



## 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 14, 2009 @ 7:00 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  
Supervisor: Nathan Shackelford  
Associate Supervisor: Steve Hove

**SCCD Supervisors Absent:**

Supervisor: Manuel Vazquez

**SCCD Staff:**

Judy Benson, District Administrator  
Mickey McCall, Technician

**NRCS:**

Monica Friedrich, District Conservationist

**USFWP**

Jerry Rodriguez, Refuge Manager, Medicine Lake Refuge

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The Sheridan County Conservation District Board of Supervisors' regular scheduled meeting, was called to order by Chairman Jeff Wivholm at 7:20 PM, Tuesday, July 14, 2009.

**2. Public Comments:**

No Public Comments.

### **3. Approval of Minutes – June 9, 2009 Meeting**

After reviewing the June 9, 2009 minutes, Todd Marsh made a motion to approve the minutes as true and correct. Jon Bolstad seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

### **4. Financial Report:**

After review of the Financial Reports dated June 10 through July 14, 2009 including the bank balances, the deposit detail, the profit and loss, and balance sheet; Jon Bolstad made a motion to accept the Financial Statements. Nathan Shackelford seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Montana State CD #76270 was renewed on June 22 for 6 months with an interest rate of 1.21%, with June interest the amount totaled \$1,821.41. Renewal notice was received on Rocky Mountain Bank CD #7008928 in the amount of \$10,227.50. Renewal date is July 29, 2009. Current interest rate is 0.7%. As of today, Rocky Mountain Bank has an offer for 5 months at a rate of 1.6%. Jon Bolstad made a motion to renew the CD for 5 months at the 1.6% rate. Tim Holte seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present.

### **5. Bills to Pay**

The expenditures totaling \$12,934.45 as listed on the Check Detail dated June 10, 2009 through July 14, 2009 were reviewed. The figure includes the regular monthly bills for June as well as payroll, health insurance, and Montana State withholding, Montana Tech for the first quarter Aquifer and Western States Insurance. The unpaid bills at this time total \$12100.95 to the Bureau of Mines, pending the 319 Big Muddy final report and the second quarter Aquifer quarterly report. Rom Hedges 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 Supervisors Jeff Wivholm and Tim Holte.

### **6. Other Reports**

#### **➤ NRCS Report – Monica Friedrich**

- EQIP contracts will be obligated by tomorrow, July 15. Our final tally is as follows: 3 precision ag contracts (one withdrew, two did not provide eligibility information in time), 3 grazing land contracts, 2 multiple land use contracts, and 2 cropland contracts. Total county funds expended is \$205,044, along with \$28,058 in precision ag funds. Grand total is \$233,102.
- Developed contracts for 2 organic farming applications, but neither received funds.
- Application deadline for 2010 funds is August 1. Still haven't heard about CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program).
- Hosted State Conservationist Joyce Swartzendruber, along with Area Conservationist David Pratt, on a half-day tour of the Westby area in our county. Focus of the trip was restorable wetlands, piping plover habitat development, and on-going projects.

- Continue to work with USFWS on evaluating potential wetland restoration projects. These will be considered for funding in 2010.
- Assisting town of Outlook with pipeline information on a water development.

Received word from FSA to be on the lookout for black grass bugs, especially in CRP fields. These insects have damaged grass stands in Richland County, causing the appearance that the stand has been sprayed with Roundup. FSA is keeping track of any reports of damage.

➤ **SCCD Technician's Report – Mickey McCall**

Aquifer

- Well measurements completed in June.
  - Data loggers all in place.
- Completed aquifer test on SC-034 – Tom Enander.
- Started aquifer test on SC-034 – Tom Enander.
- Published public notices for Enander applications SC-023 and SC-034.
- Will pump well on SC-033 when equipment available.

Aquifer Tests

- Aquifer tests remaining include 2 for Pat Riley west of Crane, and 1 for Jim Davis in Larslan.

Big Muddy – USFWS

- Started sampling Big Muddy, Medicine Lake, Lake Creek, and Cottonwood Creek for field parameters, chloride, and nitrates.

USGS

- No activity.

R C & D

- Mike Brady of Butte appointed interim coordinator.
- Bob Nansel, new coordinator, will start on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- State RC&D Association conference calls were held on June 8<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Next quarterly meeting will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup> in Wolf Point.

Other

- Attended Froid Research Farm.
- Will be receiving software and hardware for downloading wind generator data to place on web site.
- Placed storage trailer on concrete slabs.
- Placed locks on aerator, drill, and tree planter. Keys available at the office.
- Attended Froid Research Farm.

Coming Up

- RC & D quarterly meeting in July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Senior Center in Wolf Point.
- Assist Tribes with sampling Big Muddy. Project is for the next 3 years. Funding will be through the Refuge.

- USGS – Jamestown here to sample wetlands for phosphorous in early August.

➤ **USFWP – Jerry Rodriguez – Medicine Lake Refuge**

Jerry Rodriguez discussed the Contract between the Refuge and the District in the amount of \$5,000.00 which would offset the water sampling costs to the district. Jerry also reported that he is working on a proposal for funding to assist Jon Reiten with Montana Bureau of Mines with the water quality data that he is compiling with the state, the tribes and other entities involved in water quality. The information from that data would result in better water quality practices within the refuge. Jerry also discussed the water monitoring that is being done on the waters that flow through the Medicine Lake Refuge.

**7. Unfinished Business:**

- Research Farm – Jan Peters Lease  
A copy of the May 7, 2009 e-mail from Roosevelt County Conservation District was read regarding the \$419.00 DCP payment that has been previously received by the Research Farm and sent to Jan Peters and a two year extension on his land lease. After discussion, Tim Holte made a motion to renew the lease for an additional two years (until 2012) at \$1,575.00 with the additional \$419.00 payment. Jon Bolstad seconded the motion. Tim Holte, Jon Bolstad, & Rom Hedges voted aye; Todd Marsh, Nathan Shackelford voted nay. Motion passed.

**8. New Business:**

- 10 Minute Training - “Writing a Resolution”:  
The Conservation District Training for July 2009, *Writing a Resolution* was reviewed and discussed by the supervisors present. Judy Benson will send a reply to Karl Christians, DNRC stating that the trainings had been completed.
- Enander Application Approvals – SC-023 & SC- 034  
The public notices were advertised in the Sheridan County News. No comments were received. Jon Reiten with Montana Bureau of Mines reviewed the pump test data on both the SC-023 & SC-034 and suggested that both applications be approved. Tim Holte made a motion to approve the applications for SC-023 & SC-034. Jon Bolstad seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Tim Holte made a motion to make a policy change in the Water Reservation Manuel requiring all new irrigation applicants to sign a statement of user responsibility pertaining to the pivot use. Nathan Shackelford seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Tim also recommended that Mickey send a copy of the user responsibilities to all current water users.
- Carl Eidsness Range Renovator Charges

The board members reviewed the invoice for the range renovator repairs totaling \$2,270.13. They requested that a letter be sent to Carl explaining the time delay in preparing the invoice which was a result of waiting for the parts and repairs. They also asked that pictures of the damages be sent to him. The charge for the acreage will also be added to the invoice.

- Todd McCabe Range Renovator Charges  
The board reviewed the bill to be sent to Todd McCabe for his use of the range renovator. Chad Olson spent 3 hours straitening and welding the drag on the range renovator before he was able to use it. The board members requested that Chad Olson be credited for 3 hours at \$50.00 per hour for repairing the renovator and Todd McCabe be charged for the repairs. They also requested that his invoice be sent by certified mail.
- Sheridan Electric Co-op – Research Farm Agreement  
The Sheridan Electric Co-op. Inc. Agreement for Interconnection and Parallel Operation of Distributed Generation for the wind generator at the Research Farm was reviewed by the board members present. The agreement had been signed by Roosevelt County Conservation Chairman, Buzz Mattelin at their monthly board meeting held earlier this month. Todd Marsh made a motion to sign the agreement. Rom Hedges seconded. The motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. The agreement was signed by Chairman Jeff Wivholm and will be sent to Sheridan Electric Co-op in Medicine Lake.

**9. Pass Around Files:**

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

**10. Adjournment:**

- With no further business before the board, Jon Bolstad motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tim Holte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by the supervisors present. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.
- Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.  
USDA Building – Conference Room  
119 N Jackson – Plentywood, Montana

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

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Judy A. Benson,  
District Administrator

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Jeff Wivholm  
Chairman  
Date: August 11, 2009