

MINUTES TO THE OCTOBER 15, 2018 MEETING  
USDA Service Center  
12 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NW  
Great Falls, Montana

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gayla Wortman called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. A quorum was present.

***Wortman moved to dismiss Marc Shane and Elliot Merja from the October 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Cascade Conservation District, Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Supervisors:** Gayla Wortman, John Chase, Pete Heryford, Scott Brown, Stevie Neuman

**Staff:** Tenlee Atchison, Emma Link

**Associate Supervisors:** Jim Freeman, Kathie Lahti

**Guests:** Laurie Lohrer, Art Canfield, Tracy Wendt

**310 permits:** Bill Tamietti, Tony Gliko, Alex Dachs (County Planning), Anna Weber (County Planning)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

**MINUTES**

***Neuman moved to approve the September 21, 2018 minutes as corrected. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Corrected minutes show corrections/additions in red.***

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

***Chase moved to approve unpaid bills and authorize payment for the total of \$7343.99. Heryford seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Chase moved to approve the monthly Treasurer's report as submitted. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Neuman moved to approve the monthly petty cash report as submitted. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**BASELINE WATER QUALITY SAMPLING**

The Central Montana Resource Council (CMRC) is a chapter of the statewide organization Northern Plains Resource Council. Members of the council vote on issues that are important to the community in their area. Water quality was a top priority among CMRC members. Laurie Lohrer & Art Canfield have the goal of creating a state ordinance that ensures that energy developers bear the costs of baseline water testing, not landowners or state and local government.

Baseline water sampling prior to oil and gas development will not protect a landowner's water but will let the landowner know what the quality of the water was at the time the "event" commenced. This gives landowners the opportunity for recourse.

At this point CMRC will potentially attempt to gain Montana Association Conservation District support and get a consensus regarding their goal of mandatory baseline water testing prior to oil and gas development. Then potentially build statewide support.

CMRC will keep Cascade Conservation District updated as their current intended plan of action unfolds.

## **DISTRICT REPORT**

### **Supervisors:**

Chase Reported:

- Regarding MRCD's Living on the Bank Project. We have visions of getting it up on the internet within the next month or two. MRCD has rethought the problem since the recording that was made on property improvements has been done three times and it is still not satisfactory. We have a lot to learn about producing something that is going to be usable for many people. It is still being worked on but there are a lot of revisions to make and new recording equipment is needed to do a better job. The next group of Big Sky Watershed core members will most likely take over the project.
  - Atchison suggested Shelley Von Stein to work with MRCD on their video
- Regarding the Montana Watershed Coordination Council Symposium. There was talk of establishing branding, for "you district" or "your watershed". A recognizable brand. It might be a good sales tool potentially aiding fundraising at some point, certainly for watershed groups.

Heryford Reported:

- Heryford is continually asked about the Madison Food Park. He is going to reach out to someone directly involved with the Madison Food Park to get a "where you at", "what are you doing" feel, a comment possibly on their timeline and such. Set the record straight.

Brown Reported:

- Regarding the Watershed Symposium. After attending this symposium and many others, you can really see how watersheds have evolved. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes in terms of how they are put together and how they are managed.
  - Conservation districts and watershed districts should work together more.
  - Funding is a high priority for watershed districts, funding is essential for them to keep staff and projects going, to not lose momentum.
- Watershed districts evolved about 20 years ago.

### **Associate Supervisors:**

Larson reported:

- Larson plans to attend the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council November 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
- Larson reported on the legislative forums that had taken place. Both were well attended by the candidates, representatives, and citizens.

Discussion commenced regarding a proposed development south of Malmstrom AFB runway and how the hydrology could potentially be impacted.

- Atchison proposed a joint meeting between county commissioners and the CCD, the morning of the December 10<sup>th</sup> CCD meeting was proposed.

**Administrator:** Atchison reported to CCD the following:

- Cost Share Applications
  - There were four cost share applications that came in, they were due the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.
  - November 20<sup>th</sup> @ 1PM – rank cost share
- The Central and Eastern Montana Invasive Mussel Early Detection and Rapid Response Partnership Agreement
  - A partnership agreement has been created between Central and Eastern Montana Mussel Response Team and CCD and is ready for signing.
- The Missouri River Invasive Mussel Project
  - The federal grant that included CCD funding for the early detection and rapid response of invasive mussels has ended.
  - Deliverables were met.
- Atchison shared her experiences regarding the Watershed Symposium.
- Mill Levy verification
  - Correctly completed. Forms referenced
- The Long-Range Planning Session will take place on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm to 7pm at the Montana Club.
- The Irrigator Workshop will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 8pm at the Montana Club. Larry Pennington with the Idaho Department of Agriculture and John Curwin from Wisconsin are presenters and will facilitate discussion.
- The Legislative Breakfast – “Eggs and Issues” will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30am to 8am at the Hilton Garden Inn.
- Supervisor Wortman will attend the RCAC: Resource Conservation Advisory Council meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Supervisor Chase will attend the MRCCDC: Missouri River Conservation District Council meeting at the MACD: Montana Association of Conservation Districts Convention in Billings, MT.
- Supervisor Wortman will attend the 2018 Montana Invasive Species Summit in Helena, November 14-15, 2018.
- Supervisor Wortman will attend the Montana Farmers Union Convention is October 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls, MT

**Administrative Assistant:** Link reported to CCD the following

- There will be a staff meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 8am in the basement conference room of the Great Falls Interstate Bank.

- There will be a financial review meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10am in the basement conference room of the Great Falls Interstate Bank.
- Leave was requested.

***Wortman moved to provide administrative leave on November 21<sup>st</sup> for Atchison and November 23<sup>rd</sup> for Link as well as December 24<sup>th</sup> for both Atchison and Link. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

Wortman introduced Tracy Wendt who will be the new Sunriver Watershed Group Coordinator. Tracy will be focusing on fundraising and outreach.

Brown made note of the Sunriver Watershed Water Management Working Group Meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1pm to 4pm in the basement conference room of the Great Falls Interstate Bank.

**A MONTANA EXPERIENCE**

Chair Wortman tabled the discussion of CCD’s involvement in this project until November after the long-range planning session has commenced.

**WORK PLAN UPDATES/CALENDAR REVIEW/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

October 23 – 25, 2018	Water Resources Association
October 24, 2018	Long-range planning
October 25, 2018	Irrigator Workshop
October 26, 2018	Legislative Breakfast
November 5, 2018	Staff & Financial Review Meeting
November 13 – 15, 2018	MACD Convention
November 15 – 16, 2018	Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
November 20, 2018	Cost share ranking

***Wortman moved to appoint Link as the new recording secretary, Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**310 - BUSINESS**

**CA-34-18 – BILL TAMIETTI  
NEW APPLICATION**

**BELT CREEK  
BRIDGE**

Applicant is the contractor. Application is for a bridge replacement. The westside abutment of the bridge will not be disturbed. The east side has failed and washed into belt creek. That will be cleaned out of the stream and replaced with steel H pipe and 4’ rip rap. There will be no encroachment into the stream. The bridge structure will be lifted out with a crane and replaced with a pre-made bridge structure. Erosion control matting will be placed perpendicular to the bank while work is taking place to control sediment and other debris from entering the stream.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve as submitted. Waive the 15-day waiting period.

***Wortman moved to approve CA-34-18 as submitted and to waive the 15-day waiting period. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**CA-33-18 – MOUNTAIN VIEW RANCH, INC  
NEW APPLICATION**

**LITTLE BELT CREEK  
FORD**

Application is to install a crossing on Little Belt Creek for access to ranch property with larger vehicles and implement equipment. Shape banks at a 2:1 slope, grade and level existing gravel to harden the road access. Width will be 6’.

This project was approved in December 2016 but expired prior to completion.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve with modifications. Remove island and use material to construct ford. Do not add fill to stream channel. Make slope of stream channel gradual from top to bottom of riffle to reduce chance of head-cuts. Maintain fish passage through the ford site. Cut and slope river right bank as needed. Waive the 15- day waiting period.

***Wortman moved to take CA-33-18 from the table for discussion. Heryford seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Neuman moved to approve CA-33-18 with the modifications recommended by the inspection team and to waive the 15-day waiting period. Heryford seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**CA-10-18 – TDH ENGINEERING  
MODIFICATION**

**MISSOURI RIVER  
BORING**

**CA-11-18 – TDH ENGINEERING  
MODIFICATION**

**SUN RIVER  
BORING**

These permits were originally approved June 11, 2018. Applicant is requesting modification to both Permits:

Permit #CA-11-18 for the Sun River indicates that a temporary dock may be placed on the bank of the Sun River. Due to potential impacts to the Sun River Park from the large truck traffic required to haul the barge sections, construction of a dock is no longer planned at this location. Rather, a dock is to be built along the Missouri River. All other work included under permit CA-11-18 will remain unchanged and access for drilling will be by barge floated up and back downstream from the planned Missouri River launch point as shown on the Sun River Bore Profile. Permit #CA-10-18 for the Missouri River does not currently include the construction of a temporary dock as it was originally planned to be in the Sun River Channel. However, performing this work in the Sun River will result in considerably more impact to the Sun River Park than constructing the dock along the Missouri River where Lower River Road provides existing truck access. The sheet pile and gravel required for the dock construction will be removed and the channel restored to its original condition.

One final change to Permit #CA-10-18 is the relocation or possible addition of another boring within the Missouri River. At this time, the original boring MR-3 located on the west side of Park Island is to be relocated into the river channel to the east of the island. Thus, borings are planned in the Missouri River Channel on either side of Park Island with only a single boring being performed on Park Island. The newly planned river boring will be drilled to the same approximate depth using the same methods previously approved under this permit. This change was driven by the results of the land-based borings on either side of the Missouri River and additional research into the subsurface geology which indicate that subsurface conditions vary greatly along the east side of the river and additional information is warranted to complete our design. The approximate location of the new boring in the river channel is

shown on the attached Missouri River Bore Profile document and the proposed changes are clouded in blue.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve as requested. Waive the 15-day waiting period.

***Brown moved to approve CA-10-18 modification and waive the 15-day waiting period. Heryford seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Heryford moved to approve CA-11-18 modification and waive the 15-day waiting period. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.