

Missoula Conservation District – April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Alternative Meeting Location – Virtual/Phone

Missoula Conservation District Attendees: Tim Hall, Chair; Libby Maclay, Vice Chair; Travis Greenwalt, Treasurer; Paul Parson, Supervisor; Art Pencek, Supervisor; Bob Schroeder, Supervisor; Sidney Wills, Supervisor; Radley Watkins, Staff; Bryan Vogt, Staff

Additional Attendees: John Hart (Senior Deputy County Attorney); Ladd Knotek (MT FWP); Leo Rosenthal (MT FWP); Brad Liermann (MT FWP); Travis Lemke (NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist); Heather Brighton (Lolo Watershed Group); Bryce Christiaens (Missoula Co. Weed District); Heidi Sedivy (Clearwater Resource Council); Caryn Miske (Clearwater Resource Council); Ron Pierce (MS-08-21 & MS-11-21); Scott Tucker (MS-08-21 & MS-11-21); Jerry Gregiore (MS-09-21); Scott Kuehn (MS-09-21); Ronnie Matthew (MS-09-21); David Merifield (MS-10-21)

Absent: Bart Morris, Associate Supervisor; Josh Schroeder, Associate Supervisor

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

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

Travis Greenwalt moved to authorize the modification of normal procedures to all for electronic signatures on all decision forms for the April 12, 2021 District meeting. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Minutes – Travis Greenwalt moved to approve the March 8, 2021 Minutes as presented. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Treasurer’s Report – Travis Greenwalt reported \$15,892.19 in the District’s checking account.

Public Comment – None

NRCS Report – Travis Lemke, NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist, reported that all 7 application for the Potomac Valley and Upper 9-Mile forest health TIPs have been preapproved for funding through the EQIP Program. Lemke and John Bowe are working on contract development for these applications with anticipation that funding will be obligated for these preapproved projects in the coming weeks. They are still waiting on preapprovals for applicants who have applied for the High Tunnel, Organic, and Honey Bee Pollinator EQIP Special Initiatives. Work continues to be done on FY2023 TIP (EQIP) proposals. Lemke mentioned the possibility of holding another Local Working Group meeting towards the end of this coming summer to guide any new direction for future years program work.

Updated COVID-19 guidance released from the FPAC (Farm Production and Conservation) Workplace Safety Plan (April 5th):

1. Effective on Monday, April 12, Service Centers that are currently operating at up to 50% office staffing may begin to accept visitors by appointment only. No other FPAC facilities may permit visitors (other than essential deliveries or repair and installation services) at this time.
2. Visitors should only be allowed in Service Centers that have the space to physically distance employees and visitors. If this is not possible, Service Centers should continue to provide all service through remote means. The safety of our employees and customers will always be our highest priority.
3. Masks are required to conduct business in any FPAC facility and physical distancing and cleaning protocols must be adhered to.

Lemke will share additional guidance and clarification from FPAC with the CD as it becomes available.

310 Annual Maintenance Permit Applications

APO-01-21 – Jeff Koch c/o Big Flat Irrigation District obo Osprey Heights Homeowners Association – Clark Fork and Bitterroot Rivers – Replace railroad ties over cement flume
Geocode: 04-2199-21-1-01-11-0000

Watkins reported this is a new application for a 10-year annual maintenance permit to allow the Big Flat Irrigation District (BFID) to replace worn and missing railroad ties that cover a 2,000-foot section of concrete flume adjacent to the Bitterroot River and Clark Fork Rivers where the Bitterroot joins the Clark Fork. The Annual Plan of Operation (APO) also calls for removing rock/talus debris that has fallen into the flume from the adjacent slope. A site inspection was not conducted, but Watkins showed pictures taken from a site visit with Jeff Koch, Ditch Rider for the BFID. Watkins stated that a modified APO had been received prior to the meeting to address the vegetation removal observed next to the road conducted for vehicle access. Watkins showed a picture of a ladder built by the HOA from the slope above the irrigation flume in order to access the river. Koch told Watkins he will advise the HOA this needs to be removed.

Bob Schroeder moved to make Application No. APO-01-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project as proposed. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

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 there were no new developments regarding this application.

MS-08-21 – Ron Pierce obo Scott Tucker – Gilbert Creek – Bridge Construction/Channel Alteration/Irrigation Structure
Geocode: 01-1978-27-1-01-01-0000

Watkins reported this is a new application that would include construction of a bridge over a planned reconstructed channel of Gilbert Creek. The reconstructed channel is part of a separate project to add

channel sinuosity and restore the floodplain of Gilbert Creek. Watkins displayed slides showing the location of the proposed project and photos from the site inspection conducted on April 6, 2021 with Tim Hall, Paul Parson, and Brad Liermann attending along with the applicant. Ron Pierce explained that the bridge will provide the only access to the south side of the creek on the Valley of the Moon Ranch. Scott Tucker explained that this will be a private bridge but will also allow for firefighting access to the adjacent USFS lands, if needed. There was additional discussion on some of the bridge designs with Liermann adding he would like to see the plans include 2.5'-3' feet of freeboard to pass debris instead of the 1.5' that is currently shown. Pierce stated he would provide additional materials after conferring with their consultant. The Board delayed taking action on the application until additional materials are received.

MS-09-21 – Jerry Gregoire – Glacier Creek – Bank Stabilization
Geocode: 04-2991-02-2-01-03-0000

Watkins reported this is a new application for bank stabilization on a section of Glacier Creek. Watkins displayed slides of the project location and photos from the site inspection conducted on April 7, 2021 attended by Leo Rosenthal, the landowner, the contractor, and a consultant. No Supervisor attended the site inspection. Watkins explained that the property is located immediately south of Styler Drive where accelerated bank erosion on the outside bend of an acute meander threatens the only access to the property. Currently there is only 40-feet between the edge of the streambank and a cabin, which sits along a braid of Glacier Creek. If this current access is lost, the cabin will set on an island with no access to the property. A county bridge on Styler Drive, the need for immediate action, and the lack of engineered designs for the project were also discussed by Watkins.

Scott Kuehn, consultant with Pyramid Mountain Lumber, explained that he has monitored the accelerated bank loss at this site over the past year and there is approximately 150-feet of bank requiring immediate protection to preserve the access to the property. Jerry Gregoire, the landowner, also verified that the bank loss has been taking place for over a year and now poses an immediate risk for accessing the property. Rosenthal acknowledged that it is a tough site and that there is a sense of urgency to preserve the landowner's access, but also stated that the application could benefit from more detail and the input of a hydrologist and engineer. Rosenthal verified that Glacier Creek is not a bull trout stream and would not be subject to the associated limitations.

The Board acknowledged the immediate threat the continued bank erosion poses to the landowner's property access but also concern that this wasn't brought forward in prior years when there was more time to work with consultants on a holistic, engineered design. Watkins reported the county road department has stated they can't really work on private property to address a potential, rather than immediate, threat to their bridge. Gregoire stated he has tried to engage the county road department and he has also gotten in touch with an engineering firm just last Friday. He is willing to develop a more thorough, long-term design but is concerned that springtime high flows may take out his access prior to being able to design and implement a later project. He asked if a phased approach might be considered. Kuehn stated the current application includes use of class 2 and 3 angular rock for the bank protection, pulling the bank to a 0.75 to 1 slope, and seeding the disturbed areas. He is concerned that work will have to be done under an Emergency Notification if work is postponed a month or two while waiting for engineered designs. Gregoire voiced his desire to implement this project and continue to work with an engineer on a long-term fix to the site.

Art Pencek moved to make Application No. MS-09-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motioned carried – unanimous.

- The riprap material shall be class 3 rock with some class 2 rock as filler.
- Key in the bottom sections of riprap materials into the toe of the bank.
- At the upper and lower ends of the project, riprap will be keyed back into the bank 10 feet with a rock vein buried to match the height and depth of the streambank protection.
- A permanent long-term bank stabilization plan and new 310 application will be submitted to the Missoula Conservation District no later than July 6, 2021.
- The Missoula Conservation District's 15-day waiting period prior to work beginning is waived.

MS-10-21 – David Merifield – West Fork Petty Creek – Debris Removal
Geocode: 04-2321-34-1-01-04-0000

Watkins reported this is a new application to clear vegetation on approximately 60' x40' of the West Fork Petty Creek to create a fishing and recreation access site. Watkins displayed site locations slides and photos from a site visit with Jim Merifield. A formal site inspection was not conducted prior to the meeting. Merifield explained they are not looking to manicure the creek or modify they streambank, only create recreational access to the creek. Ladd Knotek stated he will request a formal site inspection. The Board postponed taking action on the application until a site inspection has been conducted.

MS-11-21 – Ron Pierce obo Scott Tucker – Gilbert Creek – Ford
Geocode: 04-1978-27-1-01-01-0000

Watkins reported this a new application that was submitted as the result of a recommendation discussed during the April 6, 2021 site inspection for MS-08-21. Watkins showed pictures of the proposed location for a ford that will be used to cross machinery and stage material to prepare for the larger channel alteration/reconstruction project discussed under MS-08-21. Pierce reported that this was identified as the easiest crossing location and that a large rubber mat will be placed in the creek to minimize disturbance from the crossing machinery. Both Liermann and Hall stated this seems to be a reasonable approach.

Tim Hall moved to make Application No. MS-11-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project as proposed. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. Paul Parson abstained, all others in favor – motion carried.

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

Hall stated there is nothing new to report. CM-06-20 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approve under 310 Permit No. MS-31-20.

Existing Violations

CM-08-19 (Re: MS-32-20, AWM 03/08/2021) – James Schlinger – Barber Creek – Excavation on Creek and Banks
Geocode: 04-2992-19-1-01-11-0000

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Hall stated there is nothing new to report. CM-18-19 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approved under 310 Permit No. MS-32-20.

CM-02-20 (Re: MS-32-20, AWM 03/08/2021) – James Schlinger – Barber Creek – Bridge & Road Work
Geocode: 04-2992-19-1-01-11-0000

Hall stated there is nothing new to report. CM-02-20 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approved under 310 Permit No. MS-32-20.

CM-09-20 (Re: MS-04-21, AWM 02/08/21) – Carl Graumann – Clark Fork River – Vegetation Removal
Geocode: 04-2200-17-2-01-12-0000

Watkins displayed a picture provided by Graumann showing placement of logs provided by the City of Missoula in the revegetation area. The City has stockpiled other logs for Graumann to use as part of the project. CM-09-20 will remain on the agenda until work has been completed and approved under 310 Permit No. MS-04-21.

310 Inquiries & Issues

Gus Creek Home Addition – Watkins reported being contacted by an architect regarding an addition to house on Gus Creek inquiring whether a 310 application was needed if they were going to get within 20-feet of the creek. Watkins advised them to submit a 310 application for review.

Rumble Creek Irrigation Diversion – Watkins reported visiting a site with L. Rosenthal where a new home owner is wanting to clean out his ditch and revitalize his flood irrigation system. James Schlinger, the contractor for the owner, advised the homeowner to contact the District about the need for a 310 permit. Watkins and Rosenthal advised Schlinger on possible options for a diversion point. Schinger thought he would recommend installing a new PVC pipe as preferred to cleaning out the existing ditch.

Clark Fork Coalition – Watkins reported that CFC has requested the District become involved in this project and donate money towards the planting plan on Miller Creek.

Houle Creek Culvert – Watkins reported being contacted regarding an old exposed culvert on a section of Houle Creek above the Frenchtown Irrigation Ditch. The creek is intermittent in this location and the individual was inquiring if a 310 permit was needed to push the culvert back together at this crossing site. B. Schroeder and P. Parson recalled the District had chosen not to take 310 jurisdiction on Houle Creek above Frenchtown Irrigation Ditch.

Glacier Creek Irrigation Diversion – Watkins reported being contacted by a landowner on Glacier Creek about conducting work on an irrigation headgate to divert water to fill a pond on the landowners newly acquired property. The landowner told Watkins they had a water right. Watkins reported that the historical point of diversion is higher than the bank full elevation and away from the edge of the creek. Watkins suggested they consider obtaining professional design assistance for a new headgate.

Miller Creek – Watkins reported being contacted by Elena Evans with the Missoula Valley Water Quality District about dump trucks driving up and down a section of Miller Creek and dumping soil near the creek. The buffer zone normally considered for Miller Creek is 10-feet. Watkins stated that Evans told him the soil deposited is farther away than the 10-foot buffer. Watkins and Evans concluded this is likely not a 310 matter.

Reports

County Attorney – John Hart stated he had nothing to report.

Montana FWP – Ladd Knotek reported being involved in discussions regarding maintenance of USACE levees on the riverfront through the middle of Missoula. Leo Rosenthal did not provide a report.

Bitter Root RC&D – Libby Maclay reported that the tourism information bureau's 10-year contract from the commissioners is up.

Watershed Groups – Heather Brighton with Lolo Watershed Group (LWG) reported on revegetation planning and implementation efforts they are working on for the area affected by installation of the Maclay Ditch fish screen. Funding support has been received from the Clark Fork Coalition and a DEQ 319 Grant. Additionally, LWG has been researching pre-disaster mitigation funds from FEMA for all of Lolo Creek, which could help in planning efforts for the Zens Kimerly bridge.

District Committees – Tim Hall reported that the Personnel Committee is working to fill the Administrative Assistant vacancy. Hall thanked the Committee and Radley Watkins for their work on this matter. Art Pencek reminded the Board that the Budget Committee will need to meet in the coming months to prepare a budget for FY2022 that begins July 1, 2021. Hall mentioned the Grants Committee will need to meet soon to discuss proposed program changes that the Committee and staff aim to launch this summer.

Planning Board Update – Josh Schroeder was absent and did not provide a report. Watkins reported meeting with J. Schroeder last month to discuss an education campaign for property developers/builders and the possibility of meeting in May with county planners.

Missoula CD Employees – Written employee reports were provided in the Supervisors' packets.

Bryan Vogt - Program Specialist

Office Administration: Attended and took notes at the March 8th virtual Board meeting. Assisted with office administration following Kreis's resignation. Electronic file cleanup and backup of files on desktop computer. Set up new laptop and reorganized office work station. Received and sorted agency mail on days once working from the office. Discussed shared office space needs with NRCS in preparation for their summer hires. Reviewed and edited March 8, 2021 minutes. Assisted with quarterly Supervisor Claims, monthly county Claims, and finalizing agenda for April 12th District meeting. Sent meeting agenda to county; posted agenda and approved February minutes on website. Sent pre-meeting packet to Supervisors and Zoom link to Supervisors, partners, and 310 Permit applicants.

Program Assistance: Received mini-grant funding requests from Montana Biocontrol Coordination Project, and worked with Melissa Maggio on final edits to DNRC Education Mini-Grant proposal before submission to DNRC.

Received funding support request from Missoula FFA Envirothon teams; submitted team registration forms and fees following approval of support request. Received direct funding request and 223 grant sponsorship request from Clearwater Resource Council (CRC). Coordinated with Kreis to send reimbursement payment to The Flagship Program for completed 2020 DNRC Education Mini-Grant award. Participated in virtual RCAC meeting for review of 223 Grant proposal for Educational Greenhouse funding. Continued

development of proposed Grants Program updates/revisions; meeting with Watkins to discuss proposed program changes. Preliminary 2021 Pollinator Program planning discussion with Watkins. Assisted Watkins, as requested, with 310 Administration including questions on waiving 15-day permit waiting period and application/inquiry questions on Glacier Creek, Petty Creek, Lolo Creek, and the Clearwater River.

Technical Assignments: Coordinated with Bart Morris on the pickup of no-till drill from B. Schroeder, final repairs, and delivery of drill to the District office. Finalized 2021 updates to in-house rental protocols. Replaced damaged jack on no-till drill. Sent rental confirmation emails to 4 upcoming drill renters. Processed one no-till drill rental, 3 new reservations, and 1 cancellation. Assisted with one no-till drill inquiry from the office parking lot. Provided technical assistance to Lolo Creek Trails Subdivision on best management practices for maintaining native vegetation in their common areas. Attended virtual Soil Health Innovations Conference (4/8–4/9).

Communication and Outreach: Participated in call with CRC's Project Coordinator regarding funding request and opportunity to participate in their Earth Day event. With Watkins, participated in virtual meeting with A. Coleman and M. Hendrix of DNRC to assess our interest in a potential FEMA grant for 2017 fire impact mitigation funding. Correspondence with UM Firewise Garden students regarding timeframe on pending DNRC Pollinator Grant award. Email to Grants Committee on program area updates in advance of April 12th District meeting. Updated staff contact information on website following Kreis's resignation. Updated Opportunities webpage to removed past events. Removed Administrative Assistant job announcement from website homepage. Took call from Chuck Holman requesting use of no-till drill and obtaining seed for pollinator plots in association with Freedom Gardens and Frenchtown Public School.

**5 Days Vacation*

Radley Watkins - Resource Conservationist

Office Administration: Met with Kreis (while still employed at CD) and Vogt weekly to review tasks, and office affairs. Reviewed and edited office minutes from March 2020 meeting. Sent out all decision letters from March meeting. Attended MACD records retention training. Worked with Kreis to update info for the MACD Directory. Worked with Personnel Committee to write new Administrative Assistant job description. Posted Administrative Assistant job opening and reviewed and ranked all applications. Conducted interviews with the Personnel Committee for the Administrative Assistant position and contacted references. Met with Chairman Hall as needed for advice and assistance. Kept up with CD correspondence. Worked with Vogt on getting ready for the District Meeting.

310 Law Administration: Fielded general 310 communications. Worked with Ladd Knotek, FWP, to amend Corey Miller's 310 decision letter to more accurately reflect comments made in meeting. Worked with Jerry Gregoire on a 310 application for Glacier Creek and reviewed the application submitted. After site inspection for Mr. Gregoire's 310 permit, I worked with him to try to figure out how he could get some engineering assistance. Worked with the consultant of Christine Straube regarding water right diversion on Rumble Creek. Spoke to Straube about the 310 permit, conducted a site visit with Leo Rosenthal, FWP, and Ms. Straube consultant to discuss ideas. Conducted a site visit for a water right diversion on Glacier Creek. Conducted a follow up site visit for a previous 310 bridge project on Cooney Creek. Followed up with Mr. Chef regarding vegetating road building project granted for crossing the East Fork of the East Fork of Twin Creek. Conducted a site visit for 310 on Petty Creek. Reviewed Gilbert Creek restoration plans, the two pertinent 310 application and attended the site visit. Reviewed 310 application for maintenance of the Big Flat Ditch.

Program/Outreach Management: Attended MACD/UC3 AIS Meeting. Reviewed projects for the RISE Challenge and wrote a blog post for WEN regarding the CD's consultation with one of the school groups. Visited the Purcell Range to assess the need for fire reclamation and reached out to DNRC regarding funding available. Spoke with Freedom Gardens representative, Chuck Holman, about CD assistance and partnering. Attended MACD EO meeting on grants and program funding. Met with Katie Racette of the Clark Fork Coalition regarding partnering on re-vegetation on Miller Creek. Reviewed CAPS Buena Vista waterline review La Valle Creek (South Fork), and Huson Acres Subdivision (two separate projects). Met with Josh Schroeder about educating planning, developers, and real estate agents about the 310 law. Worked on finalizing the Interlocal Agreement between Missoula County and the CD for office space in the Rocky Mountain Exploration Center.

Other Reports – None

New Business

Correspondence – Watkins reported receiving a request from the county to provide comment on the Buena Vista Community Waste Water Improvement Project, Phase II. The Board had no comments to provide.

Chuck Holman – Freedom Gardens and Frenchtown Public Schools – Watkins reported that Chuck Holman, Freedom Gardens board member, had discussed partnering with the District on efforts to work with the Frenchtown Public Schools. Holman was unable to participate in tonight's meeting.

MACD Dues – Bob Schroeder moved pay the 2021 Montana Association of Conservation Districts dues of \$17,000.00 in full. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motioned carried – unanimous.

NACD Dues – Bob Schroeder moved not to pay the 2021 National Association of Conservation Districts dues of \$775. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Other New Business – Nothing to report.

Old Business

Stakeholders:

DNRC State Lands – Lease Sites – Watkins reported providing DNRC language he and Pencek had drafted regarding 310 permitting requirements to include in their leases. DNRC replied they couldn't create language to address one local government's interest without addressing all local governments' concerns and, therefore, declined to use the drafted language. Pencek stated he hoped some of the points will be used by DNRC in their conversations with lessees.

MSU Extension/Weed District – Hall reported that he, Maclay, and Watkins have been working with Bryce Christiaens of Missoula County Weed District on language in the Interlocal Agreement between Missoula Conservation District and Missoula County for the shared office and meeting space at the new Rocky Mountain Gardens and Exploration Center to be built at the fairgrounds. The draft agreement was included in Supervisors' packets and screen shared for discussion. If approved and adopted, it would formalize the Conservation District's buy-in at \$250,000 for design and construction costs as an official partner to the project. Costs for other maintenance and operations expenses (e.g., utilities, janitorial services, information

technologies support, etc.) will be outlined in a separate operations agreement between the county and District.

A question was posed by the Board over the meaning of the first sentence of Section 7. Manner of Acquiring, Holding and Disposing Real and Personal Property Used in the Joint Undertaking in the draft agreement, which reads, “No personal or real property shall be acquired, held and disposed of by the County in fulfillment of this Agreement.” John Hart recommended striking this sentence from Section 7. The remaining portion of this section is appropriate.

Tim Hall moved to strike the first sentence of Section 7 of the draft Interlocal Agreement between Missoula Conservation District and Missoula County and approve the amended Interlocal Agreement between Missoula Conservation District and Missoula County for signature. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

All District Supervisors received an invitation today to the official groundbreaking ceremony that will take place on Friday, May 14, 2021 beginning at 1:30 pm. An 80th birthday celebration will follow for Jerry Marks, Department Head for Missoula Weed District and Extension.

Programs

District Grant Programs:

District Grants

Clearwater Resources Council – Pollinator Project funding request – Vogt reported the District received a proposal from Heidi Sedivy, CRC Program Manager, requesting \$4,500 from the District to fund Goal I of pollinator project. Goal I includes creating a native pollinator garden and habitat to increase native pollinator numbers and support biodiversity. The proposal was screen shared while Sedivy provided additional information on the proposal and other planned phases of the project. The Board asked specific questions regarding project costs and community buy-in. Sedivy agreed to provide additional information for the Grants Committee to review prior to the next Board meeting, specifically figures for overall project costs that show amounts for donated or in-kind contributions to the project.

Clearwater Resources Council – HB223 Sponsorship request – Seeley Lake Monitoring – Vogt reported the District received a request for HB223 grant sponsorship from Caryn Miske, CRC Executive Director, for a two-year, \$20,000 request to assist with water quality monitoring on six lakes in the Seeley Lake area. A one-page project summary was screen shared while Miske provided additional details and needs for the project. The sponsorship summary includes mention of \$110,000 of match funding to provide in the HB223 proposal.

Travis Greenwalt moved to direct District staff to work with Clearwater Resource Council on developing a full HB223 proposal for the District’s consideration. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motioned carried – unanimous.

Miske and Sedivy also mentioned CRC’s Earth Day event on April 22nd and asked about possible District participation. The Board directed staff to work with CRC on possible participation and a donation of pollinator seed for the event.

MCD Education Mini-Grant request – Montana Biocontrol Project – Vogt reviewed the request brought at the March 8, 2021 meeting by Melissa Maggio for a \$500 MCD Education Mini-Grant to assist in publishing updated versions of the Montana Biocontrol Field Guide.

Tim Hall moved to approve the \$500 Missoula Conservation District Education Mini-Grant to the Montana Biological Weed Control Coordination Project to assist in publishing updated versions of the Montana Biocontrol Field Guide. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Bridger Plant Materials Center donation request – Vogt reported the District received an annual donation request from the MACD Bridger Plant Materials Center. The minimum donation request is \$35 and a donation of \$50 or more includes recognition through the Center’s publication materials and website.

Travis Greenwalt moved to make a donation of \$50 to the MACD Bridger Plant Materials Center. Tim Hall seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp donation request – Vogt reported the District received the annual request to provide a donation to the MNRYC that will be held July 18-23, 2021 at the Lubrecht Experimental Forest. This is a request to provide a donation to support the overall camp; no request to sponsor or assist a specific camp participation has been received at this time. The Board decided to postpone action on a donation request to the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp.

DNRC Sponsored Grants

HB223 – Fairgrounds Greenhouse – Vogt updated the Board on participating in the virtual RCAC meeting on April 8, 2021 along with Watkins and Jerry Marks. At that time the RCAC voted to fund the \$20,000 proposal in full. DNRC will be drafting grant contracts for in the coming weeks and sending to grantees for signature. Bryce Christiaens thanked the staff and Board for their work on this proposal.

Pollinator Grant – UM Firewise Garden – Vogt updated the Board on receiving notice from Mary Hendrix this afternoon that this \$6,492 proposal will be funded in full. DNRC will be drafting the grant contract for signature in the coming weeks. Staff will notify the sponsored UM group and work on developing a grant contract between them and the District for signature once the DNRC grant contract is effective.

Purcell – Environmental Contingency Grant – Watkins provided an update on the current situation with Purcell and requested feedback from the Board. The Board expressed concern that Purcell submitted the application to DNRC without first contacting the District about the required sponsorship, that prior feedback from local DNRC Foresters that the project may not be a critical resource need, and what public benefit the project includes. The Board directed Watkins to again obtain local DNRC Forester feedback on whether to continue pursuing the project sponsorship.

Equipment Program – Vogt reported that Bart Morris picked up the no-till drill from Bob Schroeder on April 1, 2021 and performed some additional repairs before using the drill and returning it to the office. Staff saw to the replacement of the drill’s jack before it was rented again on April 9th. There have been multiple inquiries, reservations, and one cancellation due to the renter’s inability to rent a suitable tractor.

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Pollinator Program – Vogt reported that progress on this program has been slow due to the Administrative Assistant staff transition but that staff will soon begin dividing the one-acre’s worth of pollinator seed received from Lake County CD for local distribution.

Other Old Business – Watkins briefly discussed efforts he and Vogt have undertaken to cover the Administrative Assistant responsibilities during the current staff transition. Watkins stated that Vogt has gone above and beyond expectations and truly been an essential asset to the District during this time.

Payment of Bills

Vogt clarified that the \$775 NACD dues included on the monthly claims form will be marked Do Not Approve when sending to the county for processing. Supervisor quarterly reimbursement claims are also included this month.

Tim Hall moved to pay the bills and approve Supervisor quarterly reimbursement claims. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Petty Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge
04/12/21	Staples - HDMI/VGA Adapter	\$ 47.98
04/12/21	Harbor Freight Tools - Jack for no-till drill	\$ 27.99
03/31/21	Zoom - Monthly charges for Watkins & Vogt	\$ 31.10
03/29/21	Missoula Fresh Market - Flowers for Barb	\$ 14.98
	TOTAL	\$ 122.05

Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge
03/12/21	Missoula FFA - Envirothon Lodging	\$ 874.00
03/12/21	Montana Envirothon - Envirothon Registration	\$ 200.00
03/12/21	Flagship Program - 2020 DNRC Ed Mini Grant	\$ 498.50
	TOTAL	\$ 1572.50

Tax Mill Levy Account (Warrants/Claims)

Date	Description	Charge
03/09/21	MT State Fund 2 of 3 installment and payroll report	\$ 464.33
03/09/21	Verizon	\$ 105.02
03/09/21	Charter Communications	\$ 99.99
	TOTAL	\$ 669.34

Adjournment

Tim Hall moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 pm. Libby Maclay seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Voting Record – CD Supervisor	IN FAVOR	OPPOSED	ABSTAIN
Tim Hall	13	-	-
Libby Maclay	13	-	-
Travis Greenwalt	13	-	-
Paul Parson*	10	-	1
Art Pencek	13	-	-
Bob Schroeder*	11	-	-
Sidney Wills	13	-	-

*Supervisor Parson joined the meeting at 7:20 pm following the votes on COVID-19 Meeting Procedures and Minutes. Supervisor B. Schroeder left the meeting prior to the votes on Payment of Bills and Adjournment.

The next Missoula Conservation District meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 10, 2021, at 7:00 pm** via Zoom teleconference.

APPROVED