

MINUTES TO THE NOVEMBER 12, 2019
CASCADE CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING
Basement Conference Center

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wortman called the meeting to order at 12:32pm. A quorum was present.

Supervisors: Elliot Merja, Scott Brown, John Chase, Marc Shane, Stevie Neuman

Staff: Tenlee Atchison, Emma Link

Guests: Carey Ann Haight (Deputy County Attorney), Tracy Wendt (Sun River Watershed Group (SRWG)),

Bailey Rapp (Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)).

Chase moved to excuse Pete Heryford from the November 12th regular meeting of the Cascade Conservation District. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

MINUTES

Chase moved to approve the October 15, 2019 minutes as presented. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Shane moved to approve unpaid bills and authorize payment for the total of \$14,552.18. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Brown moved to approve the monthly treasurer's report as submitted. Neuman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MACD DISCUSSION

CCD presented resolution 19-01:Changes in Articles of Incorporation for a vote at the MACD Area III Meeting in Hobson on September 19th, 2019. Resolution 19-01 passed at the Area III Meeting thus becoming an Area III resolution to be presented to the MACD Board of Directors for a vote at the MACD State Convention in Kalispell November 18th – 22nd. An amendment to resolution 19-01:Changes in Articles of Incorporation was proposed to CCD by a third party.

Brown moved not to support the proposed amendment to resolution 19-01:Changes in Articles of Incorporation. Shane seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

All resolutions to be voted on at MACD State Convention in Kalispell were reviewed by the board.

STRATEGIC LONG-RANGE PLAN

The current CCD Strategic Plan expires in 2020. CCD is in the process of reviewing and updating the current Strategic Plan in its entirety and will unveil a new Strategic Plan in 2020.

310 BUSINESS

CA-21-19 – JOHN GLIKO NEW APPLICATION

LITTLE BELT CREEK BANK STABILIZATION

Application is to stabilize the bank and protect adjacent pastureland by redistributing bed load up against the bank. The creek in this area has become braided creating 90 degree turns and eroding a significant amount of grazing pasture. Landowner is concerned that the stream will eventually dissect the large pasture.

INSPECTION TEAM RECOMMENDATION: Approve CA-21-19 with modifications waiving the 15-day waiting period.

- Move fill from south side of channel to north bank to protect bank and reduce erosion.
- Incorporate willow clumps/cuttings into bank to promote vegetation growth.
- Maintain natural stream grade of the channel to avoid headcuts.
- The final width of the channel should match the pre-construction channel width in order to move bedload efficiently.
- Dry channel on north bank should remain an overflow channel accessed only during high flows.

Brown moved to approve CA-21-19 as submitted with the recommendations made by the inspection team waiving the 15-day waiting period. Chase seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PARTNER'S REPORT

SUN RIVER WATERSHED GROUP

Tracy Wendt, SRWG Coordinator reported the following:

- Regarding the 223 grant for CMZ Mapping, two quotes have been received and selection is underway.
- She has had several meetings with upper Muddy Creek landowners to discuss issues and potential projects.
- A portion of the Sun River near Parker Farms continues to be a concern.
- The Annual Weed Wacker Rodeo will take place the 2nd Saturday in July.
- The *Pull Your Share* program spearhead by retired Great Falls High School teacher Dan Wilkins continues to grow. This event will take place in late May of 2020.
- SRWG has selected a Big Sky Watershed Corp employee whose term run January – November 2020.
- The Water Management and Water Quality Workgroups met in October. Both were well attended. Upcoming meetings for these workgroups will take place in the spring prior to the irrigation season.
- Upcoming SRWG Events
 - December 3rd – Giving Tuesday

- December 5th – SRWG Water Quality Monitoring Workshop – 10am – 2pm @ GID
- December 5th – SRWG Board Meeting – 1pm – 5pm @ GID
- December 7th – SRWG presenting to Montana Trout Unlimited State Council
- January 20th – Missouri River Flyfishers Annual Banquet – SRWG will be featured

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Bailey Rapp, Supervisory District Conservationist reported the following:

- He facilitated the Sun River Community Work Group follow up meeting on November 7th, it was a success.
- Thursday November 14th will be the Belt Community Work Group follow up meeting.
- There will be a CRP sign up in December.

DISTRICT REPORT

Administrator: Atchison reported the following to CCD:

- A 310-rule change was passed in this last legislative session changing the 15-day waiting period to a 30-day waiting period. She will initiate the process of implementation (which includes a public meeting) in the upcoming month.
- She facilitated and presented at Living on the Land on October 19th
- She attended the CEMIST meeting in Lewistown on October 23rd. She received several training display kits that will be housed at our office. Feral swine management was discussed in depth at this meeting.
- She is still working with SRWG and other stakeholders to combat river migration and bank stabilization issues on the Sun River.
- She attended the strategic planning session on October 29th.
- She presented to the Riverwood Villas HOA on November 6th on riparian buffers as well as the possibilities available to stabilize the section of the Missouri River the HOA owns. She encouraged soft practices. The HOA will get back to us about potentially partnering to complete the stabilization project.
- She facilitated the Sun River Community Work Group follow-up meeting on November 7th. It was a success.
- She will facilitate the Belt Community Work Group follow-up meeting on November 14th.
- She will attend the AIS Summit in Helena on December 4th & 5th.
- Leave was requested

Wortman moved to approve Atchison's leave request for the following dates: November 29th, December 23rd, December 26th – January 3rd. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant: Link reported the following to CCD:

- Newsletter articles are due December 16th

- The DNRC Reclamation and Planning Development Grant submitted in collaboration with the DEQ Abandoned Mine Lands Program was not funded. DEQ is still interested in partnering with CCD and NRCS to carry out this study to address acid mine drainage with deep rooted vegetation plots.
- Events
 - Living on the Land was a tremendous success, 30 people registered and 26 attended. Evaluations gave valuable feedback for future development of the Living on the Land programming.
- She will serve on a planning community throughout the end of 2019 and into 2020 to update the National Living on the Land Curriculum. This committee will submit for a Western SARE grant to fund this curriculum update.
- Attended:
 - Living on the Land National Curriculum Update – October 24th
 - Strategic LRP Meeting – October 29th
 - Riverwood Villas HOA – November 6th
 - Sun River Valley Follow up Meeting – November 7th
 - Youth Education Meeting – November 8th
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - Chamber Ag Committee November 14th
 - MACD Convention – November 18th – 22nd
 - AIS Summit – December 4th – 5th
- Leave was requested

Wortman moved to approve Link's leave request for the following dates: December 23rd – January 4th. Merja seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisors:

Wortman reported:

- As the newly elected Area III MACD Director she will visit the CD's designated to her in the upcoming months.

Brown reported:

- He attended the Pondera County Conservation District Administrators going away party.

Chase reported:

- He attended the CEMIST Meeting in Lewistown on October 23rd. Feral pig control methods were discussed in depth.
- He attended the SRWG Water Management Work Group Meeting.
- He reached out to the Forest Service about the Forest Plan; it should be released in 2020.
- He will attend the Living on the Bank Meeting on November 14th in Helena. This project still needs some work and he asked for board feedback and suggestions for improvement of the Living on the Bank Website.

Merja reported:

- The County Commissioners have a public appeals meeting on November 21st regarding zoning on the Cheese Plant at the Fairgrounds.
- There are several proposed subdivision changes that the planning board is reviewing.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52pm