

**Missoula Conservation District – February 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm**  
**Alternate Meeting Location – Virtual/Phone**

**Missoula Conservation District Attendees:** Tim Hall, Chair; Libby Maclay, Vice Chair; Travis Greenwalt, Treasurer; Paul Parson, Supervisor; Art Pencek, Supervisor; Sidney Wills, Supervisor; Bart Morris, Associate Supervisor; Radley Watkins, Staff; Bryan Vogt, Staff; Barb Kreis, Staff.

**Additional Attendees:** John Hart, Senior Deputy County Attorney; Leo Rosenthal, MT FWP; Travis Lemke, NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist; John Olson (MS-01-21); Makalina Seavy (MS-03-21); Carl Graumann (MS-04-21); Cara Nelson, Professor of Restoration Ecology, UofM; Nathaniel Miller, UofM Student; William Stevens, UofM Student; Melody Hollar, UofM Student.

**Absent:** Bob Schroeder, Supervisor; Josh Schroeder, Associate Supervisor; Ladd Knotek, MT FWP; Heather Brighton, Lolo Watershed Group.

**Call Meeting to Order** – 7:04 pm by Tim Hall.

**COVID-19 Meeting Procedures**

Hall provided reminders due to COVID-19. Hall noted that the virtual meeting was held to comply with local guidance pertaining to social distancing and provided guidance to the Board on how to vote while meeting virtually. Hall further requested that participants please mute/unmute themselves as needed, introduce themselves before speaking, and note if they are participating for a specific item on the agenda. Form 273, 310 Permit - Conservation District's Decision and all other decision forms would need to be electronically signed on behalf of the Board, per advisement from John Hart, Senior Deputy County Attorney.

Tim Hall moved to authorize the modification of normal procedures to allow for electronic signatures on all decision forms for the February 8, 2021 District Meeting. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

**Minutes** – Libby Maclay moved to approve the January 11, 2021 Minutes as presented. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried—unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report** – Travis Greenwalt reported \$19,766.19 in the District checking account. Greenwalt also reported it was determined that it was not necessary to issue Form 1099s for awarded grants.

**Public Comment** – None.

**NRCS Report** – Travis Lemke, NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist, reported the NRCS staff is currently assessing and ranking all their 2021 CSP and EQIP applications. March 1<sup>st</sup> is the ranking deadline in Montana. Lemke, Chad Miller (NRCS Civil Engineering Tech), Jed Whitely (Clark Fork Coalition), Ladd Knotek (FWP), and Radley Watkins (MCD) met with Bart Morris onsite to outline the goals/objectives regarding a Targeted Implementation Plan (TIP - through the NRCS) proposal that would address fish entrainment issues along lower Miller Creek. The group discussed how to further collaborate on this project and the potential of bringing additional partner groups into the mix that could assist with varying conservation measures along Miller Creek. This will be an ongoing collaboration in 2021 with the goal of submitting a proposal for funding in early 2022.

The Missoula NRCS Field/Area Office has been moved back to Phase 1 (effective 12/1/20) due to the recent spike in COVID cases in Missoula county. Phase 1 cannot exceed 10 people in a single office space, 6 feet of separation must be maintained between employees, telework is strongly encouraged, visitors are not permitted to the office, and masks are required for face/face interaction with customers and other employees. Changes in phases will take place when offices see a downward trend in COVID cases and sustain the status of less than 2 COVID cases/10,000 people for a two-week period. A new executive order now requires masks be worn by all employees/visitors who occupy federal buildings during work hours. This includes the Missoula Service Center.

### **Existing 310 Permits**

**MS-17-20 – (Request for extension – AWM 07/20/20)** Westslope Forest Management, Josiah Denham obo Bill and Shirley Morrison on USFS property – North Fork Cottonwood Creek – Bridge Replacement  
Geocode: 04-2541-12-1-01-01-0000

Watkins stated he received a request for extension of time from Josiah Denham in order to complete the bridge project. Denham was unable to conduct the work during the July 15 - Aug. 31, 2020 timeframe as he was waiting on approval from different agencies. All required approvals are now in place.

Art Pencek moved to approve the request for an extension of time for MS-17-20 with the original permit stipulations still applying. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- Complete all In-Stream work between the window of July 15 – August 31, 2021.
- Remove old bridge logs from the channel but leave natural woody debris (can move downstream of work area).
- Install silt fence during construction or leave existing abutments in place while excavating behind them.
- Minimize disturbance to existing vegetation.
- Reseed/revegetate any disturbed areas and exposed rip rap after installation on the sides of the bridge.
- In accordance with landowner approval of Application No. MS-17-20, no work shall begin until the USFS has approved the final design plans; should plans significantly change (i.e. dimensions, materials, freeboard, approaches) then you must request a modification under this permit. Otherwise, please submit a copy of the final plans to our office for our records.

### **310 Permit Applications**

**MS-30-20 – (Tabled 11/09/20)** Marie Ann Zens Kimerly – Lolo Creek – Bank Stabilization  
Geocode: 04-2091-33-3-01-04-0000

Watkins reported no new developments on this application. Hall stated that MS-30-20 will remain on the agenda until further notice.

**MS-32-20 – (Tabled 12/14/20)** James Schlinger – Barber Creek – Bridge and Stream Manipulation  
Geocode: 04-2992-19-1-01-11-0000

Watkins reported receiving a revised bridge design and planting schedule from Schlinger on February 3,

2021. Both the Board and Leo Rosenthal, FWP, stated that while the revised plans come closer at being sufficient there are still concerns over the lack of detail in the revised bridge design, in particular wanting it to have included specific measurements for total span and freeboard.

Art Pencek moved to make Application No. MS-32-20 a project under 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications, requiring the bridge to have 24-inches of freeboard above bank height upon completion. The motion failed for lack of a second. Additional discussion took place regarding the span and freeboard necessary for a bridge at this location. Rosenthal stated this section of creek is low gradient and does not have a lot of woody debris that might get caught on the bridge. Due to site conditions, additional fill would have to be brought in to accommodate a significant amount of bridge freeboard. There was general agreement that 6-inches of freeboard could be accomplished if concrete pads at least 6-inches thick were placed on grade on both sides of the creek for the bridge stringers to be placed on. A question was also raised as to whether the new plantings should require grazing protection if Schlinger plans to pasture horses on this parcel as the plantings will be subject to District survivability criteria.

It was agreed that Schlinger needs to provide additional information on the application for the Board to make an informed decision regarding the bridge design and revegetation in the bare areas. Watkins was directed to communicate with Schlinger by phone and mail to relay the Board's request for additional specifications.

**MS-01-21 – (Tabled 01/11/21) Lumen/Century Link, c/o John Olson on MT Dept of Transportation Property – Six Mile Creek – Utility Boring**  
Geocode: 04-2427-26-2-01-02-0000

Watkins reminded the Board this 310 application is for a utility boring project by Lumen/Century Link on property owned by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). Ladd Knotek, FWP, had reported at the January 11, 2021 District meeting this is part of a MDT stream mitigation project, but that MDT had not completed all the permitting requirements with FWP, which would have made approval of Application MS-01-21 premature at that time. Prior to the February 8, 2021 meeting, Knotek had informed the office that all permitting requirements for the MDT project have been met and the Conservation District could move forward with the 310 permit application.

Tim Hall moved to make Application No. MS-01-21 Not a Project under the 310 Law as long as there is absolutely no disturbance (e.g., no equipment or disturbance of soil) within the 10-foot riparian buffer as measured horizontally from the ordinary high-water mark on Six Mile Creek and otherwise the project is completed as proposed. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

If project plans change, or if there is a need to remove vegetation, operate machinery, and conduct other work that may impact the creek (including the 10-foot riparian buffer), then a new 310 permit application must be submitted to address the modifications.

**MS-03-21 – Makalina Seavy obo William Seavy – Lolo Creek – House and Driveway construction**  
Geocode: 04-2090-20-4-01-03-0000

Watkins reported this application was for a new house and driveway construction on a parcel adjacent to Lolo Creek. The parcel is owned by William Seavy who is allowing his daughter, Makalina Seavy, to build a house on it. A site inspection was conducted on February 3, 2021 with Ladd Knotek and Paul Parson, Watkins, Vogt, and the construction contractor, Anthony DiBrito, participating. Watkins reviewed photos

from the site inspection and explained that measurements for both a 30-foot and 50-foot riparian buffer were taken from the ordinary high water mark of Lolo Creek. The shape of the parcel in relation to the highway and Lolo Creek limits where a well, septic drain field, dwelling site, and driveway can all be located.

Parson stated the initial access off the highway and location of the driveway shown on the application would need to be moved as they set too close to the creek. Makalina Seavy stated that her contractor had contacted the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and determined that the driveway needs to be moved from its originally proposed location, which would place it outside of the riparian buffer zone. The locations of the septic drain field and well are also now known. M. Seavy stated she wants to build the house as close as possible to the berm next to the highway and plans to leave the riparian area undisturbed.

The Board discussed whether this application would be considered a project if all components fell outside of the riparian buffer zone. Parson stated he was originally considering tabling the application pending the final location of the house and driveway but added that if all components stay outside of the buffer zone, he is comfortable moving forward. Parson also stated that based on site specific conditions, a 30-foot buffer zone from Lolo Creek is appropriate at this location.

Paul Parson moved to make Application No. MS-03-21 Not a Project under the 310 Law as long as there is absolutely no disturbance (e.g. no equipment or disturbance of soil) within the 30-foot riparian buffer as measured horizontally from the edge of the bank of Lolo Creek and otherwise the project is completed as proposed. A 30-foot riparian buffer zone, instead of a 50-foot riparian buffer zone, for Lolo Creek is applied to this specific site location and was determined by Team Members based on site-specific conditions observed during the February 3, 2021 site inspection. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

If project plans change, or if there is a need to remove vegetation, operate machinery, or conduct other work that may impact the creek (including the 30-foot riparian buffer), then a new 310 permit application must be submitted to address the modifications.

**MS-04-21 – (Re: CM-09-20, Violation)** Carl Graumann on City of Missoula Land – Clark Fork River – Riparian Planting  
Geocode: 04-2200-17-2-01-12-0000

Watkins reminded the Board this application was required to resolve existing 310 Violation CM-09-20 regarding clearing of vegetation on property owned by the City of Missoula adjacent to an apartment complex. Graumann stated he is a trustee on the complex owned by his mother and a professional landscaper who voluntarily assists in landscaping the property. He reported meeting on site with Watkins and Morgan Valliant, Missoula City Conservation Lands Management Ecosystems Services Superintendent, two weeks ago to discuss the revegetation plans developed in cooperation with the City. Watkins displayed the revegetation plans as Graumann described details of the planting plans, including adding logs in low lying areas to catch high flows, fencing to protect certain plantings and existing woody vegetation from herbivory, and using native grass that is to be seeded in spring and fall. The plan calls for implementation in March 2021 prior to high flows.

Art Pencek noted that while he was the attending Supervisor for the CM-09-20 site inspection, he had not reviewed the plans submitted with Application MS-04-21. Watkins apologized for not providing these plans for review, also noting that a site inspection was not requested by FWP for this application. Watkins reported that Morgan Valliant had approved of the plans. Pencek inquired about the concrete patio area,

and Graumann reported finding plans showing the complex and patio area had been built in the 1990's prior to them owning the property. The Board will likely need to follow up separately with the City of Missoula on the patio issue that is not part of the current application.

Art Pencek moved to make Application No. MS-04-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- Maintain the District standards for vegetation survival, that being 75% of planted vegetation must survive one year from initial planting; 50% of planted vegetation must be evidently viable two years from project completion date.

### 310 Complaints

**CM-06-20 (Re: MS-31-20 AWM)**– Mark and Cassandra Rideg and William Rideg – Spring Creek – Dam Building/Maintenance

Geocode: 04-2427-07-1-01-01-0000 and 04-2427-07-1-02-08-0000

Hall stated CM-06-20 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approved under 310 Permit MS-31-20.

### Existing Violations

**CM-08-19 (Re: CM-02-20, Violation & MS-04-20, Denied)** – James Schlinger – Barber Creek – Excavation on Creek and Banks

Geocode: 04-2992-19-1-01-11-0000

See MS-32-20 above for additional discussion.

**CM-02-20 (Re: CM-08-19, Violation & MS-04-20, Denied)** – James Schlinger – Barber Creek – Bridge & Road Work

Geocode: 04-2992-19-1-01-11-0000

See MS-32-20 above for additional discussion.

**CM-09-20 – (Re: MS-04-21)** Carl Graumann – Clark Fork River – Vegetation Removal

Geocode: 04-2200-17-2-01-12-0000

Hall stated CM-09-20 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approved under newly issued 310 Permit MS-04-21. See MS-04-21 above for additional discussion.

### 310 Inquiries & Issues

Chuck Spoon - Ninemile Creek Bank Erosion – Watkins reported that he and Ladd Knotek conducted a site visit to a property on Ninemile Creek that is experiencing bank erosion on approximately 50-feet along an outside bend of the stream. The landowner is primarily concerned with continued bank erosion and loss of property. Currently, no buildings or infrastructure are located near the stream or on the terrace above the stream channel. Watkins and Knotek recommended that Spoon gain additional input from a hydrologist and

engineer prior to pursuing a formal design or application for project work.

Fred Stout - Premo Creek Beaver Dam Removal – Watkins reported Stout owns property on Premo Creek near the Clark Fork River and had inquired if a 310 Permit was needed for removal of a beaver dam. Knotek had advised that removal by hand is acceptable without a permit; use of any equipment would require a 310 Permit. Stout is planning to have a trapper out to remove the beaver and hand remove the dam.

310 Work Completion Forms – Watkins reported on multiple emails received from other Conservation District staff asking other offices about completion forms for 310 Permits and how to close out a project. Several forms were provided by other CDs from across the state.

Missoula City Community Planning Development Services Division – Watkins reported on being asked for technical advice on reviewing riparian management plans.

## Reports

County Attorney – John Hart researched if an Associate Supervisor may vote during a District meeting if a quorum of Supervisor is not present. The law states an Associate Supervisor only has an advisory role and no voting authority. Hart reported on attending a meeting with the Weed District and Missoula Insectarium and being impressed at the amount of money the Butterfly House has raised for the building project.

Montana FWP – Ladd Knotek was absent, and Leo Rosenthal had already left the meeting; no reports were provided.

Bitterroot RC&D – Watkins stated the office received an invoice from the Bitterroot RC&D for annual sponsorship. The request will be taken up under the District Grants portion of the agenda, but Watkins expressed concerns over the precedent this might set for other organizations that may wish to receive funding from the CD. Staff and the Grants Committee will be discussing changes to how funding requests like these are taken in the near future. Maclay provided a brief history of the Bitterroot RC&D stating that the CD began providing financial support once the RC&D was no longer being funded through NRCS. The Board agreed that the Conservation District should continue to support the Bitterroot RC&D.

Lolo Watershed Group – Heather Brighton was absent; no report was provided.

District Committees – Hall reported the Personnel Committee will meet in February for Watkins 3-month review. The Equipment Committee meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021, and other committee meetings will be scheduled within the coming months.

Planning Board Update – Josh Schroeder was absent; no report was provided.

Missoula CD Employees - Hall reported that written employee reports were provided in the Supervisors' packets.

*Barb Kreis - Administrative Assistant - January 11, 2021 – February 8, 2021*

Office Operations: Received and sorted agency mail daily and followed up on District business correspondence. Attended January 11, 2021 virtual District meeting and took notes. Drafted January meeting minutes. Drafted agenda for February 8, 2021 meeting and posted December meeting minutes to

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District website. Added deadline dates to website calendar and posted Agenda. Organized all previous grant files and created spreadsheets for download to Box grant folders. Created and update Facebook page for Missoula Conservation District. Created two sub-calendars on Google shared calendar. Researched 3 quotes for car magnets for work vehicle.

Stream Permit Processing: Completed and sent out decision letters and Form 273 permits to applicants from the January 11, 2021 meeting. Updated PowerPoint presentation for February 8, 2021 virtual meeting. Added February 8, 2021 agenda to website. Updated 310 Spreadsheet with new 310 applications. Created files for 2 new 310 applications. Updated Box and Salesforce with 310 applications information. Emailed Zoom logon information to all meeting participants. Created, emailed, and mailed meeting packet for supervisors and partners. Updated agenda and site inspection deadlines on CD website calendar. Forwarded new 310 applications to Knotek. Created site inspection schedule and folders for February 3, 2021.

Bookkeeping, Accounting, Reporting, and Recordkeeping: Emailed January claims form to Jacque Harris. Prepared Profit/Loss and Balance reports for February 8, 2021 meeting. Entered January claims into QuickBooks. Reconciled January bank statements. Reconciled DA Davidson January statement. Completed bills claims form for February 8, 2021 meeting. Entered deposits and checks into QuickBooks. Followed up with First Security Bank regarding debit card for Watkins.

*1 Holiday (MLK)*

*Bryan Vogt - Program Specialist - January 11, 2021 – February 8, 2021*

Program Assistance: Attended and took notes at the January 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Assisted Watkins, as requested, with 310 Administration and District Operation questions. Met virtually with Watkins to discuss the status of District programs and to develop a plan for 2021 program review and implementation. Worked with the Weed District and Watkins to finish developing a 223 Grant proposal for construction of the educational greenhouse at the new fairground's facility. Sought the Grants Committees review and approval of the 223 Grant proposal and a request to sponsor a DNRC Pollinator Grant for a separate project. Requested full proposal development of a DNRC Pollinator Grant proposal from the group requesting support for a Firewise Demonstration Garden on the UM campus. Requested a final report and invoices from The Flagship Program to close out their 2020 DNRC Education Mini-Grant. Participated in 310 Application site inspection with Watkins, Parson, and Knotek on Lolo Creek. Assisted with review and editing of the January 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

Technical Assignments: Took two reservations for the no-till drill for this spring. Reviewed existing in-house drill rental protocols with Watkins and discussed the need for any changes for the 2021 rental season. Researched specifications of the no-till drill and trailer leading to adjustments of tractor and towing vehicle requirements for renters. Updated no-till drill rental guidance documents with revised tractor and towing vehicle requirements; loaded updated guidance documents to the Equipment Rental webpage. Uploaded the revised no-till drill tutorial videos on the District's YouTube account and linked the videos on the Equipment Rental webpage. With Watkins, planned for an upcoming Equipment Committee meeting. Assisted a landowner off 3<sup>rd</sup> street with questions related to the no-till drill and desired revegetation/restoration efforts for his property.

Communication and Outreach: Participated in a brief meeting with Watkins and Deb Fassnacht on potential WEN partnering opportunities. Email and phone correspondence with partners and the Grants Committee on the 223-proposal development, DNRC Pollinator Grant sponsorship request, and closing out the 2020 DNRC Education Mini-Grant. Email correspondence regarding the status of the planned Roadside Pollinator Habitat project along Hwy 93 between Lolo and Florence. Phone call with Heidi Fleury at LCCD regarding pollinator seed availability and plans to show "The Pollinators" film this year, when appropriate. Conference call with Watkins and Cara Nelson with the UM Ecosystem Science and Restoration (ESR) program regarding the Firewise Demonstration Garden and the possibility for the ESR program and UM students to engage with Missoula CD.

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*1 Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)*

Radley Watkins - Resource Conservationist - January 11, 2021 – February 8, 2021

Office Administration: Met with Kreis and Vogt weekly to review tasks, and office affairs. Reviewed and edited office minutes from January 2020 meeting. Obtained signatures for newly sworn in CD Supervisors. Submitted timesheets to county bi-weekly and entered county month end reports into QuickBooks. Attended MACD's Education Committee meeting about outreach and marketing and the potential for growing a statewide marketing effort for Conservation Districts. David Martin followed up with me regarding opportunities for the Missoula CD. Worked on activating Link Pass and getting the CD's laptop operational. At this point it appears the card reader may be defective, so I ordered an external card reader. Reviewed complete annual payroll for MCD and totaled Supervisor and staff compensation for 2020 to submit to Montana State Fund insurance. Travis Greenwalt was consulted and very helpful in producing the correct reports from Quickbooks. Checked in with Tim Hall on a regular basis to assure that the staff change is keeping up with MCD responsibilities and to get pointers on priorities and needs. Had a phone meeting with Heidi Fleury, Conservation Coordinator for Lake County CD regarding program collaboration. Virtually met with Juniper Davis, Trails and Open Lands Program Manager and Kylie Paul, Natural Resources Specialist, both at Missoula County Community and Planning Services - Parks, Trails, and Open Lands regarding future collaboration. Spoke with Travis Lemke, NRCS, regarding MCD collaboration and attended a site visit with partners to Bart Morris' property to discuss restoration and water conservation initiatives. Reviewed emails from MACD and communicated with Jeffrey Tiberi regarding the most strategic ways for MCD Supervisors to support those pieces of legislation that support conservation districts.

310 Law Administration: Worked with Jim Schlinger regarding updating his 310 permit site plan for work on Barber Creek. Attended site visit to Chuck Spoon's land on the Nine Mile Creek with Ladd Knotek, FWP, to assess how he can protect slumping of his property. Visited Fred Stout's property on the Clark Fork river to look at a beaver dam on "Primo Creek" and determine if he needs a 310 permit to remove the dam. Conducted a site visit on Lolo Creek for MS-03-21 –house and driveway construction. In attendance were Lad Knotek, Paul Parson, and Bryan Vogt, and building contractor Anthony DiBrito. Some of us also met landowner William Seavy at the end of the visit. Met Carl Graumann, Morgan Valliant, Ecosystem Services Superintendent, Missoula Parks and Recreation, and staff from City of Missoula to review riparian planting plan for cleared land along the Clark Fork River. Worked on language for DNRC leased land leases to help avoid 310 permit violation of tenants.

Program Management: Met with Vogt to go over all CD program areas. Decided to address the low hanging fruits first and get the Equipment Program in order first. Set up meeting with Equipment Committee for February 11th at 8:30 am. Began to review all grant programs so MCD can re-launch grants in near future, and perhaps develop new grants to fill gaps in deficient areas. Worked with Vogt to finalize the 223 grant prepared for the greenhouse at the new Rocky Mountain Exploration Center. Worked with Vogt and had a phone conference with Vogt and Dr. Cara Nelson from the University of Montana to discuss DNRC pollinator grant application for a firewise demonstration garden.

1 Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Other Reports – Vogt reported the Soil Health Innovations Conference will be held virtually on March 8-9, 2021. Registration is required and a link to the conference information has been included on the District's Opportunities webpage. Vogt also reported receiving notice this afternoon that the Montana Envirothon will be held in-person on April 19-20, 2021 with a registration deadline of March 15, 2021. We have not yet been contacted by any local schools regarding supporting teams for the Envirothon.

## **New Business**

### **Correspondence:**

Jeffrey Tiberi's legislative issues – Watkins reported on emails received from Jeff Tiberi regarding various legislative issues.

Leopold Conservation Award call for applications – Watkins reported on a DNRC request for nominations for the Montana Leopold Conservation Award with applications being due March 15, 2021.

2021 Montana Wetland and Watershed Steward Awards call for applications – Watkins reported the DEQ is seeking nominations for the 2021 Montana Wetland and Watershed Stewardship Awards with applications being due March 4, 2021.

MACD + SWCDM 2021 Combined Budget – Watkins reported a copy of the 2021 SWCDM and MACD combined budget was included in the Supervisors' packet for review and comment.

Rezoning of parcel Waldo Road and George Cates Boulevard – Watkins reported on receiving an email from Travis Ross, Environmental Health Supervisor, regarding drainage issues and shallow flooding near Waldo Road and George Cates Boulevard in response to a rezoning application for a parcel at this location. Jen McBride had discussed a 310 Inquiry along Waldo Road boarding this parcel back in October 2019, but it appears this drainage (DEQ Waterway #30) does not fall under 310 Law jurisdiction.

Other New Business – Nothing to report.

## **Old Business**

### **Stakeholders:**

DNRC State Lands – Lease Sites – Watkins reported he is working on a draft language to DNRC regarding state leased lands and will review this with Supervisor Pencek prior to bringing it before the Board.

MSU Extension/Weed District – Watkins reported he is collaborating with Bryce Christianes and Jerry Marks from the Missoula County Weed District on a draft interlocal agreement for the shared Fairgrounds building. This agreement will memorialize the Missoula Conservation District investment in the building.

## **Programs**

### **District Grant Programs:**

#### **District Grants**

Bitterroot RC&D invoice for annual sponsorship – See Bitterroot RC&D above in Reports section for additional discussion.

Tim Hall moved to approve the 2021 Bitterroot RC&D sponsorship invoice for \$300. Libby Maclay seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

**DNRC Sponsored Grants:**

DNRC Education Mini Grant – 2020 Flagship Summer Outdoor Camp – Vogt reported on receiving the final report and invoice from Nicole Mitchell with The Flagship Program. Vogt will work with Kreis to submit the paperwork to DNRC for payment so the District can then reimburse The Flagship Program.

HB223 Grant Sponsorship – Fairgrounds Greenhouse – Vogt reported on work that has taken place in collaboration with Missoula County Weed District & Extension, Travis Greenwalt, and Watkins on the development of a HB223 grant proposal to provide \$20,000 of funding towards the \$100,000 total cost of the greenhouse. Vogt noted that the \$20,000 budget is the maximum amount for a HB223 grant and does not include any administration fee the District would normally include for a sponsored grant to an outside entity. The proposal was included in the Supervisor’s packet for review. The Grants Committee has reviewed this proposal and voiced its support for sponsoring the grant.

Tim Hall moved to approve the HB223 grant proposal as presented for submittal to DNRC by the Feb. 17, 2021 application deadline. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Pollinator Grant Sponsorship – UM Firewise Garden – Vogt introduced Dr. Cara Nelson and students from the Ecosystem Science and Restoration “Capstone” program at the University of Montana (UM). This group had requested sponsorship for a DNRC Pollinator Grant that will design and install educational signs at the new UM Firewise Garden, design and share an informational website, and see to the garden’s maintenance during its first year of establishment. Melody Hollar explained that the student group had planned and installed the garden on the UM campus in the fall of 2020 after receiving \$12,000 in other grant funding. To their knowledge, this firewise garden is the first of its kind in that it uses only native plants with an emphasis on also creating pollinator habitat. The DNRC Pollinator Grant budget includes \$5,902 for the informational signage and garden maintenance through a work study student. An additional 10% administration fee to the District brings the total grant budget to \$6,492. A draft of the proposal was included in the Supervisors’ packet for review. The Grants Committee has reviewed this proposal and voiced its support for sponsoring the grant. The UM student group was thanked for their presentation.

Tim Hall moved to approve the DNRC Pollinator Grant sponsorship request from the UM student group in the amount of \$ 6,492.00 and to allow for staff to work with the sponsored applicant on final edits to the proposal prior to its submittal. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous

Equipment Program – Vogt reported there is an Equipment meeting February 11, 2021 to review the program in advance of this year’s no-till drill rental season. There are currently four reservations for the no-till drill scheduled for April and early May.

Pollinator Program – Vogt reported speaking with Heidi Fleury from Lake County CD about obtaining additional Area 5 pollinator seed mix and the status of the Pollinator Film, which is still on hold. Vogt and Watkins will meet with the National Wildlife Federation on February 10, 2021 regarding their pollinator habitat program. The Clearwater Resource Council (CRC) had inquired about a DNRC Pollinator Grant just this week to create a demonstration garden. Vogt informed CRC that only one DNRC Pollinator Grant proposal is allowed per year but to stay in touch as there could be other ways for the District to help support their project.

**Other Old Business** – none

**Payment of Bills**

**No current charges from Petty or Checking**

**Tax Mill Levy Account (Warrants/Claims):**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Charge</b>
02/09/21	Verizon	\$ 103.70
02/09/21	Charter Communications	\$ 99.99
02/09/21	First Interstate Bank – gas card	\$ 47.26
02/09/21	John Kamman, Sales Force	\$ 375.00
02/09/21	MT State Fund Installment charge	\$ 437.16
02/09/21	Bryan Vogt mileage reimbursement	\$ 144.10
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,207.21</b>

**Adjournment**

Tim Hall moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

<b>Voting Record – CD Supervisor</b>	<b>IN FAVOR</b>	<b>OPPOSED</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Tim Hall	11	-	-
Libby Maclay	11	-	-
Travis Greenwalt	11	-	-
Paul Parson	11	-	-
Art Pencek	11	-	-
Bob Schroeder - Absent	-	-	-
Sidney Wills*	6	-	-

\*Wills joined the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and voted on MS-04-21 and later agenda items.

The next Missoula Conservation District meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom teleconference.