

MINUTES TO THE MAY 21, 2017 MEETING
USDA SERVICE CENTER
12 3RD 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, Marc Shane

Staff: Tenlee Atchison, Laura Crawford

Guests: Kathie Lahti, supervisor candidate; Pete Heryford, supervisor candidate; Keith Cron, CTA

310's: Mark Harrison; Susan Conell, Cascade County Planning; Jason Mullen, Fish Wildlife and Parks; Alex Dachs, Cascade County Planning

Chase moved to excuse supervisors Stevie Neuman and Elliot Merja. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- The regular meeting closed at 12:33pm for executive session to discuss proposed employee payroll increase and opened at 12:40pm.
- The regular meeting closed at 4:43pm for executive session to discuss filling the vacant supervisor position and reopened at 4:52pm.

Shane moved to approve the employee payroll increase per the personnel committee recommendations. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Brown moved to appoint Pete Heryford to fill the vacant supervisor position. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Wortman moved to table the review of the April 9, 2018 regular meeting minutes until the Sun River Watershed Group discussion is included. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Shane moved to pay the unpaid bills with additions for a total of \$22,759.66. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

BUDGET REVIEW

- The purposed budget for 2019 was reviewed and will be approved at the June 11, 2018 meeting.

SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES

- Kathie Lahti is a wildlife conservation biologist and an accountant as well as the current business manager at the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and school.
- Pete Heryford has a Bachelor's in Ag Relations and a minor in meat science product design and now owns the Selkirk Angus in Vaughn. Pete also holds a DEQ license for Montana.

WORK PLAN CALENDAR

- Cover Crop tour – June 22
- At the Water's Edge – July 11
- MRCD River Rendezvous 2018 – July 12
- Mighty Mo River Cleanup – Aug 18
- Supervisor Summit – Aug 29-30

MIGHTY MO RIVER CAMPAIGN

- Big Sky Watershed Corp members helped Atchison with the booth at the Caddis Festival on May 19, 2018
- July 11, 2018 is the At The Water's Edge event at Broadwater Bay with Fish Wildlife and Parks bringing in an inspection station and decontamination station along with CCD information available.

RIVER RENDEZVOUS

- The River Rendezvous is July 12, 2018 with a tour of the water treatment plant and dam with dinner and lunch included and a drone display at dinner.

ENHANCED PHYTOREMEDIATION PILOT STUDY

- Keith Cron, CTA Architects Engineers, is looking for CCD to sponsor a DNRC planning grant for \$50,000 to clean up the gasoline left over from an old mechanic shop sitting in a well near Café Rio on the corner of 9th Street and 10th Avenue South.
- The cleanup will include the planting of hybrid poplar trees that will absorb the gasoline before getting into the water system and river. The project will be monitored quarterly for the duration of the project and trees will then be removed once the gasoline is completely absorbed.

DISTRICT REPORT

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

- The Upper Missouri Watershed Alliance is hosting a river rendezvous on June 16, 2018 at the Craig Firehall, Craig, MT.

- There is an Aquatic Invasive Species training with Fish Wildlife and Parks on June 28, 2018 in Great Falls.
- The Montana Invasive Species Council meeting is on August 28, 2018 in Fort peck.
- Atchison will be out of the office Friday, May 25, 2018.
- The mini education grant for Vaughn Public Schools greenhouse project was denied.

Wortman moved to approve leave request for Atchison for Friday, May 25, 2018. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane moved to write a letter to Vaughn Greenhouse that CCD will pay for upgrades up to \$500 and to search out in kind matching from other sources. Wortman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

***Supervisors:**

Chase reported the following:

- The Missouri River Conservation Districts Council has a Living on the Banks meeting Thursday, May 24, 2018.

Wortman reported the following:

- A Supervisor Summit meeting will be June 7, 2018 in Helena at the Department of Natural Resources office.
- A Resource Conservation Advisory Council meeting is May 30, 2018 in Helena.

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

- The Black Butte Copper Project tour is June 1, 2018 in White Sulphur Springs.
- Crawford requested annual leave for June 19-29, July 26-27, 31-31, 2018 and will be out of the office Friday, May 25, 2018.
- The Department of Administration is offering a budget/tax levy and year-end closing workshop in Great Falls on June 6, 2018.

Wortman moved to approve Crawford's leave request for July 26-27 and 30-31, 2018. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Wortman moved to approve Crawford's leave request for June 19-29, 2018. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PARTNER'S REPORTS

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICES

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

- Programs – Here is a summary of the dates coming up for programs.
 - Cover Crop Tour – I am planning on welcoming everyone at the beginning with a brief powerpoint about the history of the project and all the partners who have worked together to make this happen. Then we will go to the field and let Rick, Marni and I talk about our experiences with cover crops. Then we will head back to the hall for a good lunch.

- New DC – Bailey Rapp from Wyoming will be the new DC for Great Falls and Stanford. He will be starting June 11. He is scheduled to stop in and meet with Cari on May 25 if anyone would like to come in and say hello. However, I don't currently have a time for May 25, but I can let you know as soon as I find out.
- June 1 is the ranking deadline for 2018-1 CSP. Great Falls has two eligible applications currently. Funding preapproval deadline is June 8. Then field visits will have to be completed by June 29.
- June 1 is the application deadline for EQIP for 2019 contracts. If anyone is interested, or you know of someone who is, stop in and fill out an application. Remember, the primary resource concern for this funding cycle will be plant health and diversity on rangeland.

Max Blodgett
Acting District Conservationist
Great Falls & Stanford Field Offices

MISSOURI RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS COUNCIL

As a written report submitted by Rachel Frost:

- The CMR Community Working Group meeting will be held on June 26, 2018 in Winnett.
- The Ranching for Rivers program has riparian grazing workshops on June 26 in Thompson Falls, June 27 in Helena, and June 28 in Deer Lodge.
- Rachel Frost helped Garfield County CD on a project that is monitoring areas where donated or purchased hay from out of area was received due to the drought and fires of 2017. The project is completely funded by a Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant.

310 - BUSINESS

**CA-04-17 – JAMES & COURTNEY FELDMAN
EXTENSION**

**BOX ELDER CREEK
WATER GAP W/FORD**

Originally permitted to install a 20' wide water gap and ford for livestock. Fill will be added and keyed into an eroded portion of the bank to create a 2:1 slope and protect the soft bank from further erosion. 64 yards of hard sandstone from a pit on site will be used as fill and riprap material. Approximately 25 yards of silt will be removed from the streambed replace with sandstone. Excess material will be hauled offsite. This will be done to establish a hard bottom ford and maintain a natural grade elevation in the creek. The rest of the creek will be fenced off. Livestock cross the creek to access pasture on both sides. The current crossing has soft steep banks and is degrading quickly. This project will protect the creek from further erosion and deliver livestock safely to connecting pasture.

Unable to complete the project within the original permit time frame due to unforeseen circumstances.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve a one-year extension.

Wortman moved to approve a one-year extension for CA-04-17. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-06-18 – ARLENE HOUT
NEW APPLICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER
BOAT DOCK**

New application to install a boat dock on the Missouri River. Applicant proposes to anchor the dock with steel posts driven 3' into the bank with a cable attached to an existing tree as well. No posts are proposed to be placed in the stream bed itself. Approximately 20' of linear bank will be impacted. The dock will extend 15' into the water from the shoreline. The shortest prefabricated dock size is 10' so anything shorter will be difficult. A plank will be used to access the dock from the bank. The dock will be removed each year by Dec 1.

This application was tabled in April.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications.

- Approve as a 5-year annual plan of operation

Wortman moved to bring CA-06-18 to the table for discussion. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane moved to approve CA-06-18 with the modifications as a 5-year annual plan of operation. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-09-18 – LANCE & BILLY DUBOIS
NEW APPLICATION**

**SUN RIVER
LANDSCAPING/DECK**

Application is to landscape with a rock stoop(step), install a platform deck that will sit approximately 10' from the bank and a deck that will sit in the tree above the bank of the river. During the site visit we were informed that only one more step would be added just below the top of the bank. The site inspection revealed that the decks will be placed far enough away from the stream thus not requiring a permit.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the addition of a stone step approximately 4' wide placed just below an existing step with just enough road mix and sand to stabilize the step.

Any future bank stabilization will require a separate permit. It is recommended that vegetation be used if further stabilization is requested/required.

Wortman moved to approve CA-09-18 per the inspection team recommendations. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-10-18 – TDH ENGINEERING, DUSTIN NETT
NEW APPLICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER
BORING**

Application is for a geotechnical investigation in the Missouri River prior to the construction a new water main using horizontal directional drilling. One boring will be obtained from the river channel bottom of the Missouri River, two will be obtained from Park Island, and two will be obtained from

either side of the Missouri River. The two borings collected from land on either side of the river will be accessible by conventional truck-mounted drilling equipment; the other three borings will be accessed using a barge and a crane.

A boring will be taken west of Park Island in the river. It will extend 100 feet below ground surface at that location. A barge will be used in the river to provide access to this boring. The boring is to evaluate soil conditions within the channel which are important to the scour analysis required during design.

All boring holes will be backfilled after the project to ensure no long-term impacts. Based on the depth and ground water elevation, it is proposed that grouting is the only practical option for backfilling the boreholes.

There are significant concerns about how the test hole will be filled. Both Jason Mullen and Warren Kellogg feel the hole should be backfilled with streambed material or similar material rather than grouted. Once they bore for a water main, I am not sure if they will need to grout around that in order to stabilize. More justification needs to be given for this method of filling the bore holes in the streambed.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications (if possible); Otherwise approve as requested.

- Request hole be filled with streambed material such as gravel rather than a hard grout material. This material must be approved prior to boring.
- All equipment must be inspected by FWP AIS staff prior to launch in the river. This would include the barge, crane, etc.

Shane moved to approve CA-10-18. Chase seconded. Motion defeated unanimously.

Shane moved to table CA-10-18 until further information is received. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-11-18 – TDH ENGINEERING, DUSTIN NETT
NEW APPLICATION**

**SUN RIVER
BORING**

Application is for a geotechnical investigation in the Sun River prior to the construction of a new water main using horizontal directional drilling. Three borings will be collected from land and one from the river channel bottom of the Sun River. That boring will be collected using a temporary dock consisting of sheet pile and gravel fill adjacent to the Sun River, near the 6th Street bridge. The bore hole will extend approximately 20' below the river channel bottom to obtain samples required for scour analysis. Conventional truck mounted equipment may be used, or a barge located in the river channel. The boring in the river will be grouted to ensure that there is no impact to fish and aquatic habitat after project completion.

There are significant concerns about how the test hole will be filled. Both Jason Mullen and Warren Kellogg feel the hole should be backfilled with streambed material or similar material rather than grouted. Once they bore for a water main, I am not sure if they will need to grout around that in order to stabilize. More justification needs to be given for this method of filling the bore holes in the streambed.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications (if possible); Otherwise approve as requested.

- Approve temporary dock as proposed.
- Request hole be filled with streambed material such as gravel rather than a hard grout material. This material must be approved prior to boring.
- All equipment must be inspected by FWP AIS staff prior to launch in the river. This would include the barge, crane, etc.

Wortman moved to table CA-11-18 until further information is received. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously

**CA-12-18 – MICHAEL DUBE
NEW APPLICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER
BOAT DOCK**

Application is to install a boat dock on the Missouri River. Applicant proposes to anchor the dock with 4 auger posts driven into the streambed. Approximately 3- 5’ of linear bank will be impacted. The dock will extend 20’ into the stream at low water. Prefabricated EZ docks only come in 10’ sections. In order to get into the deep channel, two 10’ lengths of dock will be required. A Gradall will be used to take the dock in and out each season. The dock will be removed each year by Dec 1.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications.

- Approve as a 5-year annual plan of operation.

Shane moved to approve CA-12-18 as a 5-year annual plan of operation. Chase seconded. The 20’ dock was approved due to the need to extend past shallow waters to prevent scouring. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-13-18 – MARK HARRISON
NEW APPLICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER
BOAT DOCK**

Application is to install a boat dock on the Missouri River. Applicant proposed to anchor the dock with steel posts driven into the streambed. Approximately 3-5 linear bank will be impacted. The proposed dock will extend 30’ into the side channel of the river. The dock will be installed and removed from the channel each year manually. The dock will be removed each year by Dec 1.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications.

- Approve as a 5-year annual plan of operation.

Wortman moved to approve CA-13-18 with modification as a 5-year annual plan of operation. Chase seconded. The 30’ dock was approved due to the need to extend past shallow waters to prevent scouring. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-14-18 – ZACHARY BASHOOR
NEW APPLICATION**

**SHEEP CREEK (NF)
CULVERT**

Application is to install a 36” culvert at a ford site of the stream to reduce sedimentation and erosion. High water depth of the stream is approximately 6-8” in that area. The stream is only 2 – 2 ½ feet wide. Native fill will be used on the approaches. No vegetation will be disturbed. An excavator will be used in this project. Applicant sees no reason to have equipment in the stream.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with modifications.

- Place culvert just upstream from the current ford.
- Angle culvert so that flow does not hit directly against the uphill bank to avoid excessive erosion.
- Create a small overflow outlet that ties into the existing overflow stream to avoid another blown out culvert during high water events.
- Overflow channel elevation should be equal to top of culvert and hardened to prevent erosion.
- Upstream and downstream ends of culvert should be rip-rapped to prevent scour around the culvert.

Shane moved to approve CA-14-18 with the inspection team recommendations. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CA-21-17 – KURT & RONDA WIGGERS
APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS
PERMITTED CRITERIA**

**SUN RIVER
BANK STABILIZATION**

- Application is to prevent erosion along 287' of bank along the Sun River.
- Project site location is 450 US Hwy 89; SW1/4 S28 and NW1/4 S33, T21N, R1E; Cascade County, MT.
- Do not riprap at this time.
- Slope upper portion of cut bank leaving the lower bank in place (without riprap) allowing the lower bank to reestablish vegetation naturally over time. A 3:1 slope will be maintained until the slope daylight. If necessary, slope lower bank and reestablish vegetation along lower bank with willows and grass.
- Cover with a permanent erosion control mat and seed with native grasses to promote vegetative growth for long-term stabilization of the slope.
- Excess soils removed from project site will be spread over approximately 5 acres away from the streambank and seeded.
- Work will take place during low water flows.
- Complete willow work when dormant.

The permit was revised to these specifications --

Proposed revision:

- **Our proposal is to install the toe rocks to scour depth as shown on our original plans**
- **We would utilize an erosion control mat to cover the proposed 3:1 slope that would allow vegetation to grow up through it.**

This way, the project will be protected from scour at high velocities (per our calculations from the 10 to 100-year event the velocities are in the range of 5-8 feet per second, which is highly erosive). The erosion control mat would be keyed in by the toe rocks and carried up the proposed 3:1 slope in lieu of riprap to provide stabilization.

The Wiggers have discussed this with their contractor, and he has installed several bank stabilization projects on the sun river over the past few years, and those where he has not

stabilized the bank have required him to come back and repair due to erosion. The contractor is Joe Horner.

Dock guidelines will be reviewed to accurately reflect river dynamics and prefabricated dock lengths.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

CALENDAR REVIEW


- May 28 ~ Memorial Day, **OFFICE CLOSED**
- June 1 ~ Black Butte Copper Tour, White Sulphur Springs
- 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 11 ~ Broadwater Bay Event, Great Falls
- July 12 ~ MRCDC River Rendezvous, Great Falls
- July 15-20 ~ MT Natural Resources Youth Camp, Missoula

OTHER BUSINESS

The CCD Board meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

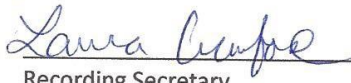
SIGNATURE PAGE TO THE
MAY 21, 2018 MEETING MINUTES
USDA SERVICE CENTER
12 3RD Street NW
Great Falls, MT

The regular May 21, 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