

**NORTH POWELL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Regular meeting September 8, 2015**  
**1:00, Tracy Manley, hosting**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tracy Manley. Supervisors present were Kevin Ertl and Kyle Graveley. Also present were Lewis Smith (County Attorney), Gene Coughlin (landowner), Doug & Carol Rohrer (landowner), Jim Phillips (Landowner), Glen Green and Susie Johnson.

It was moved, seconded and motion carried to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

Treasurer report was given by Susie Johnson. Susie reported \$2,366.47 in the district checking account and \$2,399.50 in the district savings account.

District Secretary Susie Johnson provided written financial reports. The balance in Petty Cash is \$152.45 and \$47,839.77 in County Funds.

**CLAIMS TO BE PAID:**

<u>Petty Cash (meeting expense, acct. 210)</u>	<u>\$23.00</u>
Total	\$23.00

It was moved by Kevin Ertl, seconded by Kyle Graveley and motion carried to approve this claim.

**SB-310:**

1. NP-17-14, Michael A. Herrin, Washington Creek Mining.

On hold waiting for Forest Service to sign application as landowner. The board would like to do another inspection and invite the Forest Service to attend so everyone is on the same page.

2. NP-07-15, Kyle Ferlicka, Washington Bridge.

On hold waiting for Forest Service to sign application as landowner. The board would like to do another inspection and invite the Forest Service to attend so everyone is on the same page.

3. NP-08-15, Blackfoot River Ranch, Cottonwood Irrigation Structure.

It was moved by Kevin Ertl, seconded by Kyle Graveley and motion carried to approve this application as a project and issue a permit. Kevin did an on site inspection.

4. NP-09-15, Big Blackfoot Chapter of TU, Devil's Dip Spring Creek Culvert/Channel Alteration/Fish Habitat.  
It was moved by Kevin Ertl, seconded by Tracy Manley, and motion carried to approve this application as a project and issue a permit. This project has already been inspected.
  
5. NP-10-15, Big Blackfoot Chapter of TU, Graveley Spring Creek Bridge/Channel Alteration.  
It was moved by Kevin Ertl, seconded by Tracy Manley, and motion carried to approve this application as a project and issue a permit. This project has already been inspected.
  
6. Nevada Spring Creek maintenance permit was discussed by Kevin Ertl. Kevin received a call from Paul Roos on his existing 310 maintenance permit on Nevada Spring Creek. There is still elevated nutrient load creating a backup because it is not passing enough water. The landowner needs to make adjustments to the channel. Kevin wanted to know if the board has any issues with this being added to the existing permit. It was moved by Kevin Ertl, seconded by Kyle Graveley and motion carried to add this additional work to their permit.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Doug Rohrer's 310 extension. Doug now has a 24" round culvert and would like to replace it with a 36 arch pipe. It was moved by Kyle Graveley, seconded by Kevin Ertl and motion carried to approve the extension of Doug's 310 permit.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. District Administrator's Job Description was discussed and approved by the board.
2. Doug Rohrer violation & restoration order was discussed by Powell County Attorney Lewis Smith. The Water Commissioner has walked up and down Cottonwood creek and has documented throughout the creek a dozen to 15 diversions coming off the creek. The Conservation District gave Mr. Lewis a copy of the only 310 permit that Doug Rohrer has obtained. It was to replace a culvert below the house. Mr. Lewis explained to Mr. Rohrer that the diversion channels Mr. Rohrer has dug out require a 310 permit. The reason the Water Commissioner was up in the area is because the Blackfoot River Ranch was not getting their water. The Water Commissioner told the County Attorney that the first diversion on Cottonwood Creek had plenty of water and should have gotten down to the Blackfoot River Ranch but the water was being diverted off onto Doug Rohrer's property. After the diversion was completed for the Meyer's Ranch on Douglas Creek, someone came with a piece of

equipment and re-ditched the water away from the head gate. Doug Rohrer could not remember doing this. The County Attorney was given a set of photographs to show the disturbance that was caused. Doug wanted to talk about Meyers Ranch 310 permit and if the district gave permission in the permit to dig up his property. The County Attorney told Doug that had nothing to do with the 310 permit. The 310 permit just involved the bed and bank of the project. If the Meyers Ranch did work outside the scope of the permit then Doug could request a civil penalty against the Meyers Ranch. Doug also said that the Meyers Ranch contractor built a dam across Douglas Creek, ran the water up the canal dumping the water in the waste way and flooding Doug's ground. Doug was instructed to fill out a 310 violation form against the Meyer's Ranch. The district board asked Doug if he completed the headgate on the South Fork that the board asked Doug to do from their 310 violation during the site inspection. Doug said that he had not.

3. MACD Area V meeting, September 30, 2015, Lincoln Conservation District, Libby Dam Visitor's Center was noted.

**CAMPS & WORKSHOPS:**

1. 2015 Montana Range Tour, Ennis, Montana, Wednesday, September 16-17 was noted.

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. Glen Green explained to the board about a new program that NRCS has. It is called Conservation Client Gateway. This program will allow landowners to track payments, view their conservation plans, submit requests for assistance and sign documents. This will save producers time in coming into the office for administrative tasks. The Board needs to be thinking about their Local Working Group meeting to set their priorities for FY2016.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 5, 2015, 1:30 pm., Jim Stone, hosting.**

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Date: September 15, 2015