen, FWP; Tim McNew, ACOE; Tim Holley, MDOT; Sharon Lafaver, Ranch Manager; the ranch consultant and the Cascade Conservation District Administrator were present. The issue has been forwarded to Lewis & Clark Conservation District because **the project** spans both counties. The road is being constructed down the middle of the drainage, not following the contour of the hill. This is the second stream violation this landowner has received from ACOE and a CD.

Comments: "The construction of the road greatly increases the amount of exposed surface area, which will likely result in continued transport of sediment into the Missouri River during rain events. FWP recommends in addition to any penalty and/or mitigation that the CD may assess, that the landowner

install temporary mitigation measures to reduce the flow and sediment transport of material into the Missouri River. These measures would be temporary while a mitigation plan is developed to be approved by CCD, Army Corp of Engineers/EPA and other entities (e.g., DEQ, Lewis & Clark CD).”

Inspection Team Recommendation: Find CAV-18-17 a violation that will require mitigation including a professional engineering report and immediate protective measures to prevent excessive sedimentation deposition onto the main road and into the Missouri River during storm events and that corresponds and cooperates with other permitting agencies mitigation requirements.

Action Requested: Applicant requests permission to implement the temporary erosion control best management practices (BMP’s) as detailed in the draft SWPPP. They will need additional time to develop the detailed plan and determine material quantities as requested by CCD. Timelines should be considered.

- Temporary erosion control measures for this site will be a combination of rock check dams, straw waddles or silt fences, culvert inlet protection and sedimentation basins. Stahly Engineering’s SWPPP administrator will do a field review on site with the contractor and determine where to implement the erosion control BMP’s.

Rollo moved to allow the applicant 60 days to acquire additional information, provide new BMP details, and to authorize combination of rock check dams be between 1-2 feet and allow straw waddles or silt fences, and culvert inlet protection. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-20-17 – MISSOURI RIVER FORESTRY, LLP
NEW APPLICATION**

**UNNAMED TRIBUTARY ON CARPENTER CREEK
TEMPORARY STREAM CROSSING**

This is a new application to create a temporary stream crossing on an unnamed tributary of Carpenter Creek. It is a perennial flowing spring fed “E” channel. The purpose is to provide log skidding access. Logs will be placed across the small channel upon which fill material will be packed in place to allow log skidding to occur while concurrently protecting that portion of the stream channel. Approximately 20 linear feet of bank will be impacted creating approximately a 16’ wide access route. All disturbed sites will be smoothed and revegetated following the project.

Inspection Team Recommendation: Approve CA-20-17 as submitted.

Rollo moved to table CA-20-17 vote for 30 days until rules are determined on wood logs vs. cement logs. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-21-17 – KURT WIGGERS
NEW APPLICATION**

**SUN RIVER
BANK STABILIZATION**

Application is to prevent erosion along 287’ of bank. A combination of riprap, vegetative armoring and bank slope reduction is proposed. Impact will not extend into the river bed but will begin at the toe of the slope. Class II riprap will be keyed into the bank toe to an elevation slightly lower than the scour depth of the river, then develop a 3:1 slope from the existing bank toe to an elevation slightly above the bank-full water surface elevation. Voids in the riprap will be filled with native soil and vegetated with willow cuttings. A non-woven geotextile fabric will be used under the riprap to ensure treatments do not migrate into the existing soil. From the top of the riprap location, a 3:1 slope will be maintained until the slope daylight. The slope without riprap will be covered with a permanent erosion control mat and seeded with native grasses to promote vegetative growth for long-term stabilization of the slope. Excavated soil will be used to fill in the riprap for willow plantings. The remaining soil will be spread out

in field away from the bank. An excavator and bull dozer will be used on site. Work will take place during low water flows.

Historical data shows very little bank migration. The most recent Sun River Assessment by Warren Kellogg states that due to the dynamic nature of the river and the potential riprap has to cause problems both upstream and downstream, it should only be used to protect vital infrastructure.

Inspection Team Recommendations: Approve with modifications:

- Do not riprap.
- Slope upper portion of cutbank leaving the lower bank in place to allow the lower bank to reestablish vegetation naturally over time. Erosion has been minimal in recent years, and appears to be moving back to the south. This will allow the lower bank to reestablish vegetation naturally over time. Revisit if more erosion of lower bank occurs in future.

OR

- Slope the upper bank 3:1 as proposed. Slope lower bank and reestablish vegetation along lower bank, including willow and grass.
- Complete willow work when dormant.

Rollo moved to approve CA-21-17 with team recommendations that riprap not be used, slope the lower banks, install erosion matting, and willow work be installed. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-22-17 – CODY PERSON
NEW APPLICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER
BOAT RAMP**

Proposed project is to install a boat ramp on the east side of the Missouri River on Antelope Lane by sloping the steep bank back and installing concrete logs on a crushed gravel base. Riprap will be installed as needed to stabilize sloped sidewalls of the ramp. Ramp will be approximately 25' wide.

Inspection Team Comments:

FWP completed a study in April 2012 assessing the number of boat ramps along the Missouri in a 26-mile reach between Holter Dam and Pelican Point FAS. Overall, 36 boat ramps were identified. In Cascade County, the Missouri flows 11.8 miles in this reach, where 18 private boat ramps and 6 public ramps were identified. The mean distance between public boat ramps in Cascade County for this reach of river is 2.24 miles. The property at 44 Antelope Lane is 8.7 miles from the Cascade boat ramp, and 14.8 miles from the Pelican Point FAS boat ramp. FWP recommends that as stated in the 2012 study, continued expansion of the number of private boat launch sites in this reach of river is not necessary and may result in impacts to the fishery.

If permitted, recommend earthen/gravel boat ramp to minimize disturbance and footprint. Slope sidewalls and revegetate.

Chase moved to approve CA-22-17 as planned using riprap and cement logs. Merja seconded. Motion failed unanimously.

Rollo moved to approve CA-22-17 per inspection team recommendation with an earthen/gravel ramp, slope sidewalls, revegetate, and waive the 15-day waiting period. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-23-17 – ROBERT CORWIN
NEW APPLICATION**

**SUN RIVER
BANK STABILIZATION**

Proposed project is to repair and stabilize a section of the river bank that has sloughed off and rebuild the service road next to the hay field. A large sink hole formed in the hay field directly across from the sloughed bank. Beaver in the area have built several dens along this stretch of the bank adding to the instability of the bank. Current plan is to place riprap on bottom portion of the riverbank at the toe and revegetate.

Inspection Team Recommendations: Approve with modifications waiving the 15-day waiting period:

- Pull out jetty from slough
- Slope bank back
- Install erosion matting/fencing material to deter beaver activity
- Cover with native material and vegetate
- Line irrigation ditch so water will not pipe through the bank in this area.

Rollo moved to approve CA-23-17 as amended per the inspection team recommendations with no riprap and waive the 15-day waiting period. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-24-17 – FORT SHAW IRRIGATION DISTRICT
NEW APPLICATION**

**ADOBE CREEK
IRRIGATION FLUME**

The purpose of this project is to install a concrete flume to measure water flows to manage distribution better. 10' of bank and streambed will be affected. An excavator will pull out existing vegetation, place flume, then place vegetation back. Work will be done when the stream is low, almost dry.

Inspection Team Recommendation: Approve CA-24-17 as submitted.

Wortman moved to approve CA-24-17 as submitted. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Merja abstained from discussion and voting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

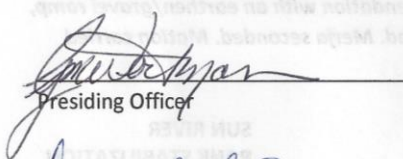
No announcements

CALENDAR REVIEW

- August 14 ~ Board Meeting
- September 4 ~ Labor Day, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- September 11 ~ Board Meeting
- September 18 ~ Area III Meeting, Glacier Park Lodge, Glacier Park
- October 9 ~ Columbus Day, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- October 10 ~ Board Meeting
- October 31 – November 1 ~ Supervisor Summit
- November 13 ~ Board Meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

The CCD Board meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm.



Presiding Officer

9/11/17

Date



Recording Secretary

9/11/2017

Date