

MINUTES TO THE APRIL 9, 2017 MEETING  
USDA SERVICE CENTER  
12 3<sup>RD</sup> Street NW  
Great Falls, MT  
Corrected 6/11/2018

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Gayla Wortman called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm. A quorum was present. The meeting attendees were as follows:

**Supervisors:** Gayla Wortman, John Chase, Scott Brown, Elliot Merja, Marc Shane

**Staff:** Tenlee Atchison, Laura Crawford

**Guests:** Jim Freeman, Associate Supervisor; Max Blodgett, NRCS

**310's:** Susan Conell, Cascade County Planning

*Shane moved to excuse supervisor Stevie Neuman. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Regular meeting closed at 12:35pm for executive session to discuss employee appraisals and reopened at 12:50pm.

**MINUTES**

*Chase moved to approve the March 12, 2018 regular meeting minutes as corrected. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Wortman moved to pay the unpaid bills for a total of \$10,247.65. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Shane moved to approve the monthly treasurer's report. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Shane moved to approve the petty cash. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**BUDGET REVIEW**

- Budget meeting has been set for April 18, 2018 for review.

**BUILDING DISCUSSION**

- The Board is looking at other potential properties for a new office building.

- The Board has decided to withdrawal the Buy-Sell contract for the property on Great Bear Avenue.

***Brown moved to terminate the Buy-Sell contract for the Great Bear Avenue property. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

#### **WORK PLAN CALENDAR**

- AG Days – May 10 & 11
- Craig Caddis Festival – May 19
- Cover Crop Tour – June 22
- River Rendezvous – July 12-13
- Broadwater Bay Event – July 11

#### **MIGHTY MO RIVER CAMPAIGN**

- Atchison met with the North Central Missouri River Collaborative Working Group to set up a collaborative agreement in the protection and overall health of the Missouri River from Holter Lake to Fort Benton and the tributaries.
- Letters will be going out to landowners who live near the river telling them about the campaign.
- There will be a booth at the Craig Caddis Festival to spread the word about the campaign with merchandise and games on May 19, 2018.
- Mighty Mo River Cleanup is on August 18, 2018 from Pelican Point to Cascade.

***Wortman moved to enter and sign the collaborative agreement of the North Central Missouri River Collaborative Working Group. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

#### **COVER CROP TOUR**

- Cover Crop Tour is June 22, 2018 at Casnter Falls Community Hall with lunch provided.
- Guest speakers are Max Blodgett and Marni Thompson, NRCS, and Rick Cummings, local landowner.

***Wortman moved to purchase hats with the CCD logo for the attendees of the Cover Crop Tour. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

#### **DISTRICT REPORT**

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

- Vaughn Public Schools is looking at a grant to make greenhouse upgrades and Great Falls Catholic High School is looking at a grant for a weed pull event called Pull Your Share.
- Atchison is requesting leave for June 15 & 18, July 5 & 6, July 23-27, and August 22-24.
- Chuck Merja is putting in a mini grant for students building irrigation monitoring systems.

***Shane moved to approve the \$500 mini grant to Vaughn Public Schools for upgrades. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Merja moved to approve the grant for Great Falls Catholic High School weed pull event for \$364. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Wortman moved to approve Chuck Merja's mini grant for \$500. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Wortman moved to approve Atchison's leave request. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

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

- Looking at pursuing a mini education grant and 223 grant for Ag Days due to the addition of a building.
- Montana Farm Bureau Federation is hosting the Young Ag Leadership Conference October 5-7, 2018 in Billings, MT.
- The Supervisor Summit Meeting will be in Helena at the Department of Natural Resources office April 20, 2018.
- Black Butte Copper Project tour is set for June 1, 2018 at 10:00am.
- The May monthly board meeting has been moved to May 21, 2018.

***Merja moved to approve the pursuit of a mini education grant and 223 grant for Ag Days. Wortman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Shane moved to sponsor the Young Ag Leadership Conference for \$100. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **PARTNER'S REPORTS**

### **NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICES**

Max Blodgett reported the following:

- The new district Conservationist may be arriving in June 2018.
- The Farm Service Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Services, and Risk Management Agency are united under Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) at the national level.
- The Local Work Group set range as land priority and plant health and productivity as resource concern for 2019.

***Shane moved to approve the land priority and resource concern as set by the Local Work Group for 2019. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **MISSOURI RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS COUNCIL**

As a written report submitted by Rachel Frost:

- Montana Rangelands Partnership Steering Committee meeting was held in Manhattan to take stock of the program and determine a path forward.
- Jim Beck finished his series of water rights claims presentations in early March in Wibaux, Sidney and Forsyth.

- Living on the Bank project committee met March 13 to finalize the educational modules for the website that may be published in September 2018.

#### **SUN RIVER WATERSHED GROUP**

- The Board discussed the future of the Sun River Watershed including contracted position vs employee and who would be the employer, projects, financials and grants, and how to outreach to landowners to get involved.

#### **CASCADE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

Elliot Merja reported the following:

- There is another subdivision on the frontage road near Sun Prairie at the old Trader Joe's property where a machinery selling company is setting up shop.

#### **CHAMBER AG COMMITTEE**

Elliot Merja reported the following:

- There is a meeting on April 18, 2018 at Cargill on Great Bear Avenue in Great Falls.

#### **310 - BUSINESS**

##### **CA-05-18 – LEE JANETSKI**

##### **NEW APPLICATION**

New application to stabilize the bank in order to protect cropland and prevent the river from back cutting rip rap that is already in place. Proposed project is to place 600 linear ft of rip rap 8' high along the bank for stabilization as a continuation of rip rap that was placed in 2010. An excavator will be used to place the rock.

This application was tabled in March until a site inspection could be held. The inspection team included Tim McNew, ACOE Senior Project Manager and Elliot Merja, CCD Supervisor.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Deny

##### **SUN RIVER**

##### **BANK STABILIZATION**

***Wortman moved to bring CA-05-18 to the table for discussion. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Merja moved to deny CA-05-18 as new information has been presented. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

##### **CA-06-18 – ARLENE HOUT**

##### **NEW APPLICATION**

New application to install a boat dock on the Missouri River. Applicant proposes to anchor the dock with posts and a cable attached to the river bank and an existing tree. No posts are proposed to be placed in the stream bed itself. Approximately 20' of linear bank will be impacted. The dock will extend 25' into the water.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve with modifications.

- Approve as a 5-year annual plan of operations

##### **MISSOURI RIVER**

##### **BOAT DOCK**

***Shane moved to approve CA-06-18 for a boat dock with the recommendation that the dock does not exceed 15 feet into the water and as a 5-year plan of operation. Chase seconded. Motion withdrawn.***

*Shane moved to table the discussion on CA-06-18 until information on the posts and removal/installation is received. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**CA-01-18 – EMILIO GARZA  
MODIFICATION**

**BELT CREEK  
FENCING**

Application is to place livestock panels across the stream along the property lines in order to keep livestock from crossing into the adjoining property. Panels will be placed after high water and will be removed by December 1 of each year. 2 removeable panels will be placed across the over flow channel. 3 panels will be used across the stream. Steel posts will be pounded into each side of the stream for anchoring. The stream bed and bank are mostly gravelly at this site with some native bushes and grasses. A skid steer will be used to haul panels and help pound posts.

**MODIFICATION REQUESTED:** County Floodplain requested that Mr. Garza string wire across the stream as opposed to using livestock panels. He is proposing to use and run 3 -4 strands of smooth wire across the channel and flag it. The wire will not be strung until after high water. He will roll the wire up each winter.

*Wortman moved to approve the modification request on CA-01-18 with the recommendations from County Floodplain. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements

**CALENDAR REVIEW**

- April 24-25, 2017 – Montana Envirothon, Lewistown
- May 10 & 11 ~ Ag Days, Great Falls
- May 14 ~ CCD Board Meeting
- May 19 ~ Craig Caddis Festival, Craig
- May 28 ~ Memorial Day, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- June 11 ~ CCD Board meeting
- June 18-20 ~ MT Range Days, Red Lodge
- June 22 ~ Cover Crop Tour, Castner Falls Community Hall
- July 4 ~ Independence Day, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- July 9 ~ CCD Board Meeting
- July 9-12 ~ MT Youth Range Camp, Savage, MT
- July 12-13 ~ MRCDC River Rendezvous, Great Falls
- July 15-20 ~ MT Natural Resources Youth Camp, Missoula

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The CCD Board meeting adjourned at 5:27pm.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO THE  
APRIL 9, 2018 MEETING MINUTES  
USDA SERVICE CENTER  
12 3<sup>RD</sup> Street NW  
Great Falls, MT

The regular April 9, 2018 minutes have been corrected and approved by the Cascade Conservation District Board on June 11, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Official

6/11/18  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

6/11/2018  
Date