



## SHERIDAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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119 N. Jackson Street – Plentywood, Montana 59254  
Phone 406-765-1801 ~ Fax 406-765-2356

**Sheridan County Conservation District**  
**Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 8, 2008 @ 6:00 PM**  
**USDA Building – Conference Room**  
**119 N Jackson – Plentywood, Montana**

### MINUTES

**SCCD Supervisors Present:**

Chairman: Jeff Wivholm  
Supervisor: Jon Bolstad  
Supervisor: Rom Hedges  
Supervisor: Tim Holte  
Supervisor: Todd Marsh  
Associate Supervisor: Steve Hove

**SCCD Supervisors Absent:**

Supervisor: Kent Nathe  
Supervisor: Manuel Vazquez

**SCCD Staff:**

Judy Benson, District Administrator  
Mickey McCall, Technician

**NRCS:**

Monica Friedrich, District Conservationist

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman, Jeff Wivholm called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Public Comments:**

No Public Comments.

**Approval of Minutes – May 13, 2008 Meeting**

After reviewing the May 13, 2008 minutes, Tim Holte made a motion to approve the minutes as true and correct. Jon Bolstad seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**Financial Report:**

After review of the Financial Reports, including the bank balances, the deposit detail, the profit and loss, and balance sheet. Jon Bolstad made a motion to accept the Financial Statements. Tim Holte seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**Bills to Pay**

The expenditures totaling \$28,578.69 as listed on the Check Detail dated May 13 through July 7 were reviewed. In the figure are the regular monthly bills for May and June as well as payroll, health insurance, and Montana State withholding, trees, mesh, pickup tires, Mt. Tech for Aquifer and DEQ projects, and Western States Insurance. There are no unpaid bills at this time. Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the total expenditures as listed. Tim Holte seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. The checks were signed by Jeff Wivholm and Tim Holte.

**NRCS Report – Monica Friedrich**

- Processed approximately 40 payments in the past 2 months, primarily for cropland related practices.
- Measured Box Elder Dam, which had essentially maintained its water level since the initial reading. Scheduled to measure monthly on the 15th.
- CRP Critical Feed Use is being offered to those with contracts that can be hayed or grazed after August 2 without repayment to FSA. This has been offered due to the low availability and high cost of livestock feed.
- Sodbusting is a major issue again, due to the expectation of high grain prices. Policy has been clarified, and any requests to break native sod will be answered with a letter warning of consequences. One new consequence is ineligibility for the CSP program on those acres.
- New Farm Bill finally coming out. We will be receiving additional funds for this year's EQIP and WHIP programs. Offices will be ranking and writing new contracts by August.
- A CRP Special Initiative under EQIP will be offered to producers who have contracts which expired last fall or will expire this fall. This money will be used to develop livestock water and fencing for purposes of incorporating the CRP into a grazing system and prevent breaking it out again for crop production.
- Conservation Stewardship Program (formerly Conservation Security Program-CSP) will be offered in every county in 2009. This provides payments to producers who are already practicing good conservation.
- We are provided assistance to FSA on their Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). We will likely end up designing about 6 pipelines, spring developments, tanks. Although the program was approved, no funding has been received yet.
- The new State Engineer for NRCS, Steve Becker, will be here July 21 to inspect Box Elder Dam for safety purposes. This is not the regular Operation & Maintenance (O&M) inspection we typically perform annually.

## SCCD Technician's Report – Mickey McCall

May, 2007 - July 8, 2008 Meeting

### Aquifer

- Well measurements on schedule.
- Roger Schmitz has paid for his past due water use.
- Collected sample from 84-22A for quality testing for Tom Enander.
- Attempted to collect sample from Enander well 23 Test. Pump shorted out. Unable to collect sample. Ordered new pump - \$290.

### Big Muddy 319 grant

- DEQ is developing SAP (Sampling and Analysis Plan).
- Sap will include 12 sites on the Big Muddy, Beaver Creek, and Whitetail Creek, including a new site at the confluence of the Big Muddy and the Missouri, and 6 sites on Lake Creek, Sand Creek, and Cottonwood Creek.
- District will be required to employ a private contractor to take samples with District supervision. DEQ will provide all necessary documentation and forms.
- Attempted to have meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> with DEQ personnel to finalize SAP, but individuals had gone to Seattle.

### USGS

- Received letter of intent to exercise Option line item 2 in contract for 2008.
- One-half of the well measurements were taken on May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Crew from Bozeman here week of 6-16-08, and crew from Jamestown will be here June 12, 13, & 14.

### R C & D

- Next quarterly meeting is July 16 at fort Keogh in Miles City.

### Trees

- Watered trees through the 16<sup>th</sup> of May.
- Plated trees for John George, and Gail Strandlund.

### Misc.

- Wrote and submitted 223 grant request for storage container.
- Attended RCAC meeting and 223 grant review in Helena on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 223 grant request approved for \$4,500 for storage container.
- Assisted Jon Reiten with Data Loggers in Sidney.
- Printed architectural drawings for Prairie Wind fitness Center.

- Replaced trees on pickup and mounted toolbox in bed of pickup.
- Worked on Newsletter.

**June, 2007** - July 8, 2008 Meeting

Aquifer

- Well measurements on schedule.
- Water levels are at expected levels.
- Jon Reiten will be here the last week of July to run aquifer tests at Enander's proposed pivot area.

Big Muddy 319 grant

- DEQ has developed a SAP (Sampling and Analysis Plan).
- DEQ has issued a request for bids from private contractors to do the sampling and lab testing. Bid openings will be July 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> via teleconference. Supervisors are invited to participate.
- Private contractor will take samples with District supervision. DEQ will provide all necessary documentation and forms.
- Sampling should take place in early August.

USGS

- Personnel from Bozeman and Jamestown here this week (July 7-11) drilling and testing wells and collecting weather data.

R C & D

- Next quarterly meeting is July 16 at fort Keogh in Miles City.

Misc.

- Attended Froid Research Farm Tour.
- Published July-September Newsletter.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Froid Farm Tour  
The Froid Farm Tour held Thursday, June 26 at the Research Farm was discussed by those that attended. Due to rain, the outdoor tours were cancelled. All reports and discussions were held inside with a Steak BBQ following. Jon Bolstad, Mickey McCall and Judy Benson represented SCCD and Monica Friedrich and Tim Solberg represented NRCS.
- 310 Permit  
Sheridan County submitted a 310 Application for a dredging project to be done at the Raymond Dam. It was determined that it was not a project as it did not involve a perennial stream. The form was signed by Supervisors

Tim Holte, Todd Marsh, Jeff Wivholm and Manual Vazquez and returned to Doug Smith, Sheridan County Planner.

**New Business:**

- 319 Big Muddy  
The District has received a Scope of Work Agreement from DEQ requesting that an independent contractor do the sampling and reporting. Solicitations for a contractor have been submitted by DEQ with a July 9, 2008 deadline. A public meeting via teleconference will be held to select a contractor. The date will be determined by DEQ after the bidding has closed.
- 223 Grant for Storage Trailer  
The District was awarded a 223 Grant in the amount of \$4,500.00 for the purchase of a storage container. The Board reviewed the price quotes from H & H Trucking in Minot at \$3,700.00 plus delivery charges, Daryl Kleyer in Williston at \$4,500.00 plus deliver charges, and Star Structures in Miles City at \$4,950.00 delivered to Plentywood. Todd Marsh would check on the one in Minot at H & H trucking later in the week and would report back on the condition of the units and a possible way to get it delivered to Plentywood.
- Administrative & 310 Grant Agreement  
Tim Holte made a motion to sign the copy of the Administrative & 310 Grant Agreement for the forthcoming year in the amount of \$9536.06. Jon Bolstad seconded the motion. . The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. The copy was signed by Chairman Jeff Wivholm and returned to DNRC for final signature.
- CD Renewal & Pickup Note – Rocky Mountain Bank  
The two CDs #7006157 & #7006158 at Rocky Mountain Bank each in the amount of \$5,653.31 due on June 6 were applied to the pickup note, #233304035, on June 11, 2008. Board members, Tim Holte and Jeff Wivholm signed a Change in Terms Agreement on that same date. The remaining balance of \$6,073.20 (less the June and July payments) will be due on July 29, 2008. CD #76270 at Montana State Bank in the amount of \$1,782.37 renewed on June 19, 2008 for 6 months at a rate of 2.17%.
- Landowner Maps & Books  
William Albee from Chester, Montana has compiled land ownership maps of Sheridan County as well as other Montana counties. He sent samples of Sheridan County wall maps, 4 townships per page booklets, and 1 township per page booklets for the Board to review. After discussing the maps and booklets, Tim Holte made a motion to purchase 50 booklets, 1 township per page at a cost of \$22.00 per booklet and 20 wall maps at a cost of \$13.50 per

map. Todd Marsh seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. We will look for a wildlife photo for the cover. The map booklets will be sold for \$30.00 each and the wall maps will be sold for \$20.00 to \$22.00 depending on the postage.

- Lon Michels Letter  
The Board reviewed a letter sent by Lon Michels regarding the grass drill. Lon Michels stated that he should be reimbursed for the \$75.00 that he was charged for not cleaning the drill when he returned it. Lon Michels had used it to seed peas and had not cleaned it before Charles Fraiser picked it up. Fraiser spent considerable time cleaning and repairing it before he could use it. Mickey McCall stated that he had inspected the drill when it was returned by Jens Sunsted. Michels was the first to use it this spring and did not sign a contract prior to using the drill. As long as it was clean prior to Lon Michels using it, the Board did not act on the request.
- Tires – Jeff  
Jeff Wivholm asked the Board if he could purchase the 2 tires that had been taken off the District pickup when the new tires were purchased. Tim Holte made a motion to sell the used tires for \$100 each. Todd Marsh seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.
- Buzz Mattelin Request for Travel Funds  
Buzz Mattelin, Roosevelt County CD Supervisor, submitted a letter requesting travel funds in the amount of \$500 from the Research Farm budget. He will be traveling to Washington DC on July 19 to attend the NACD Legislative Conference and Board Meeting. Part of this trip will include visits with our Congressional Delegation and visits on behalf on the ARS focus group. He stated that Roosevelt County CD had approved the \$500 from the Research Farm. Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the \$500 from the Research Farm. Rom Hedges seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**Adjournment:**

- Jon Bolstad motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rom Hedges seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.
- Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

July 8, 2008 Meeting

Judy A. Benson,  
District Administrator

Jeff Wivholm  
Chairman  
Date: August 12, 2008