

Missoula Conservation District – May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Alternative Meeting Location – Virtual/Phone

Missoula Conservation District Attendees: Tim Hall, Chair; Travis Greenwalt, Treasurer; Paul Parson, Supervisor; Art Pencek, Supervisor; Bob Schroeder, Supervisor; Radley Watkins, Staff; Bryan Vogt, Staff; Jackie Vitas, Staff

Additional Attendees: John Hart (Senior Deputy County Attorney); Ladd Knotek (MT FWP); Leo Rosenthal (MT FWP); Brad Liermann (MT FWP); Ron Pierce (MS-08-21); Dave Rosgen (MS-08-21); Scott Tucker (MS-08-21); Paul Rossingol (MS-12-21); Marshall Healy (MS-13-21 & RP Mini-Grant); Jennifer Boyer (MS-14-21); Katie Racette (MS-15-21); Jeffery Stowell (MS-16-21); Chuck Holman (Freedom Gardens)

Absent: Libby Maclay, Vice Chair; Sid Will, Supervisor; 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 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.

Tim Hall moved to authorize the modification of normal procedures to allow for electronic signatures on all decision forms for the May 10, 2021 District meeting. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Minutes – Art Pencek moved to approve both the April 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes and the April 19, 2021 special Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) Meeting Minutes as presented. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Treasurer’s Report – Travis Greenwalt reported \$16,364 in the District’s checking account.

Brief introduction of Jackie Vitas – Watkins introduced Jackie Vitas as the District’s new Administrative Assistant who started on April 26th. Vitas introduced herself to everyone in attendance.

Public Comment – None

NRCS Report – Travis Lemke, NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist, was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following written report that was included in the Supervisor packet:

John and I are continuing to work on contract development work for preapprovals for the Upper Ninemile TIP, the High Tunnel, Organic and Honey Bee Pollinator EQIP Special Initiatives, and Wildfire Adapted

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Missoula. To-date all contracts have been obligated for funding for the Potomac Valley TIP. In addition, John and I have ranked 3 CSP applications for Missoula County. Preapproval selections for these will be known in the coming days. I will be on extended leave until June 11th. Stacy Welling (District Conservationist – Hamilton Field Office) will be the Acting Supervisory D.C. in my absence. She can be contacted at stacy.welling@usda.gov or 361-6186. As always, John Bowe is available for assistance as well. I will be unable to attend the May 2021 CD meeting.

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 reviewed the application and site inspection photos presented at the April 12, 2021 Board meeting. The proposed project involves re-meandering over 8,00 feet of stream to add channel sinuosity and restore the floodplain on Gilbert Creek. The project also includes constructing a private bridge over the new channel that will provide access to the south side of the creek on the Valley of the Moon Ranch. Since the April Board meeting, hundreds of pages of additional scientific documentation had been provided along with letters of support from organizations including MT FWP and Trout Unlimited (TU). Brad Liermann stated that the latest project plans were sound, but he would like to ensure that only native rocks harvested within the Gilbert Creek valley are used, that water is not rerouted or introduced into the new channel until August 1 due to cutthroat trout spawning concerns, and to specify that all other specifications of the project plans received on April 26, 2021 be followed as presented. Hall stated he agreed with these conditions and felt like all the concerns discussed during the April 6, 2021 site inspection had been incorporated into the new project documentation. Pierce stated these were very reasonable conditions. Dave Rosgen added that the project would be field fitted, if needed, during construction. Scott Tucker thanked the Board and invited them to the property to view the completed project.

Tim Hall moved to make Application No. MS-08-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating team member reports. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. Paul Parson abstained, all others in favor – motion carried.

- Max rock size of 24” in all structures in the C channel reach, and up to 30” in the B channel;
- All rock shall be native river alluvium;
- The restoration shall follow the Gilbert Creek Phase II Implementation plan dated April 26, 2021 and the Revised Bridge Design dated April 22, 2021, in conducting the work described in the Gilbert Creek Restoration Design dated April 26, 2021;
- No dewatering of Gilbert Creek until after August 1, 2021.

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

Watkins reviewed the application to clear downed woody debris along West Fork Petty Creek to allow for recreational access and presented photos taken during the May 3, 2021 site inspection with T. Greenwalt, L. Knotek, and Jim Merifield (David Merifield's father) attending. The application proposed clearing a 40' x 60' access site next to the creek, including the removal of tree roots. Greenwalt and Knotek reviewed their team member reports with recommendations to limit impacts of the project and locate activities next to a historic weir at this location. Watkins stated that Merifield was receptive to the recommendations provided during the site inspection.

Travis Greenwalt moved to make Application No. MS-10-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating team member reports. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- Limit area 'impacted' to 20 by 20 feet along the stream
- Do not remove roots or trunks of bushes and trees within 10 feet of creek
- Limit activities to pruning and minimal disturbance of ground for foot-traffic to the area
- Activity shall be in the alternative site near historic weir identified on site visit

MS-12-21 – Paul Rossignol – Graves Creek – Bridge, Cabin, and Campsite Construction
Geocode: 04-2090-20-2-01-02-0000

Watkins reported on a new application that includes construction of a small bridge across Graves Creek. The applicant owns both sides of the creek in this location and needs to be able to bring small equipment (e.g., lawnmower) across to maintain the new cabins and campgrounds. Watkins presented location slides, a schematic of the bridge included in the application, and photos taken during the May 3, 2021 site inspection with Greenwalt, Knotek, and Rossignol attending. Watkins stated that a silt fence had already been installed outside the 10-foot buffer zone to minimize any impacts from construction of the adjacent cabin and campsite. Rossignol added that the stream is 21-feet wide in this location and the bridge will be 26-feet in length to minimize disturbance to the streambanks. They are looking to maintain as much native vegetation as possible and may plant more hawthorns in the future to limit foot traffic in the riparian area. Greenwalt and Knotek reviewed their team member reports, with Knotek adding that the site was the most logical to locate the bridge based on upstream and downstream conditions.

Travis Greenwalt moved to make Application No. MS-12-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating team member reports. Tim Hall seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- No disturbance outside of identified bridge site
- No equipment access in stream and no riparian vegetation clearing outside of immediate site
- Any riprap should be installed on river right immediately adjacent to abutment
- Riparian fencing recommended and visitor access management designated for stream

Rossignol added that he is aware of a perched culvert on Graves Creek located on a county road above the project site that prevents fish passage. Knotek stated that he is happy to follow up with the county engineer regarding this matter as he feels the county is open to replacing the culvert to resolve this issue.

MS-13-21 – Marshall Healy – Clark Fork River – Vegetation Removal and Planting
Geocode: 04-2201-18-3-05-01-0000

Watkins reported on a new application that includes removing knapweed and establishing native vegetation at a new homesite located along the south bank of the Clark Fork River next to the Canyon River Golf Club off of Bandmann Trail. Watkins showed photos from his site visit on April 14, 2021, but no formal site inspection was conducted. Healey stated that he intends to conduct the project following the construction of his new home and that overseeding with native species via hydroseeding was recommended by a landscaper. The Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CCR) for the property require use of native species in the riparian zone. Healy would like assistance from the District on which species to use and also has an application submitted for a riparian planting mini-grant for this site. Healy explained that while most of the project is above the high-water mark of the river, the HOA and CCR does classify this area as riparian zone on the plat maps. The Board discussed preferred control methods for managing spotted knapweed, limitations of overseeding into smooth brome present on the site, and the site's location above the high-water mark of the Clark Fork River.

Art Pencek moved to make Application MS-13-21 Not A Project under the 310 Law as long as the project plans are followed as proposed in the permit application. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

MS-14-21 - Jennifer Boyer & Jeff Crouch - Rattle Snake Creek - Tree Removal
Geocode: 04-2200-14-2-15-02-0000

Tim Hall described the site location on Rattlesnake Creek while Watkins presented photos from a site visit, he and Hall conducted with Boyer on April 14, 2021. No formal site inspection was conducted. A call was initially received by District staff regarding the need to cut down cottonwood trees along the creek through possible use of an Emergency Notification since the trees posed a hazard to property and public safety. Photos from the site visit shows one of the trees with a visible split through the trunk and an old children's play structure (i.e., tree fort) built in the trees. Boyer added that one trunk is leaning towards her property while two trunks lean towards the neighboring property. An arborist has recommended their removal.

Tim Hall moved to make Application No. MS-14-21 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.

MS-15-21 - Clark Fork Coalition - Katie Racette - Miller Creek - Channel Alteration/Restoration
Geocode: 04-2093-26-1-01-08-0000

Watkins reported on a new application from the Clark Fork Coalition (CFC) for channel alteration and restoration along Miller Creek where Bear Run Creek flows into it. Watkins presented location slides and designs included with the application along with photos taken during the May 3, 2021 site inspection with Greenwalt, Knotek, Racette, and Thomas Leik (landowner) attending. Racette stated that this project is very similar to what was done on Spooner Creek Ranch in 2019 to improve aquatic conditions and includes lowering the flood plain, channel re-meandering, addition of large woody debris (LWD), installation of brush mattresses, and planting of containerized trees and shrubs. The entire riparian area will be fenced, and individual cottonwoods will have additional browse protection. CFC also has a volunteer program that helps irrigate and maintain plantings on their projects. Greenwalt and Knotek reviewed their team member reports and recommendations resulting from the site inspection.

Travis Greenwalt moved to make Application No. MS-15-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating team member reports. Art Pencek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- All planted cottonwoods shall be fenced, and the entire riparian area shall be fenced.
- Fish salvage shall be planned and executed in reaches when channel relocation planned.
- Large wood complexes/structures shall include stems >24" dbh with root fans attached and shall be anchored into banks to prevent transport.
- Project implementation (instream work) time window: July 15 – December 31.
- The following riparian plant success criteria shall apply: 75% survival in one year, and at least 50% survival at two years.

MS-16-21 - Jeffery Stowell - Glacier Creek - Point of Diversion
Geocode - 04-2991-02-1-01-05-0000

Watkins reported on a new application to replace an irrigation point of diversion (POD) off a side channel of Glacier Creek. Watkins presented the hand drawn design included with the application along with photos taken during the May 5, 2021 site inspection with P. Parson, L. Rosenthal, and J. Stowell attending. There is a water right associated with this POD. Stowell stated that he wants to make use of the water rights for the property, but the streambank has migrated several feet away from the present headgate location making it nonfunctional. He wants to modernize the system so that it is functional and ecologically friendly. Rosenthal discussed the need to include a 1/4" mesh fish screen, and the Board discussed the need and different options for including a flow meter on the irrigation system. Stowell stated he is willing to include both the fish screen and flow meter in the project. Rosenthal and Parson reviewed their team member reports.

Tim Hall moved to make Application No. MS-16-21 a project for review under the 310 Law and to approve the project with modifications incorporating team member reports. Bob Schroeder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

- A Parshall Flume flow meter shall be installed.
- All equipment shall remain on the top of the bank.
- Rock shall be placed from above.
- A fish screen of 1/4" shall be installed at the opening of the headgate.

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 reminded everyone that the Board is still waiting to hear that work has been completed under 310 Permit No. MS-31-20 so that a site visit can be completed to determine if Complaint No. CM-06-20 has been resolved and can be removed from the agenda. Watkins said he will reach out to the Ridegs' for an update.

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

Hall stated that the Board is waiting to hear that work has been completed under 310 Permit No. MS-32-20 so that a site visit can be completed to determine if Violations No. CM-08-19 and CM-02-20 have been resolved and can be removed from the agenda. Watkins stated he will contact Schlinger for an update.

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

See CM-08-19 above for an update.

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 reported that Graumann does keep in contact regarding the status of work conducted under MS-04-21 to resolve Existing Violation No. CM-09-20. The City of Missoula has requested Graumann fence some of the woody vegetation to protect it from beavers.

310 Inquiries & Issues

Manor Blvd wetland issue – Watkins reported being contacted regarding work implemented at a wetland location near Manor Blvd south of Lolo. Water from the wetland may drain into a nearby creek. Watkins contacted Nathan Greene with USACE who verified the work being conducted is permitted. B. Schroeder added that this is the location where return flow from the Lolo Maclay Ditch drains to.

Bank erosion at Cobblestone Condo Association – Clark Fork River – Watkins reported being contacted by the HOA regarding their concerns over beavers eating large cottonwood trees that might subsequently lean over, prying the roots from the bank of the river and leading to increased erosion. The HOA representative informed Watkins that the Clark Fork Coalition has a beaver mitigation program and will be hosting volunteers to help wrap trees by the river. They also discussed proper management of the HOA owned riparian area that is bisected by a paved trail owned by the City of Missoula. Watkins will keep the Board up to date of any continuing discussions.

Culverts needed on Mill Creek property - Watkins reported that this matter will likely turn into a 310 Application and that he has a site visit scheduled next week.

Tree removal on Morrell Creek - Watkins reported visiting a site with P. Parson during the May 5, 2021 site inspections to discuss the landowner's concern over a fallen tree they wished to remove. Parson was able to convince the landowner to leave the tree in the creek.

Numerous violations on Petty Creek - Greenwalt mentioned observing several apparent 310 Violations on West Fork Petty Creek during this month's site inspections. Greenwalt stated he would like to see a letter drafted and sent to all landowners informing them of the 310 Law that includes examples of both good and bad riparian management practices. Parson suggested a similar letter be sent to all landowners within the District's jurisdiction on Rattlesnake Creek due to observation of similar issues there. Parson added that this

letter should emphasize the amount of work and money spent on habitat improvements. The Board agreed that staff should work on drafting these letters and have John Hart review them before they are sent out.

Reports

County Attorney – John Hart reported that the Missoula County Health Officer rescinded the mask mandate to only a recommendation effective today.

Montana FWP - Ladd Knotek stated he had nothing to report. Leo Rosenthal and Brad Liermann had left the meeting earlier and did not provide a report.

Bitter Root RC&D – Libby Maclay was absent and did not provide a written report.

Watershed Groups – Watkins stated that Heather Brighton with Lolo Watershed Group reached out to him expressing interest in developing a project in cooperation with Missoula Conservation District.

District Committees – Tim Hall reported that as of yesterday Watkins had been employed with the District for 6 months and his review with the Personnel Committee needed to be scheduled soon. The Budget Committee will need to meet soon to develop a recommended Fiscal Year 2022 Budget that will begin on July 1, 2021. The Grants Committee will also be meeting prior to the next Board meeting to review several grant proposals and staff recommendations for a relaunch of the District's Grants Program.

Planning Board Update – Josh Schroeder was absent and did not provide a report.

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

Jackie Vitas - Administrative Assistant - April 26, 2021 – May 10, 2021

Office Operations: Received and sorted agency mail daily and followed up on District business correspondence. Uploaded and distributed April meeting minutes. Drafted agenda for May 10, 2021 meeting and posted March meeting minutes to District website. Posted Agenda to the District website. Training for Salesforce and QuickBooks. Ordered new magnetic nametags for Rad and myself.

Stream Permit Processing: Updated PowerPoint presentation for May 10, 2021 virtual meeting. Added May 10, 2021 agenda to website. Updated 310 Spreadsheet with new 310 applications. Created files for 5 new 310 application. Updated Box with 310 application. 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 FWP reps. Created site inspection schedule and folders for May 3 & 5, 2021.

Bookkeeping, Accounting, Reporting, and Recordkeeping: Prepared Profit/Loss and Balance reports for May 10, 2021 meeting. Reconciled DA Davidson February statement. Completed bills claims form for May 10, 2021 meeting. Entered deposits and checks into QuickBooks. Made 3 bank deposits for the no-till drill.

Bryan Vogt - Program Specialist

Office Administration: Finalized April 12th Board meeting packets and emailed it to Supervisors. Attended and took notes at the April 12th virtual Board meeting. Sent approved monthly claims and quarterly Supervisor reimbursement claims to the county for payment. Posted approved March 8th meeting minutes to website. Drafted April 12, 2021 meeting minutes. Created and posted agenda for special April 19, 2021 joint meeting

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of MCD and Missoula Valley Water Quality District Advisory Committee to hear an update on the Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) project. Attended and took notes at the April 19th CMZ meeting. Updated the site inspection and agenda deadlines on the District's website calendar. Create draft agenda for May 10th District meeting. Mailed 310 decision letters and grant award checks. Updated authorized user and point of contact information for Verizon business account. Received and sorted agency mail. Set up desktop computer and workspace for use by Jackie Vitas. Provided staff training on QuickBooks accounts reconciliation and preparation of monthly claims and quarterly Supervisor claims forms. Assisted with Administrative Assistant orientation including monthly meeting preparation.

Program Assistance: Assisted Watkins, as requested, with 310 Administration including decision letter templates, preparation of Form 273s, and discussion with NRCS on a wetlands inquiry as it pertains to the District's 310 Law jurisdiction. Provided staff training on use of Salesforce to track 310 permitting. Coordinated for signatures on new DNRC grant agreements: HB223 grant (Fairground Greenhouse) and Pollinator Grant (UM Firewise Garden). Received and processed new Riparian Planting Mini-Grant application. Coordinated with Watkins on packaging of pollinator seed mix and delivery of some pollinator seed to Clearwater Resource Council (CRC) for their Earth Day event. Meeting with Watkins to provide background on District's involvement with the NRCS Local Working Group and how it can guide/direct MCD's strategic planning efforts, including Grants Program direction. Provided Watkins background on District's Cooperative Working Agreement with NRCS. Participated in CD's Roles and Responsibilities for the DNRC Range Improvement Loan Program webinar training on April 28th.

Technical Assignments: Continued management of the no-till drill rental program: took calls for 8 rental inquiries, managed 7 rentals, completed departure and return checklists with renters, processed and filed rental paperwork. Updated COVID-19 drill rental protocols based on latest county guidelines. Performed maintenance and repairs, as needed, including repair of flat tire on no-till drill. With Watkins, saw to purchase of repair and maintenance supplies for no-till drill. Assisted renters with questions on no-till drill calibration and cleaning. Changed the location of the drill parking spot based on building owner's continued request.

Communication and Outreach: Drafted and mailed award letter with check to the Missoula FFA Envirothon teams. Provide MCD logo to include on the UM Firewise Garden website and the revised Montana Weed Biocontrol Field Guide. Corresponded with Eric Rannestad at MACD regarding issues with the District website not loading correctly. Correspondence with CRC regarding their Pollinator Project grant proposal and 223 grant proposal. Sent Grants Committee an email on three proposal/sponsorship requests for their review and comment.

Radley Watkins - Resource Conservationist

Office Administration: Finalized April 12th Board meeting packets and prepared for the virtual District Board meeting. Followed up on actions taken at meeting and reviewed/approved meeting minutes. Facilitated joint meeting of MCD and Missoula Valley Water Quality District Advisory Committee to hear an update on the Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) project. Attended and took notes at the April 19th CMZ meeting, and wrote minutes. Prepared for May 10th District meeting. Updated authorized user and point of contact information for Verizon business account with Vogt. Onboarded new Administrative Assistant Jackie Vitas, and worked to establish all accounts associated needed to run the office. Looked into getting petty checking debit cards for Vitas and Vogt. Approved and processed timesheets for staff. Worked with Weed District and Healthy Acres Healthy Communities Foundation to coordinate the groundbreaking for the new Rocky Mountain Gardens and Exploration Center. Attended County Commissioner's Board meeting to answer questions

surrounding the Interlocal Agreement between Missoula County and the District and witness the signing of the agreement.

310 Law Administration: Conducted a 310-site inspection with Chairman Hall for a tree removal on Rattlesnake Creek. Conducted a 310-site visit on the Clark Fork for removal of knapweed vegetation and restoration of a riparian area. Attended a site visit to the restoration areas in the Nine Mile drainage with Supervisor Parson and Knotek, FWP. Reviewed all incoming 310 permits for completeness and process applications. Conducted two days of site visits with Supervisors Greenwalt and Parson around the county in preparation for the May District Meeting. Developed new 310 completion letter with Vitas.

Program Management: Met with Vogt to get updates and order parts for No-Till-Drill in 2021. Met with Vogt to go over re-launch of grant program. Worked with Vogt on determining how to move forward with new requests for District financial support. Visited with DNRC foresters and NRCS employees to determine appropriateness of the verbal request for support from Mr. Purcell and reported findings to the Grants Committee. Informed Mr. Purcell that the District determined there is not enough public benefit or conservation merit to pursue his DNRC Environmental Contingency Grant sponsorship. Attended first half of the April AIS District meeting. Had a partnering meeting with Kylie Paul from CAPS Open Space program. Reached out to Morgan Valliant, Ecosystem Services Superintendent with Missoula Parks and Rec. to discuss partnering opportunities and set up June 18th meeting. Attended partner meeting for Clark Fork River access point development around Missoula.

Other Reports – None

New Business

Correspondence – Watkins did not have anything to report. Vogt reported on receiving notice of the dates of the upcoming Montana Range Days on June 21-23, 2021 in Dillon and the Montana Youth Range Camp on July 26-29, 2021 at the C Bar N Ranch in Augusta. Vogt also reported on receiving an annual update letter and request for support from the MT Biological Weed Control Coordination Project. B. Schroeder suggested that the Grants Committee discuss this item for recommendation at the next Board meeting.

Chuck Holman – Freedom Gardens and Frenchtown Public Schools – Holman introduced himself and described his involvement with Freedom Gardens and their work with Frenchtown Public Schools to incorporate various aspects of sustainable agriculture and land stewardship into their education programs. Freedom Gardens has recently obtained a 5-acre plot, half with irrigation, that they are adding to this program. Holman already rented the District's no-till drill to seed some of the area this year and has approached the District staff about the potential to have use of the no-till drill donated in the future. Hall expressed appreciation for the description of the project and encouraged additional conversation with staff about future opportunities. Watkins stated the District can provide Holman with some pollinator seed for their current efforts. The Board also discussed encouraging Frenchtown School to start an FFA program.

Channel Migration Zone meeting outcomes – Watkins reminded Supervisors that a link was sent to be able to view the presentation given at the April 19, 2021 special CMZ meeting. The Board discussed potential future uses of the CMZ study findings and stated it would be beneficial if the County Commissioners were given the same presentation as there are a lot of planning and infrastructure entities that could benefit from having this information. Watkins stated he is trying to be respectful to the Missoula Valley Water Quality District in how they go about releasing information from the study.

Permissive Mill Levy – Watkins reported on his Board-directed work to gather information on what is required for the District to pass a permissive mill levy that would go towards providing increased employee health benefits. Watkins stated that by his calculations, passage of the permissive mill levy would raise property taxes less than one dollar per year for the average Missoula County household. A public hearing would need to be held in June to take comments on the proposed permissive mill levy before the Board votes to approve it. The matter does not go to the public for a vote. Watkins requested permission to continue proceeding with input from the Personnel and Budget Committees. The Board directed him to continue and set a public hearing in June.

310 Presentation to the Consolidated Planning Board – Watkins reported on a presentation he gave to the Consolidated Planning Board where he used a slide from the CMZ presentation to discuss the 310 Law in relation to a proposed subdivision development. Few on the Planning Board were familiar with the 310 Law requirements, and Watkins stated they were receptive to his offer of providing a presentation to Missoula County Community & Planning Services (CAPS) staff.

Other New Business – Nothing to report.

Old Business

Stakeholders:

DNRC State Lands – Lease Sites – Watkins reported he did reach out to Kristen Baker-Dickinson about having a meeting. She replied stating that DNRC already has language in their leases essentially requiring compliance with the 310 Law. Watkins will still request a meeting with Baker-Dickinson for further discussion.

MSU Extension/Weed District – Watkins reminded the Board of the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new building that will take place this Friday, May 14, 2021 beginning at 1:30 pm. All District Supervisors are invited to this event.

Programs

District Grant Programs:

District Grants

Clearwater Resources Council – Pollinator Project funding request – Vogt reported he received an updated proposal from CRC this past Friday that the Grants Committee will review prior to the June Board meeting.

Riparian mini grant – Clark Fork – Vogt reported on a Riparian Planting Mini Grant application (RP-01-21) received from Marshall Healy for the same site associated with 310 Application No. MS-13-21.

Tim Hall moved to postpone action on RP-01-21 until it is reviewed by the Grants Committee for further recommendation. Travis Greenwalt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp donation request – Vogt reminded the Board of 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 participant has been received at this time. The Board decided to continue to postpone action on a donation request to the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp.

DNRC Sponsored Grants

HB223 Sponsorship request – CRC Seeley Lake monitoring project – Vogt reported that CRC has requested the Board postpone any action on this request so that they can provide the Grants Committee additional information to consider prior to the June Board meeting. The next HB223 proposal deadline is in mid-July.

HB223 – Fairgrounds Greenhouse – update – Vogt reported that the signed, fully enacted grant agreement has been received back from DNRC.

Pollinator Grant – UM Firewise Garden – update – Vogt reported that the signed, fully enacted grant has been received back from DNRC. He will work on developing a contract between the District and Dr. Cara Nelson with the UM Firewise Garden group for this sponsored grant project.

Purcell – Environmental Contingency Grant – Watkins reported visiting again with the local DNRC Forester before notifying Purcell that Missoula CD was not going to be sponsoring this grant proposal.

Equipment Program – Vogt reported that the current no-till drill rental program has been running smoothly with multiple rentals going out over the last month. The drill has been moved to the back of the office parking lot after continued requests from the building owner. Vogt added that he had seen to the repair of a flat tire on the no-till drill and ordered torsion springs to replace damaged ones on the drill.

Pollinator Program – Vogt reported on the progress of packaging the pollinator wildflower seed that was received from Lake County CD.

Other Old Business – Hall wanted to bring to everyone’s attention that the Missoula Conservation District is officially 75-years old as of this week.

Payment of Bills

Travis Greenwalt moved to pay the bills. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Petty Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge
4/23/21	Harbor Freight Tools - Parts for the No-Till Drill	\$ 30.05
4/28/21	USPS - Stamps	\$ 55.00
5/3/21	Amazon.com - Seed Packets	\$ 37.83
5/3/10	Zoom - Month Payment for Watkins & Vogt	\$ 31.10
5/10/21	Splash Car Wash - Clean work vehicle	\$ 12.59
	TOTAL	\$166.57

Checking Account

Date	Description	Charge
4/15/21	Montana Biological Weed Project	\$ 500.00
4/15/21	MACD	\$ 50.00
	TOTAL	\$ 550.00

Tax Mill Levy Account (Warrants/Claims)

Date	Description	Charge
4/14/21	MACD Dues	17,000.00
4/14/21	Verizon	\$ 105.02
4/14/21	Charter Communications	\$ 99.99
4/14/21	Montana State Fund (installment 3 of 3)	\$ 194.54
4/14/21	SWCDM (new laptop software)	\$ 94.00
4/19/21	Missoulian Courier Communications	\$ 146.60
	TOTAL	\$ 17,640.15

Adjournment

Travis Greenwalt moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Paul Parson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried – unanimous.

Voting Record – CD Supervisor	IN FAVOR	OPPOSED	ABSTAIN
Tim Hall	12	-	-
Libby Maclay - absent	-	-	-
Travis Greenwalt	12	-	-
Paul Parson	11	-	1
Art Pencek	12	-	-
Bob Schroeder*	11	-	-
Sidney Wills - absent	-	-	-

* Supervisor B. Schroeder stepped out of the meeting during the discussion and vote on MS-14-21.

The next Missoula Conservation District meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm** via Zoom teleconference.