



## 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, October 14, 2008 @ 9:00 AM**  
**USDA Building – Conference Room**  
**119 N Jackson – Plentywood, Montana**

### MINUTES

**SCCD Supervisors Present:**

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

**SCCD Supervisors Absent:**

Supervisor: Tim Holte  
Supervisor: Todd Marsh  
Supervisor: Manuel Vazquez

**SCCD Staff:**

Judy Benson, District Administrator  
Mickey McCall, Technician

**NRCS:**

Tim Solberg, Soil Conservationist

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman, Jeff Wivholm called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**2. Public Comments:**

No Public Comments.

**3. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2008 Meeting**

After reviewing the September 9, 2008 minutes, Jon Bolstad made a motion to approve the minutes as true and correct. Tim Holte seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**4. 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. Kent Nathe seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

**5. Bills to Pay**

The expenditures totaling \$10,224.97 as listed on the Check Detail dated September 9, 2008 through October 9, 2008 were reviewed. In the figure are the regular monthly bills for August as well as payroll, health insurance, and Montana State withholding, and third quarter payroll taxes. There are unpaid bills totaling \$35,471.36 at this time. Outstanding are Mt. Tech of the U of M in the amount of \$10,003.63, pending the receipt of payment for the second quarter invoice for the 273 Aquifer and \$2,092.58 pending payment of the final payment on the DEQ 319 Grant. Also outstanding is HydroSolutions, Inc. in the amount of \$22,985.70 also pending the DEQ 319 Grant. We also have \$389.45 in credit card receipts pending for the next statement from First Nation Bank Omaha. 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.

**6. NRCS Report – Tim Solberg**

Dale Friedrich called this AM, and said that Monica's surgery went well, and that she will be in the hospital all week. Three of those days, she will have to be flat on her back. They placed a synthetic patch along with a coagulated blood patch around the leaking spinal cord. The Doctors also have a drain tube in place in order to drain any fluids, so that the patch will stick better. She will be out for a couple of weeks or as long as it takes.

MDT- Is in search of 25 acres of prior converted or altered wetlands for mitigation purposes. The approximate value is \$1,000.00 / acre according to Bob Sanders of Ducks Unlimited.

I attended the CD area meeting in Circle in place of Monica, and I thought that was a good meeting. The big news of course was the fact that NRCS is getting a new state conservationist, as Dave White will be going to Washington DC.

On 9-18-08, Mickey, Jeff & I sat in on the teleconference between Dave White and the conservation districts. October 27<sup>th</sup> will be Dave's last day. In 2009 the Conservation Stewardship Plan (The new CSP) will get under way from 2009-2017. Montana may see 7-800,000 acres/year get accepted into this program. The EQIP program was also reauthorized until 2012. There was also some discussion on forming new local work groups. The CD's and DC's will have some time to put something together prior to CSP coming out next year.

The Plentywood FO will continue to process year end payments and contracting obligations as they come in. Of course there are always some individuals with contracts that have yet to complete some of their planned EQIP practices. So we need to contact those people again. Monica is frustrated with some of them as well, and she said those contracts may have to be cancelled and or modified in order to get them off the books.

Ryan and I will continue to install planed EQIP/WHIP practices until freeze up. We also have several sodbusters and ECP water developments to look at as well.

I have also been working on a CNMP plan for Marsh Feedlot. I'm using a new Manure Management Planner program to input all of the data required and this is new and not so user friendly. Once I get it all figured out, I think this will spit out some useable information for the producer.

Montana Salinity will be here this week on Thursday the 16th to work on the Marty Westegard and Doug Fawcett sites.

Monica and I will be working on a 2009 Plan of work that will allow us to call for assistance from the AO & SO staff as needed.

## **7. SCCD Technician's Report – Mickey McCall**

### Aquifer

- Well measurements on schedule.
- Semi-annual measurements scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The aquifer test at Tom Enanders will continue until the end of November

### Big Muddy 319 grant

- Data from HydroSolutions has been received.
- Invoices have been sent.
- Need to submit the final report by October 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Jon Reiten is working on it in Billings.
  - Mickey is working on it here.
  - Jon suggests that Mickey go to Billings the week of Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> to complete it.
- Accompanied Tribal members to several big Muddy sites. They will begin a 3-year sampling program in the spring of 2009 and will be sampling several of the District's sites.

### USGS

- Monitoring is nearly on schedule.
- Weather station was removed on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Removed well from site on Terry Syme's land.

### R C & D

- The next quarterly meeting will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Culbertson.

Other

- Received Storage Trailer on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- County road Crew will dig holes for concrete.
- Participated in NRCS conference call with Dave White regarding District involvement.
- Installed wireless network in Judy's computer for wireless printer for 2-sided printing.
- Set up external hard drive for backing up district computers.
- Attended Area meeting in Circle on September 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Measured well and downloaded data logger from well in Sidney for Jon Reiten.

**8. Other Reports**

- NRCS Statewide Conference Call  
Jeff Wivholm reported the he; Mickey McCall and Tim Solberg had participated in the NRCS Statewide Conference Call on September 18, 2008 with Dave White, Montana State Conservationist. Some of the topics discussed were the new Farm Bill, the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), EQIP program would be reauthorized until 2012, and the Ag Water Enhancement Program (AWEP).
- BSPPA – Contract Management Certification Program – Sept. 17 & 18  
Judy Benson reported that she had attended and successfully completed the Contract Management Certification session held September 17 & 18 in Billings. The CPP Training consisted of 1-1/2 days of training followed by a certification exam. This being the first of three modules, there will be two more sessions held at a later date.
- Area Meeting – Sept. 24, McCone Co. – Circle  
Jeff Wivholm, Mickey McCall, Judy Benson and Tim Solberg (NRCS) attended the Area 1 meeting on September 24, 2008 in Circle, Montana hosted by McCone County CD. During the business meeting, chaired by Bruce Wright, McCone CD Chairman; the McCone Conservation District proposed and passed Resolution 08-01 Increased Cooperation between DEQ & CDs. The Resolution to be brought to the MACD Convention in November is as follows:

**Resolution 08-01**  
**INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN DEQ & CDs**

WHEREAS, Conservation Districts, as units of local and State government are actively involved in the water quality issues on a local level

WHEREAS, Dept. of Environmental Quality has been involved in the TMDL process throughout the State

WHEREAS, Numerous Conservation Districts have not been included in the process which has created ill-will and impeded the process

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that MACD and NACD work on legislation or a MOU that the State and Federal agencies involved with water quality and quantity, including the TMDL process will cooperate with local Conservation Districts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that cooperation shall include timely notification, inclusion of Conservation District's Representatives in all field visits. Also included will be mutual sharing of all data, both CD and DEQ generated.

The regular business meeting was followed by Agency & Partner Reports which included, Jeff Tiberi, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD); Dave White, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (NRCS) State Conservationist; and Jane Holzer, Montana Salinity Control Assn. (MSCA). Following lunch, other reports were given by Fish Wildlife and Parks (FW&P), Lower Missouri River CD Council, Dick Iverson with RC&D, and Linda Twitchell with Great Northern Development. Following the meeting, a video and displays were presented by Peggy Nerud of Spring Creek Studios showing her sculptures created with found metals.

**9. Unfinished Business:**

- Storage Trailer – Transportation Cost  
Todd Marsh of ProPipe Services had made arrangements to transport the storage container from Minot to the SCCD yard in Plentywood. Tim Holte made a motion that we pay ProPipe Services \$500.00 for the transportation. The motion was seconded by Kent Nathe. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Judy Benson will contact Todd Marsh to submit an invoice.
- New Supervisor Orientation  
It was agreed to wait until after convention to decide on a date.
- Scott Kaiser for Board Self-Evaluation  
It was agreed to wait until after convention to decide on a date.

**10. New Business:**

- Supervisor Standing Committees  
It was brought up at the Area 1 meeting that each District should review their standing committees. We will review our Supervisor Standing Committees at our November meeting.
  
- 319 Final Billing
  - Final Report  
The final billing in the amount of \$48,443.53 was submitted to DEQ on September 30, 2008. Mickey asked the Board for approval for him to travel to Billings the week of October 20, 2008 to meet with Jon Reiten to complete the final report for the completion of the 319 Grant. The Board agreed. The final report is due October 31, 2008.
  
- MACD Convention – November 19-20, Missoula
  - Registration & Hotel Reservations  
Judy Benson reported that she had reserved 5 rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula November 18 with check-out November 21 for MACD Convention. Extra rooms will be cancelled prior to convention if not needed. There are scholarship funds available for application for Supervisor travel and motel accommodations. Judy will submit and application Jeff Wivholm and Tim Holte. Mickey McCall and Judy Benson plan to attend as well.
  
  - Auction Item, Door Prize & Silent Auction “Theme Baskets”  
Each District is asked to bring an auction item for the Thursday evening banquet. The board suggested something from a local crafter in the \$50.00 to \$100.00 price range. Each Area is asked to put together two “theme baskets” for the silent auction at the MACDEO evening event. Pat Johnson, District Administrator, Valley County CD has prepared the baskets at a cost of \$12.00 to each district in Area 1. The Area 1 Door Prize will be taken care of by the McCone CD and will be notifying us of the cost.
  
- Aerator  
It was brought to the attention of the Board members by Mickey McCall that Carl Eidsness had used the aerator during the week of October 6, 2008 and caused extensive damage to the shaft, teeth and bearings. The board advised Mickey McCall to talk to Doug Tommerup for a quote on parts and labor. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

**11. Pass Around Files:**

The Pass Around Files were reviewed by the board members present.

**12. Adjournment:**

- Jon Bolstad motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tim Holte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM
- Next Meeting:  
Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 9:00 AM. (Change due to Veteran's Day Holiday on Tuesday November 11, 2008)

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Judy A. Benson,  
District Administrator

Jeff Wivholm  
Chairman  
Date: Nov. 12, 2008