

Missoula Conservation District

June 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

3550 Mullan Rd, Ste 106, Missoula, MT 59808 – with virtual option

Missoula Conservation District Attendees: Tim Hall (Chair); Libby Maclay (Vice-Chair); Travis Greenwalt (Treasurer); Bob Schroeder (Supervisor); Sidney Wills* (Supervisor); Bart Morris (Associate Supervisor); Radley Watkins (Staff); Bryan Vogt (Staff)

Additional Attendees: John Hart (Senior Deputy County Attorney); Adam Switalski* (MS-20-22); Julie Merrit* (MS-21-22); Justin Turley (MS22-22 & CM-03-22); Kyle Kelley (CM-06-22); Eric Henkel* (CM-06-22); Claire Standley (Missoula FFA); Gus Turner (Missoula FFA); Nels Larson (Public)

*Denotes virtual participation via Zoom

Absent: Art Pencek (Supervisor); Paul Parson (Supervisor); Josh Schroeder (Associate Supervisor); Ladd Knotek (MT FWP); Leo Rosenthal (MT FWP); Travis Lemke (NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist)

Call Meeting to Order – 7:03 pm by Tim Hall

Minutes – Maclay noted the misspelling of “converting” under the Pollinator Program section. Libby Maclay moved to approved the May 9, 2022 Minutes with this correction. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – Travis Greenwalt presented the following account balances from the District’s QuickBooks Balance Sheet dated June 11, 2022 included in the Supervisors’ meeting packets. Also included was the fiscal year to-date Profit and Loss report.

First Security Bank – Checking	\$14,333.44
First Security Bank – Petty Checking	\$1,514.79
First Security Bank – Savings	\$50,421.93
DADCO Savings	\$201,876.01
Tax Mill Levy Account at County	\$311,823.31
Total Bank Accounts	\$579,969.48

Greenwalt reported that the Missoula Conservation District Investment Policy Statement passed at the May 9, 2022 meeting had been presented to John Passuccio, the District’s D.A. Davidson investment manager. Passuccio left Greenwalt a message stating the need to discuss several items on the Investment Policy Statement. Greenwalt will report back on this matter at the July meeting.

Public Comment – None

Envirothon Team Reports – Claire Standley and Gus Turner introduced themselves as members of the 2022 Missoula FFA Envirothon Team that competed at this year’s competition in Great Falls. Standley and Turner reported on the team’s effort to prepare for and compete in the competition with emphasis on their individual specialties. They discussed how Envirothon assisted in guiding their college and career path planning. Standley and Turner thanked the Board for this year’s financial support. Vogt reported that the Frenchtown Envirothon team was not able to present at tonight’s meeting as all their team members had

graduated and dispersed for summer activities prior. A Thank You letter from the Frenchtown Envirothon team was circulated for Board review.

NRCS Report – Travis Lemke, Supervisory District Conservationist, was absent and had not provided a report.

Existing 310 Permits

MS-07-18 – Threshold Contracting – Rattlesnake Creek – Vegetation Removal, Tree Removal, Building in Riparian Zone

Geocode: 04-2200-11-2-05-08-0000

Watkins reported there was no new activities regarding this item and asked the Board if it should be removed from the agenda. Following discussion, the Board directed Watkins to reach out to the landowner one additional time to ask if they will revisit the Board's concern.

310 Permit Applications

MS-33-21 (Tabled 09/13/21, Re: CM-02-21) – Todd & Lisa Bender – Cooney Creek – Channel/Bank Restoration

Geocode: 04-2992-06-2-01-15-0000

Watkins reported that he hadn't received a response to the recent correspondence sent to the Benders on how to move this application forward.

MS-43-21 (Re: CM-05-21) – Robert Shaffer obo Double Arrow Ranch – Drew Creek – Restoration

Geocode: 04-2541-07-2-02-07-0000

Watkins stated that a site inspection had been scheduled for June 30, 2022.

MS-16-22 – Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited obo Larry Carrico – Clearwater River – Bank/Channel Restoration

Geocode: 04-2649-08-4-01-01-0000

Watkins stated that a site inspection had been scheduled for June 30, 2022.

MS-18-22 – David Shoupe on BLM Property – Kearns Creek – Dredge Mining/Prospecting

Geocode: 04-2205-33-2-01-04-0000

Watkins reviewed site location slides, maps, and hand drawn designs for an application to conduct portable suction dredge mining/prospecting on an unnamed tributary of Kearns Creek. The application was first reported on at the May 9, 2022 meeting, and the proposed project site is located on BLM property just within the southwest corner of Missoula County near Garnett Ghost Town. Shoupe does have a DEQ General Permit, and Watkins verified that the BLM considers this operation to fall under their Casual Use category for a mining operation. As such, it does not require a Plan of Operations. Watkins presented photos taken during the site inspection conducted on May 31, 2022 with Hall, Shoupe, Chris Rye (BLM Geologist), and Watkins attending. FWP Fisheries Biologist, Brad Liermann, was unable to attend. Hall

reviewed his team member report and added that Shoupe was very agreeable to recommendations discussed on site. If Shoupe wishes to expand his operation beyond this level of “casual use” there are many additional requirements and permits he would need to obtain.

Tim Hall moved to consider Application No. MS-18-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating recommendations from team member reports and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board’s decision. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

- Erosion control – wattles/straw bales – needed during mining operation localized to prevent large erosion above road culvert.
- Sluice water shall re-enter stream on upland to allow filtering of sediment as water runs back into the stream.
- When finished all disturbed areas must be re-seeded with a native grass seed mix.
- Follow BLM and DEQ Best Management Practices (BMP).

MS-19-22 – Isaiah Clow obo Todd Hoose – W. Fork Petty Creek – Bridge Replacement with Culvert
Geocode: 04-2321-27-4-01-15-0000

Watkins reviewed site location slides, maps, and designs for an application to replace a failing wood timber, earth topped bridge with a culvert to cross West Fork Creek Petty Creek. The application was first reported on at the May 9, 2022 meeting at which time Watkins stated the applicant wished to submit a revised application for a replacement bridge using FWP provided stringers instead of the culvert. Watkins presented the newly submitted bridge design plans received on May 20, 2022 for the Board’s consideration.

Travis Greenwalt moved to consider Application No. MS-19-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating the newly submitted bridge designs instead of the original culvert plans and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board’s decision. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

- The bridge shall be replaced with a new bridge according to the plans submitted to the Conservation District on May 20, 2022

MS-20-22 – Clark Fork Coalition c/o A. Switalski obo MPG Ranch – Miller Creek – Stream Restoration
Geocode: 04-2093-35-1-01-01-0000

Watkins presented site location slides and design plans from a new application submitted by the Clark Fork Coalition (CFC) to conduct a stream restoration project on nearly a mile of upper Miller Creek on MPG Ranch property. Watkins also presented photos taken during the site inspection conducted on June 8, 2022 with Greenwalt, Knotek, Switalski, Beau Larkin, Julia Crocker, and Watkins attending. Switalski reported that project components include reactivating a historic channel, moving a section of the creek away from the road, and increasing instream and riparian habitat complexity by adding hundreds of pieces of wood, beaver dam analogue (BDA) structures, establishment of a cottonwood gallery, and creation of an off-channel wetland complex. Switalski reviewed design criteria of the wood structures and floodplain treatments included in the plans. He also stated that the MPG Ranch plans to take over long-term maintenance of the project following its implementation.

Watkins displayed Knotek's team member report recommending approval with modifications to address concerns of the off-channel wetland becoming an open water pond, the retention of trees related to acquisition of large wood debris for instream structures, equipment crossing sites and fords, the time window for instream construction, and project construction oversight. Greenwalt reviewed his team member report that also recommended approval with modification to address similar concerns mentioned in Knotek's report. Switalski stated his agreement with the modification discussed.

Tim Hall moved to consider Application No. MS-20-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating recommendations from team member reports and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board's decision. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was 3 in favor with Libby Maclay and Bob Schroeder abstaining. Vote in favor represented a quorum of Supervisors in attendance – motion carried.

- The off-channel wetland shall be constructed not to hold standing water and cannot serve as an open water pond.
- Mature trees within stream corridor shall not be removed.
- All stream crossings used for the restoration shall be rehabilitated/reseeded at the end of project construction.
- Instream work shall occur during base flow conditions in the period between July 1 and December 15.
- A designated project manager shall be onsite during active construction to supervise contractors.

MS-21-22 – Mattie Gould on USFS Property – Rock Creek – Cobble Dam Removal

Geocode: 04-2427-03-1-01-01-0000

Watkins presented site location slides and reviewed the history of Violation No. CM-05-22 resulting in this new application from Mattie Gould to remove the cobble dam at the head of an irrigation ditch off of Rock Creek. Gould holds the water rights from this diversion along with an easement across USFS property for the irrigation ditch. Gould has requested that she be the one to conduct the work at the project site and not Mr. Fletcher who constructed the cobble dam. Watkins also presented photos from April 22, 2022 taken during the complaint site inspection. Julie Merritt with WGM Group provided additional background on the situation leading to the complaint from Gould resulting in Violation No. CM-05-22. Merritt added that recent rains have moderated the concerns to immediately remove the cobble dam; that work is now being planned for when high flows recede. Also, it is likely that equipment will be needed to remove some of the larger rock rather than just hand removal stated in the application. There are intentions of installing a headgate or other flow control in the future under a separate 310 application. No office site inspection was conducted for the application as conditions had not changed since the site visit for Complaint/Violation CM-05-22.

Libby Maclay moved to consider Application No. MS-21-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating recommendations from the Board discussion and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board's decision. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

- Use of equipment to aid in removal of the obstruction is included in the permitted use

MS-22-22 – Justin Turley – Lolo Creek – Riparian Planting/Restoration
Geocode: 04-2092-35-3-02-05-0000

Watkins reviewed site location slides and prior photos taken on May 5, 2022 during the site inspection for then Complaint No. CM-05-22, which the Board determined to be a violation of the 310 Law for vegetation removal without a valid permit. The new application is for riparian planting required to resolve the violation. Watkins also presented photos taken during a follow-up site visit with Turley on June 8, 2022. The photos illustrated the location of a new side channel activated by recent high flows. Watkins stated he and Turley discussed staying at least 30 feet back from the bank of this side channel when considering a buffer zone on Lolo Creek for future activities in this location. Watkins presented two photos showing the representative area considered for planting the 20 required native, rooted shrubs. Turley stated he's appreciated working with Watkins and the Board to resolve this matter. He plans on planting more than the 20 shrubs required.

Tim Hall moved to consider Application No. MS-22-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating modifications that staff discussed on-site with the applicant, those considered during the Board meeting, and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board's decision. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

- A row of at least ten (10) trees/shrubs shall be planted along the new side-channel created by a recent avulsion.
- Thirty feet (30') to the north from the new side-channel, ten (10) trees/shrubs shall be planted.
- Additional plantings are permitted along the riparian buffer.
- All trees/shrubs planted as a restoration project shall be protected from browsing and meet the Missoula Conservation District's survivability standard of at least 75% surviving within one (1) year of the planting, and 50% surviving within two (2) years of the planting.
- There shall be no filling or damming of the new side-channel without a 310 permit issued.

MS-23-22 – Thomas Freeman – Mill Creek – Culvert Installation
Geocode: 04-2533-29-2-01-03-0000

Watkins reported on a new application to conduct identical work to install a culvert crossing on Mill Creek to access a home site as previously approved under Permit No. MS-18-21. The property was recently sold to Freeman and requires a new permit to be issued since it cannot be transferred between applicants. Watkins reported that the current application does include all modifications included as provisions of the original permit.

Tim Hall moved to consider Application No. MS-23-22 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project as proposed as it included all modifications listed for the previously issued permit and to waive the 15-day waiting period after the Board's decision. Libby Maclay seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

- On proposed access route, stream crossing recommendations include a squash culvert (e.g., ~54"x42") comparable to a 48" round pipe. Culvert should be counter-sunk into bed 4-6" to help minimize resulting rise in road and need for imported fill. Due to limited road width and fill height required, recommended culvert length was 18-20 ft. Size should be adjusted so that > 2ft. of culvert extends past edge of road on ends. Follow additional pertinent BMPs

- Up to 5 additional, smaller culvert installations may be required to effectively carry side channels across the width of the wetland along length of road. Recommended size of additional culverts in **18-24” in diameter (round)** with similar length as larger (primary) crossing.
- No disturbance outside of immediate road alignment/fill.
- Also recommended: Place liner underneath road fill to minimize assimilation (sinking) into wet substrate. Without liner, fill and vehicles will likely sink into wetland road, will likely continuously rut.
- Maintain District standards for vegetation survival rate (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)
- Project engineer/permittee shall be onsite during implementation to ensure adherence to specifications
- Missoula Conservation District and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks shall be notified when instream work begins

310 Complaints

CM-06-20 (Re: MS-31-20, AWM 11/09/20) – 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

Watkins reviewed site location slides, conditions leading to the complaint, and two photos submitted by the Ridegs showing the new headgate they installed. The headgate diverts water into their irrigation pond as well as allowing the remaining flow to continue down Spring Creek. Watkins also presented photos from a follow up site visit he conducted on May 24, 2022, showing the current condition of the work completed and status of the new channel at the project location.

Bob Schroeder moved to consider Complaint No. CM-06-20 resolved with the work completed satisfactorily under Permit No. MS-31-20. Tim Hall seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

CM-06-22 – Monroe Property Company/Paws Up Ranch – Blackfoot River – Tree Cutting/Vegetation Removal
Geocode: 04-2330-26-3-01-05-0000

Watkins presented site location slides and photos received with the official complaint regarding the removal of dead trees along the bank of the Clearwater River on property owned by the Paws Up Ranch. One photo taken from the water shows three snags in front of a “glamping” site. Another photo from the same vantage point shows these three snags missing. The District did not receive a 310 Application or Emergency Notice for this work to remove the snags. Paws Up Ranch Manager, Kyle Kelley, stated that the tree shown on the righthand side of the photo broke off during a windstorm and became lodged between the other two snags. During an attempt to remove the fallen tree from above the bank with a backhoe, it broke off the other two snags. All fell towards the river and were left in place before being carried off by high flows four days later. Kelley mentioned that they may eventually want to plant some screening vegetation at this site to provide guests with additional privacy, but that would only be done after obtaining a 310 Permit. Watkins stated he had conversed with the Paws Up attorney, Eric Henkel, regarding the ranch’s desire to establish additional

vegetation to screen the camping site from river. Henkel was present at the meeting via Zoom but did not offer any comments.

Bob Schroeder moved to declare Complaint No. CM-06-22 Not a Violation of the 310 Law given the evidence presented. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

Existing Violations

CM-02-21 (Re: MS-33-21, Tabled 9/13/21) – Deborah & Andrew Carstensen– Cooney Creek – Channel/Bank Restoration
Geocode: 04-2992-06-2-01-15-0000

See MS-33-21 above for additional details.

CM-05-21 (Re: MS-43-21) – Double Arrow Ranch Landowners Association c/o Greg Neudecker – Drew Creek – Fill Stream
Geocode: 04-2541-07-2-02-07-0000

See MS-43-21 above for additional details.

CM-03-22 – Justin Turley – Lolo Creek – Vegetation Removal
Geocode: 04-2092-35-3-02-05-0000

See MS-22-22 above for additional details.

CM-05-22 – Cliff Fletcher – Rock Creek – Channel Excavation/Alteration
Geocode: 04-2427-03-1-01-01-0000

Watkins reminded the Board this violation relates to Permit No. MS-21-22 approved earlier on the agenda.

Bob Schroeder moved to consider Violation No. CM-05-22 resolved with approval of Permit No. MS-21-22 and to write Mr. Fletcher informing him no additional work can be conducted in the future without first obtaining a 310 Permit. Tim Hall seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

310 Inquiries & Issues

Watkins reported visiting with a landowner who plans on building a road that will require up to six culverts across intermittent draws draining into Maple Creek. Prior Board discussion indicated that Maple Creek may not always flow perennially itself. Watkins asked the Board if they wished to see 310 applications for this proposed work or if they were comfortable stating that it was outside of the District's 310 Law jurisdiction. Following brief discussion, the Board determined that the Board should review 310 applications for the crossings. Watkins stated he will inform the landowner to go ahead and file the 310 applications. Watkins also reported on being invited to a site visit at the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork River on property owned by Five Valley's Land Trust where they discussed plans to build a foot path. Based on his observations of the location, Watkins advised them to file a 310 application.

Reports

County Attorney Report – John Hart reported that the latest subdivision on lower Blanchard Creek was approved last week by the county planning department. Hart stated that the comments provided in the District’s letter regarding protection of the riparian zone and stream buffer were very important. The County Commissioners will hear the matter on July 7, 2022.

Montana FWP – No representative was in attendance and no reports had been provided.

DNRC Conservation District Bureau – A copy of Hailey Graf’s June 2022 written report was provided in the Supervisors’ meeting packets. Hall, Watkins, and Vogt reported on meeting with Graf on May 25th. It was a productive meeting with Hall stating that both the CDB and MACD seems to be heading in a positive direction with recent staff hirings and strategic planning efforts.

Bitter Root RC&D – Libby Maclay stated there had been no recent meeting and that the organization still faces concerns over funding.

Weed District/Extension – No representative was in attendance and no reports had been provided.

Watershed Groups – No representative was in attendance and no reports had been provided.

Planning Board Update – Josh Schroeder was not in attendance and had not provided a report.

Water Quality District – Hall stated he had spoken with Elena Evans regarding her desire to make a presentation to the Board on Smurfit-Stone issues. Evans would like to discuss how the Conservation District can play more of a role in discussions to encourage the State and EPA to put more attention into local concerns over sampling efforts and cleanup of the site. Hart reported that Senator Tester wrote a letter to the EPA regarding his concerns with the levees at the site. Hart also stated this would be another great issue for the Conservation District to weigh in on where appropriate.

District Committees – Hall reported that the Grants Committee met just prior to the Board meeting tonight. No other committees have met over the past month.

Missoula CD Employees – Written reports were included in the Supervisors’ packets. Vogt will be out on vacation June 16th–June 21st. Watkins will be on vacation July 2nd–17th and plans on Zooming into the July Board meeting.

Bryan Vogt - Program Specialist

Office Administration:

- Checked District’s general email and QuickBooks accounts daily; received/distributed agency mail daily.
- Assisted Watkins in facilitating and taking notes at the May 9th Board meeting (in-person & virtual).
- Submitted monthly claims to the county for payment; entered monthly claims into QuickBooks.
- Posted April 11th approved meeting minutes to District website.
- Drafted minutes from the May 9th Board meeting.
- Reconciled First Security Bank accounts and DA Davidson account in QuickBooks.
- Updated quarterly Supervisor claims form, as needed.

Minutes
Missoula Conservation District
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- Prepared monthly claims, agenda, financial report, and upcoming events sheet for monthly meeting packet.
- Sent agenda to the county for public posting. Posted agenda & approved minutes on the CD website.
- Put together monthly meeting packets and organized meeting room for monthly Board meeting

Program Assistance:

- Assisted with physical and electronic file management of 4 new 310 Applications and 1 new Complaint.
- Updated 310 Master List spreadsheet and Current Permits webpage on MCD website.
- Assisted the public with calls regarding 310 permitting requirements.
- With Watkins, participated in 310 Permit Workshop in Helena presented by Lewis & Clark CD and DNRC
- Participate in EO Roundtable training on CD Procurement laws and rules
- Finished development of HB223 Grant 23G-22-3705 Priority Water Quality Monitoring Grant with DNRC
 - Multiple calls to verify costs of equipment and lab sampling to be paid for thorough the grant
 - Correspondence with CRC on required changes (i.e., CD retains ownership of equipment, etc.)
 - Ordered monitoring equipment following DNRC's written verification to proceed
- Updated forms and website for June 8, 2022 cycle for MCD Grants
- Received and processed applications for 1 Conservation Enhancement Grant, 1 Riparian Planting Mini-Grant, 3 Operations Mini-Grant, and 1 Education Mini-Grant
- With Watkins and Hall, met with H. Graf, DNRC-CDB Conservation District Specialist on District needs and ways CDB can better assist Missoula CD
- Met with Cara Nelson for update on Pollinator Grant 23P-21-0010 and the UM Firewise Garden project
- Received and processed DNRC grant agreement for 23G-22-3734 Local TIP Support and Area 5 Training:
 - Notified partners of successful grant award

Technical Assignments:

- Continued management of the no-till drill rental program, including 10 rentals
- No-till drill maintenance and repairs, including replacement of a broken press wheel damaged by renter, replacement of both drill tires due to flats, replacement of male plug on trailer wiring harness
- Provide St. Ignatius area landowner contact info for Lake Co. CD and CSKT Natural Resources Dept.
- Provided partners and landowners pollinator habitat seed mix packets

Communication and Outreach:

- Informed high school science teachers and FFA advisors about MT Natural Resources Youth Camp and opportunities for District to assist interested youths
- Participated in Lower Miller Creek Riparian Health TIP kick-off event

**1 Holiday – Memorial Day – 1.5 Days Sick Leave*

Radley Watkins - Resource Conservationist

Office Administration:

- Coordinated the May District Board meeting.

- Followed up on actions taken at the May meeting by writing letters, packaging them, and sending them.
- Reviewed/edited/approved draft May meeting minutes.
- Approved and submitted staff timesheets to County payroll and entered payroll in Quick Books.
- Conducted weekly staff meetings and updated Chairman Hall.
- Drafted and finalized agenda for June 13, 2022, District meeting.
- Attended Big Sky Watershed Corp Member Supervisor Training.
- Sent Budget Committee Actual vs Budgeted expenses for FY22 and requested meeting.
- Met with Vogt, Chairman Hall, and DNRC CD Bureau representative Hailey Graft.

310 Law Administration:

- Reviewed and processed four new 310 applications and two new complaints.
- Received
- Confirmed Fletcher's involvement in 310 violations on Rock Creek (CM0522) with Chris Fletcher.
- Worked with Seeley Lake area landowner assistance on 310 permit questions on Swamp Creek.
- Visited site owner in Condon over neighbor blocking a drainage.
- Checked on Glacier Creek previous 310 that was not acted on to see if bank still needed stabilization.
- Attended DNRC 310 training in Helena with Vogt.
- Discussed 310 permit (MS 2122) modifications with Mattie Gould.
- Had phone conversation with Kirby Christensen to discuss Paw's Up 310 violation (CM0622).
- Conducted site inspection with Chairman Hall and Chris Rry of BLM at Kearns Creek.
- Conducted site inspection with Ladd Knotek and Travis Greenwalt on Miller Creek.
- Worked with 310 applicant Eric Siegfried on his potential six 310 applications.
- Fielded public calls regarding 310 permitting requirements.
- Met with Jenny Tolefson of Five Valley's Land Trust at Rock Creek to review trail design and needs for a 310 permit.

Program Management:

- Helped Vogt on no-drill rentals while he recovered from surgery.
- Attended thesis defense on Grant Creek restoration in which MCD was the only agency named and 310 discussed as best conservation tool.
- Attended Miller Creek TIP working group meeting at NRCS office.
- Met with Cara Nelson of U of M and Vogt to review progress at the U's Firewise garden and reviewed MCD funded signs for garden.
- Worked with Vogt on Miller Creek TIP grant through DNRC.
- Spoke with Bryce Christiansen from Weed District about MCD sponsoring DNRC funding for Rocky Mounty Exploration Center Community Demonstration Garden.
- Conducted PL566 Clark Fork corridor site visit with partnering organizations.
- Purchased food for and helped host Miller Creek TIP kickoff.
- Attended monthly Grant Creek Working Group.
- Worked with Missoula Bear Smart Working Group to release Hazard Assessment and Conflict Management Plan to the public.

- Corresponded with Imagination Brewery about having MCD host monthly conservation trivia night.
- Corresponded with Clark Fork Market to try and get a table for the pollinator project.
- Worked with Mackenzie Tenan, BSWC member, to update the MCD Stream Crossing Guide.
- Participated in Small-agriculture Land Conservation Working Group hosted by Community & Planning Services (CAPS) with Chairman Hall.
- Relunched full MCD grant program with Vogt.
- Met with Grant Creek landowner Dale Fry and Mike Day of WGM Consulting to discuss MCD Conservation Enhancement grant application.
- Met with Hanna Talbott of the Highlander brewery to discuss conservation needs of Highlander property along Grant Creek and MCD's ability to assist through grants.
- Met with Missoulian reporter David Erickson, and Rob Roberts of Trout Unlimited at the Grass Valley Irrigation District point of diversion to discuss infrastructure needs.

**4 Hours of Sick Leave, 8 hours Holiday Pay – Memorial Day*

Other Reports

BSWC member update – Watkins reported that Mackenzie Tenan continues to do well and has received several grants to conduct revegetation along Pattee Creek below the grit chamber. Watkins may also request that she conduct outreach above Higgins Avenue where the District does take 310 Law jurisdiction on Pattee Creek.

New Business

Correspondence and Upcoming Events – Vogt reviewed the Upcoming Events sheet include in the Supervisors' meeting packet. No additional Correspondence was received over the past month.

Site Inspections Scheduling – Watkins stated that this item will be added to the monthly meeting agenda for the purpose of informing Supervisors when the next site inspections are planned and to go ahead and schedule a Supervisor(s) to attend them.

310 Permit Workshop Update – Watkins reported that he and Vogt attended this training in Helena on May 19, 2022. There were several useful take home lessons from the training, especially on the importance of following established 310 procedures as outlined by a district's 310 Administrative Rules as well as appropriately documenting permitting decisions.

FY 2023 Budget – Watkins reported that the Budget Committee still needs to meet to consider a recommended budget for next fiscal year that begins July 1, 2022.

Programs

Grants Program:

MCD Grants

2022 Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp – Vogt reported he reached out to Missoula County science teachers and FFA advisors informing them that interested youths could apply for the District's Continuing Education Mini Grant to cover camp registration costs, but no applications were received.

Mini-Grants – Vogt reported that the Grants Committee met preceding tonight’s Board meeting to consider applications from the last MCD Grants Cycle. Funding recommendations from the Grants Committee were as follows:

Operations Mini-Grants:

- a. OpMG-03-22 Montana Biocontrol Coordination Project: \$500
- b. OpMG-04-22 Bitter Root RC&D: \$500
- c. OpMG-05-22 Bridger Plant Materials Center: \$100

Education Mini-Grant:

- a. EdMG-02-22 MCWD Leave No Weeds: \$500

Tim Hall moved to fund all MCD Mini-Grant proposals in full as recommended by the Grants Committee. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion carried.

Sponsored Grants – Vogt reported that he and Watkins met recently with Dr. Cara Nelson for an update on the DNRC Pollinator Grant “Integrating Pollinator Education into MT’s First Firewise Demonstration Garden.” Vogt is working with Melissa Maggio to complete the final reporting for DNRC Education Mini-Grant “Updating and Reprinting the Montana Biocontrol Field Guide.” A contract for the recently approved DNRC Education Mini-Grant “Leave No Weeds” is expected prior to the end of the month. The contract for DNRC CDB Conservation Projects Grant “Local TIP Support and Area 5 Training” was received in the mail today, as was the HB223 Grant “Priority Water Quality Monitoring in the Clearwater Valley.” Vogt is finalizing a contract for the Clearwater Resources Council to sign before they check out grant purchased equipment that will remain in District ownership as part of this HB223 project.

Revised MCD Grant Program – Watkins reported that with the last application cycle, all of the MCD Grants have been relaunched with the exception of the Legacy Grant. The plan is to offer all MCD Grants as soon as a new budget is passed for FY 2023.

Equipment Program – Vogt reported that no-till drill rentals continued steadily over the past month, but there were a number of maintenance issues that took quite a bit of time to address. These included the need to replace both tires on the drill due to separate issues, the need to replace one of the closer press wheels due to damage from a renter, and the need to replace the trailer wire harness plug due to an inadequate repair conducted by a different renter. The Board discussed concerns over the increased amount of maintenance needs this year but felt the equipment rental program was still being managed appropriately.

Pollinator Program – Watkins reported that seed packets continue to be given away, but staff limitations had resulted in less direct opportunities to table or participate in public events. His efforts to obtain a table at the Clark Fork Market had so far been unsuccessful. Bob Schroeder inquired if there were any new developments on the planned roadside pollinator project along Highway 93 south of Lolo. Watkins stated he understood the seeding was being planned for this fall and will provide updates as they become available.

Wildlife Damage & Habitat Conservation Program – Watkins stated that this is a new agenda item to report on related activities the District has been involved with such as his participation in the Bear Smart Missoula efforts.

Urban & Small Agriculture Program – Watkins stated this is also a new agenda item to on related activities. Hall reported there has been a new community committee meeting recently to discuss this topic. There might also be an NRCS Targeted Implementation Plan (TIP) that gets developed from this effort. There have been meetings with Missoula CAPS and other partners to discuss incentivizing individuals who want to remain engaged in, or get started in, agricultural production.

Other New Business – Watkins offered to assist any Supervisor interested in becoming engaged in a natural resource issue or group with making the appropriate connections. There seems to be a lot of recent momentum in the county on natural resource issues if anyone is interested.

Old Business

Lease Agreement – Rocky Mountain Gardens and Exploration Center – The Board agreed to revisit this matter at next month’s meeting.

NACD Dues – The Board took no action at this time regarding this item.

MACD Dues – Watkins reminded the Board of last month’s discussion and the decision to table this item. Rebecca Boslough, MACD Executive Director, has agreed to come to next month’s meeting to discuss the organization’s recent priorities and activities. Vogt and Watkins presented Hailey Graf’s recommendations on how to utilize more MACD resources based on her experience as the prior Resource Conservationist at Flathead CD.

Northeast Missoula County Supervisor Needs – Watkins revisited the benefits of having a Board representative residing in this portion of the county.

Other Old Business – Travis Greenwalt stated he was currently serving on a Stewardship Award Committee and wanted to verify that the names of candidates on list for consideration had no history of 310 Violations. The Board members present stated that, to their recollection, no candidates were 310 Violators.

Payment of Bills and Claims

Tim Hall moved to pay the bills and claims. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion passed.

Petty Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge	Deposit	Balance
	Balance from May meeting			\$1,832.05
5/13/2022	Lewis & Clark CD – 3 meals for 310 Permit Workshop	(\$36.00)		\$1,796.05
5/13/2022	Staples – office supplies	(\$53.03)		\$1,743.02
5/16/2022	Murdoch’s – Grease for no-till drill rental program	(\$13.77)		\$1,729.25
5/25/2022	Staples – office supplies	(\$16.79)		\$1,712.46
5/25/2022	Harbor Freight Tools – maintenance supplies for drill	(\$12.49)		\$1,699.97
5/25/2022	City of Missoula – downtown parking	(\$2.00)		\$1,697.97
5/25/2022	Les Schwab Tires – new tire for no-till drill	(\$146.98)		\$1,550.99

Minutes
 Missoula Conservation District
 June 13, 2022

5/31/2022	Zoom – Monthly fee for Watkins & Vogt	(\$31.10)		\$1,519.89
6/3/2022	Rock Chip Squad	(\$45.00)		\$1,474.89
6/6/2022	Transfer from Regular Checking – Check #1548		\$3,015.00	\$4,489.89
6/6/2022	Turner Designs – Equipment for Grant 23G-22-3705	(\$2,533.00)		\$1,956.89
6/6/2022	NAPA Auto Parts – male replacement for wire harness	(\$13.49)		\$1,943.40
6/6/2022	Harbor Freight Tools – maintenance supplies	(\$1.19)		\$1,942.21
6/6/2022	Tire Rama – new tire for no-till drill	(\$127.00)		\$1,815.21
6/9/2022	Walmart – supplies for Miller Creek TIP kick-off event	(\$50.35)		\$1,764.86
6/9/2022	Albertsons – supplies for Miller Creek TIP kick-off event	(\$41.45)		\$1,723.41
6/9/2022	Good Food Store – supplies for Miller Creek TIP kick-off event	(\$28.85)		\$1,694.56
6/9/2022	Costco – supplies for Miller Creek TIP kick-off event	(\$162.79)		\$1,531.77
6/9/2022	Walmart – supplies for Miller Creek TIP kick-off event	(\$16.98)		\$1,514.79
	Totals	(\$3,332.26)	\$3,015.00	
	NET TOTAL	(\$317.26)		

Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge	Deposit	Balance
	Balance from May meeting			\$14,919.61
5/9/2022	D. Post – No-till drill rental		\$146.00	\$15,065.51
5/10/2022	T. Rich – No-till drill rental		\$146.00	\$15,211.61
5/17/2022	R. Indreland – No-till drill rental		\$438.20	\$15,649.81
5/23/2022	M. Anderson – No-till drill rental		\$486.90	\$16,136.71
5/23/2022	Return – Drill deposit and replacement of drill tire	(\$245.27)		\$15,891.44
5/24/2022	D. Huls – No-till drill rental		\$146.00	\$16,037.44
5/27/2022	B. Schweitzer – No-till drill rental		\$146.00	\$16,183.44
5/31/2022	J. Bukovatz – No-till drill rental		\$146.00	\$16,329.44
6/1/2022	J. Robertson – No-till drill rental		\$486.90	\$16,816.34
6/1/2022	Return – J. Robertson drill deposit refund	(\$194.80)		\$16,621.54
6/6/2022	J. Grasse – No-till drill rental		\$240.00	\$16,861.54
6/6/2022	Check 1548 – Deposit into Petty Checking for MCD Grant awards	(\$3,015.00)		\$13,846.54
6/7/2022	H. May – No-till drill rental		\$486.90	\$14,333.44
	Totals	(\$3,455.07)	\$2,868.90	
	NET TOTAL	(\$586.17)		

Savings Account

Date	Description	Charge	Deposit	Balance
	Balance from May meeting			\$50,418.61
5/31/2022	Interest		\$3.32	\$50,421.93
	Totals		\$3.32	
	NET TOTAL	\$3.32		

DA Davidson Account

Date	Description	Charge	Deposit	Balance
	Balance from May meeting			\$201,580.96
5/31/2022	Interest		\$295.05	\$201,876.01
	Totals		\$295.05	
	NET TOTAL	\$295.05		

Tax Mill Levy Account (Warrants/Claims)

Date	Description	Charge	Deposit	Balance
	Balance from May meeting			\$322,114.61
4/30/2022	Mill Levy and Interest		\$5,456.24	\$327,570.85
5/6/2022	Payroll – Pay Period 9	(\$6,018.80)		\$321,552.05
5/10/2022	MACD – website hosting and registration costs	(\$37.24)		\$321,514.81
5/10/2022	Verizon Wireless – District cell phones	(\$104.72)		\$321,410.09
5/10/2022	FIB Mastercard – fleet gas card	(\$117.96)		\$321,292.13
5/10/2022	Charter Spectrum – Office internet	(\$109.99)		\$321,182.14
5/20/2022	Payroll – Pay Period 10 – Resource Conservationist only (manual entry oversight)	(\$3,209.97)		\$317,972.17
6/3/2022	Payroll – Pay Period 11	(\$6,148.86)		\$311,823.31
	Totals	(\$15,747.54)	\$5,456.24	
	NET TOTAL	(\$10,291.30)		

Adjournment

Tim Hall moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor – motion passed.

Voting Record – CD Supervisor	IN FAVOR	OPPOSED	ABSTAIN
Tim Hall	13	-	-
Libby Maclay	12	-	1
Travis Greenwalt	13	-	-
Paul Parson	Absent	-	-
Art Pencek	Absent	-	-
Bob Schroeder	12	-	1
Sidney Wills	13	-	-

The next Missoula Conservation District meeting is scheduled for **Monday, July 11, 2022**, at 7:00 p.m. in the USDA Service Center conference room located at 3550 Mullan Road, Suite 106, Missoula, MT 59808. A virtual option via Zoom or phone will also be offered.

APPROVED