

**SHERIDAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
October 9, 2007 @ 10:00 AM  
USDA Building – Conference Room  
119 N Jackson – Plentywood, Montana**

**SCCD Supervisors Present:**

Chairman: Jeff Wivholm  
Supervisor: Jon Bolstad  
Supervisor: Tim Holte  
Supervisor: Todd Marsh  
Supervisor: Kent Nathe  
Associate: Steve Hove

**SCCD Supervisors Absent:**

Supervisor: Rom Hedges  
Supervisor: Manuel Vazquez

**SCCD Staff:**

Judy Benson, District Administrator  
Mickey McCall, Technician

**NRCS:**

Monica Friedrich

**Guests:**

Kathy Holte

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman, Jeff Wivholm called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

**Public Comments:**

No Public Comments.

**Approval of Minutes – September 11, 2007 Meeting**

After reviewing the September 11, 2007 minutes, Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the minutes as true and correct. Kent Nathe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**Financial Report:**

After review of the Financial Reports and discussion of the Accounts Receivable Aging Summary, it was suggested that we send a monthly statement to those with past due balances along with a note stating that 1-1/2 percent finance charge will be added if not paid by the end of October. Todd Marsh noted that the pickup

purchase be moved from an expense account to an asset account. Jon Bolstad made a motion to accept the Financial Statements with corrections for the period of September 11, 2007 to October 9, 2007 and the addition of finance charge on past due balances. Kent Nathe seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

### **Bills to Pay**

The expenditures totaling \$11,084.70 as listed on the Check Detail dated September 11 through October 9 (today) were reviewed. That figure included the regular monthly bills for September, as well as payroll, health insurance, and payroll taxes. The Unpaid Bills Detail summary was reviewed. Kent Nathe made a motion to approve the total expenditures. Jon Bolstad seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. The checks were signed by Jeff Wivholm and Tim Holte.

### **NRCS – Monica Friedrich**

- NRCS office is now part of new area, renamed “Miles City Area.” Supervisors can request new Area Conservationist, David Pratt, to attend a board meeting if interested. Might be a good time to review the Cooperative Working Agreement.
- Field office is busy catching up on contract payments, modifications, and practice installation. Fiscal year changed to 2008 on October 1.
- EQIP ranking deadline for 2008 will be November 15, 2007. Half of anticipated contract funds need to be obligated by the end of the year. No work group meeting will be held this year, as the State Office decided to roll over 2007 funding categories and ranking.
- City of Plentywood returned Box Elder Dam inspection report. Most of the corrective actions have already been taken (removal of shrubs, weed control.)
- Amber McCall finished working here Sept. 21 to return to college. We will probably hire Buckie McCoy to finish up the filing project with the last of the Capacity Building funds (about \$600).
- Surveyed the proposed Fitness Center location at Dr. Stoner’s request. The information was provided to the architect to determine how the building will fit into the landscape.
- Montana Salinity Control Assoc., Jane Holzer, was here to evaluate saline seep applications for 2008 EQIP funds.
- Assisted Eric Nielsen with plans to cross wetlands under proposed pivot irrigation.

Attempted to submit a SAFE (Continuous CRP for sharp-tailed grouse habitat) proposal, but missed the deadline. Sheridan County is included in a proposal developed by Pheasants Forever. The only drawback is that a minimum of 160 acres must be offered, and that is too large an area for most producers in this county

**Unfinished Business:**

- Schedule Meeting Time – Nov. 13 Meeting  
The regular scheduled November 13th SCCD board meeting will fall during the week of the MACD (Montana Association of Conservation Districts) convention in Bozeman. The board rescheduled the next meeting for Tuesday, November 6 at 11:00 a.m. Future meetings through the winter months will also be held at 11:00 a.m.
- Memorandum of Understanding – Montana Bureau of Mines  
The Memorandum of Understanding between SCCD and the Montana Bureau of Mines that was reviewed by the board members and signed by Chairman Jeff Wivholm at the September meeting has been signed and returned to us by the Montana Bureau of Mines.
- Area I Meeting- Jordan, September 26  
Jeff Wivholm, Jon Bolstad, Mickey McCall and Judy Benson reported on the Area 1 meeting they had attended in Jordan on Wednesday, September 26, 2007. Jeff Wivholm was elected Area I Director to the MACD Board to serve a two-year term. Jeff was formerly serving a one year position. Willie Bernard of Daniels County was elected to fulfill the one-year term. There were no resolutions from Area I. The Area I door prize donation for MACD convention, a leather jacket with the MACD emblem, selected by the host county was shown for approval. Each district office will be billed for a portion of the cost. Agency and Partner reports were given by MACD, DNRC, Montana Salinity Control, NRCS, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the US Army Corp of Engineers. Barron Crawford of Lewistown of the CMR National Wildlife Refuge gave presentation on Procedure / Process in writing new Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Clayton Phipps of Garfield County and Chris Marrow, paleontologist, gave a presentation on the unique dinosaur find in Garfield County. The rare discovery of a plant-eater and a meat-eater is believed to be the first in North America.
- Pickup Accessories  
Mickey McCall reported to the Board that Bob Southland had put the logo on the pickup. Mickey looked at the tool box at Wivholm's and found it to be in good condition and that it would fit the pickup. Tim Holte made a motion to purchase the tool box from Barbara Wivholm at a cost of \$150.00. Kent Nathe seconded. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

## SCCD Technician's Report – Mickey McCall

### Aquifer

- Well measurements on schedule
- Met with Jon Reiten concerning irrigation wells owned by Rocky Nyby.

### Big Muddy 319 grant

- Work continues on data compilation.

### USGS

- USGS project continuing with installation of wells in wetlands.
- 27 sites have two wells installed with 3 sites to go.
- 16 sites have soil samples and vegetation surveys completed.
- Detailed GPS topographic surveys have been completed on 12 sites.
- Soil moisture and greenhouse gas samples have been completed on 12 sites.
- NE MT Wetlands Coordination meeting in Medicine Lake Thursday, 10/11/07.

### R C & D

- Next quarterly meeting is October 17<sup>th</sup> in Glendive.

### Misc.

- Attended MACD Area meeting in Jordan.
- Attended Montana Salinity meeting in Culbertson.
- Updated Web Site

### Coming Up

- NE MT Wetlands Coordination meeting in Medicine Lake Thursday, 10/11/07.
- RC & D meeting October 17<sup>th</sup> in Glendive.
- Water Reservation seminar in Billings on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Wind / Solar Energy meeting October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Courthouse.
- Water Rights Sales & Transfers seminar in Helena on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

### New Business:

- MACD Convention – Nov. 13-15  
MACD Convention is to be held Nov. 13 – 15 at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman. Jeff Wivholm, Mickey McCall and Judy Benson plan to attend. Tim Holte, Todd Marsh and Jon Bolstad will notify Judy closer to the Nov. 2 registration deadline as to whether they will be able to attend. A block of 6 rooms has been reserved pending the registration deadline.

- Auction Item for MACD Convention  
Tim Holte made a motion to purchase a metal sign with a pheasant flying over a cedar post from Clifford Johnson of Westby at a cost of \$80.00 as the auction item for the MACD Convention from our district. Todd Marsh seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present,
- Research Farm Donation to ARS Travel  
The donation request from the Research Farm for ARS travel was again tabled pending further information.
- Workshop on Minutes – Oct. 18 - Billings  
The State of Montana, Professional Development Center is hosting a workshop (Meeting-Ful Minutes) on taking public minutes to be held at the DEQ conference room in Billings on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>. Tim Holte made a motion to approve registration and travel for Judy Benson to attend. Todd Marsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Judy will check on the availability of grant funds to cover a portion of the expense.
- Admin Meeting – Oct. 23 – Terry  
Judy will not be attending the Admin Meeting in Terry on Tuesday, October 23, as she will be attending the Workshop on Minutes instead.
- Water Reservation Training Seminar – Nov. 2 – Billings  
A Water Reservation Training Seminar will be held in Billings on Friday, November 2. Further information on the seminar will be forthcoming. Tim Holte made a motion for Mickey McCall and Judy Benson to attend. Todd Marsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously the supervisors present. Supervisors also indicated that they may be interested in attending.
- Salary Increase  
Mickey McCall requested a salary increase. Following discussion, Todd Marsh made a motion to give Mickey McCall and Judy Benson each a \$1.00 per hour increase. Kent Nathe seconded. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

The pass-around files were reviewed by the members present. .

#### **Adjournment:**

- Jon Bolstad motioned to adjourn the meeting. Todd Marsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

- Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, Nov 6, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy A. Benson,  
District Administrator

Approved,

Jeff Wivholm  
Chairman  
Date: Nov. 6, 2007