



SHERIDAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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, September 9, 2008 @ 8:00 AM
USDA Building – Conference Room
119 N Jackson – Plentywood, Montana

MINUTES

SCCD Supervisors Present:

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

SCCD Supervisors Absent:

Supervisor: Tim Holte
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 8:20 AM.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2008 Meeting

After reviewing the August 12, 2008 minutes, Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the minutes as true and correct. Todd Marsh 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. Judy Benson reported that the CD at Stockman Bank in the amount of \$10,771.01 was renewed on August 20 for 9 months at a rate of 3%. Jon Bolstad made a motion to accept the Financial Statements. Todd Marsh seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

Bills to Pay

The expenditures totaling \$10,818.95 as listed on the Check Detail dated August 12 through September 8, 2008 were reviewed. In the figure are the regular monthly bills for August as well as payroll, health insurance, and Montana State withholding, and the storage container in the amount of \$3700.00. There is one unpaid bill at this time to the Mt. Tech of the U of M in the amount of \$10,003.63. Payment is pending the receipt of payment of the second quarter invoice for the 273 Aquifer. Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the total expenditures as listed. Todd Marsh seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. The checks were signed by Jeff Wivholm and Todd Marsh.

NRCS Report – Monica Friedrich

- Three engineers will be here tomorrow to do the 5 year inspection of Box Elder Dam. This will involve opening and closing the gate, and crawling up the pipe. Tim Hendricks also wants to survey the seeping area on the south side of the dam fill area so we can keep tabs on whether it is growing in size or not.
- We have continued our assistance for water developments under the Emergency Cost-share Program with FSA. They have received approximately \$200,000 for this program, and anticipate funding all requests.
- We have assisted producers participating in the Precision Ag EQIP funding with requests for Technical Service Providers to get these contracts going this fall with soil testing.
- Making progress on practice installation in the last month. Will continue as weather allows for the next couple of months.
- Montana Salinity Control Association here tomorrow to drill monitoring wells in saline seep for EQIP.
- Some on-going issues with the office building. Air conditioner quit working a few weeks ago, after causing trouble all summer. System probably needs replacing. The lease with Stoner was up this fall, but will be extended another year until FSA, as lead agency, can pursue other options. FSA wants all District and NRCS items removed from their storage area so they can access historical records. We are hoping to hold off until the District's storage building is in place.
- Ryan Young received a promotion to GS-7 technician. He had a week of hydraulics training last week.

- I will be on leave for a few weeks starting next week, for another spinal tumor surgery.

SCCD Technician's Report – Mickey McCall

Aquifer

- Well measurements on schedule.
- Water levels in the southern half of the aquifer are lower than the north half.
- The aquifer test at Tom Enanders is continuing. Preliminary data is very encouraging. Eight wells have been equipped with down-well computer data loggers.

Big Muddy 319 grant

- HydroSolutions of Billings took samples of the Big Muddy on August 19 to 21.
- Data has yet to be received.
- Invoices have not been sent.

USGS

- Monitoring is nearly on schedule.
- Rain gauges were removed on September 4th.
- Weather station is still operating. It will be removed in September.
- Attended a meeting at the Medicine Lake Refuge on Aug. 26 & 27 concerning a proposed project to study wetlands in the Lake Creek drainage.

R C & D

- The next quarterly meeting will be held on October 22nd in Culbertson.

Unfinished Business:

- Storage Trailer
A check in the amount of \$3,700.00 was sent to Mad Dog Brokerage (H&H Trucking) for payment of the storage unit. Kanning Concrete has been contacted and will be pouring the footings for a foundation. Todd Marsh will have a ProPipe truck deliver the container from H&H Trucking in Minot to the yard at Tommerup Machine possibly this week. Doug Tommerup will cut an opening for a door after the unit is delivered.

New Business:

- Area Meeting – September 24, McCone Co., Circle
Area I Meeting will be held on September 24 in Circle. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting starting at 9:00 a.m. Jeff Wivholm, Mickey McCall and Judy Benson are planning to attend. The registration and SCCD Annual Activities Report will be sent to Circle today.
- Resolutions for Area Meeting
The District has no resolutions for the Area Meeting this year.

- Baled Hay Barley at Research Farm
Todd Marsh stated that he is interested in the hay at the Research Farm and stated that he would contact Mike Christofferson, Chairman of the Roosevelt County Conservation District.
- BSPPA – Contract Management Certification Program – September 17 & 18
BSPPA Contract Management Certification Training (Module 1) is being held September 17 & 18 in Billings at the Grand Montana Holiday Inn. Judy Benson is planning to attend. The District has been awarded a \$100.00 scholarship to assist with the \$160.00 registration fee.
- Map Books – Hi-Line Sports
Lowell Young of Hi-Line Sports would like to sell the Sheridan County Ownership Map booklets as he thinks the hunters coming this fall will be interested in purchasing. We have agreed to sell them to him for \$25.00 per booklet. He in turn will sell them for \$30.00 as he wants to keep his price the same as ours. Jeff Wivholm was going to check to see if the Laketonian at Medicine Lake would be interested in the same.
- New Supervisor Orientation
Karl Christians, DNRC, is offering new supervisor training/orientation and would like to schedule a time if we have supervisors that would be interested. The Board thought it may be beneficial to all of our supervisors and would like to schedule an orientation in conjunction with a board meeting after harvest and fall work is completed. Judy will notify Karl.

Adjournment:

- Jon Bolstad motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rom Hedges seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM
- Next Meeting:
Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy A. Benson,
District Administrator

Approved,

Jeff Wivholm
Chairman
Date: October 14, 2008