

DEER LODGE VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Regular Meeting March 14, 2023 ~ 6:30 PM
USDA Building, Deer Lodge

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Troy McQueary. Supervisors present were John Hollenback, Reece Price, and John Thompson. Also present were Caleb Uerling, Andy Fischer, and Cathy Johnson.

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Treasurer Don Despain was not present. District Administrator Cathy Johnson reported \$431.74 in the district checking account, \$7,401.62 in the No Till account, \$3,930.30 in the Education account, \$461.96 in Petty Cash, and \$57,855.29 in the DLV/NP Combined Account.

CLAIMS TO BE PAID:

DLVCD/NPCD Combined Account

Cathy Johnson (Printer, External Hard Drive, Mileage) \$673.54

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by Reece Price, and motion carried to pay this claim. Cathy Johnson noted the District was awarded \$460.00 in tech funding from MACD and that invoices for the printer and external hard drive have been submitted to MACD for reimbursement.

SB310:

1. DLV-03-22 V Gardner Investment Properties LLC, South Fork of Dry Cottonwood Earthen dam used to collect water for mining operation is drying up the creek.

Current property owner and property buyer were contacted and agreed to an inspection which will be scheduled once the snow melts enough for access to the site to be possible.

2. DLV-01-23 Vanisko Ranches, Dempsey Creek
Install gravity pipeline to reduce water loss.

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by Reece Price, and motion carried to issue a permit with the conditions outlined in the Team Member Report of 3-2-2023.

3. DLV-02-23 Tracy and Stefanie Forcella, Clark Fork River
Annual maintenance activities that include placement of eco-blocks to improve irrigation.

Andy Fischer from the Clark Fork Coalition was present to provide information and answer questions. No inspection needed as DLVCD and FWP are familiar with the site. It was moved by Reece Price, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to issue a 10-year maintenance permit with the conditions outlined on the 310 Permit.

4. DLV-03-23 Andy Fischer/Clark Fork Coalition, Clark Fork River
Install rock vane to stabilize diversion site.

Andy Fischer from the Clark Fork Coalition was present to provide information and answer questions. It was moved by John Hollenback, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon a positive inspection and subject to the conditions thereof. An inspection will be scheduled as soon as all parties are available to meet.

5. DLV-04-23 Jim Berg/Vanisko Ranches, Dempsey Creek
Maintenance on headgate.

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon a positive inspection and subject to the conditions thereof. An inspection will be scheduled as soon as all parties are available to meet.

6. DLV-05-23 Jim Berg/Vanisko Ranches, Dempsey Creek
Replace bridge with culvert.

It was moved by Reece Price, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit with the conditions outlined in the Team Member Report of 3-2-2023.

7. DLV-06-23 Brad Ford, unknown creek (Crossroad #1/S Frontage Road)
Clear out channel to mitigate flooding.

It was moved by John Hollenback, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon a positive inspection and subject to the conditions thereof. An inspection will be scheduled as soon as all parties are available to meet.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. John Hollenback gave a report on the WRC meeting of March 7, 2023.
2. Cathy Johnson attended the Area 5 All-Employee Meeting/Pollinator Training on February 28, 2023, in Ronan and reported training priorities for the next year were discussed. DLVCD received one acre of wildlife seed to distribute to the public as part of the pollinator initiative.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A Pollinator Initiative community event will be held at 6pm on March 28, 2023, at the Mount Powell Taproom in Deer Lodge. Heidi Fleury from Lake Co CD will give a presentation on pollinators and free seed packets will be given away.
2. The 2023 DNRC Administrative Grant submission period is open. It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to apply for this grant.
3. John Thompson and Cathy Johnson gave a report on the Natural Resource Field Day committee meeting of March 8, 2023. The event will be held at Racetrack Campground on May 17, 2023. Stations will be the same as or similar to last year. Cathy will start contacting presenters and area schools.

4. The Committee Appointment discussion was put on hold until the next meeting since not all supervisors were present.
5. Cathy Johnson provided an update on the Pull Your Share Program. DLVCD applied for a mini education grant through DNRC for the project materials and we are waiting to hear on that. If successful, Cathy will contact site managers and the high schools or other youth groups to set up the events.
6. Preliminary plans for the 2024 Livestock Seminar were discussed. The Elks Lodge in Deer Lodge has been reserved for January 13, 2024, and Marsha Goetting has agreed to give her Estate Planning presentation.
7. Envirothon, April 24 and 25, 2023 in Great Falls, was discussed. Powell County High School has two teams.
8. The Montana Resources Youth Camp, July 16-21, 2023, in Lubrecht was noted. DLVCD has no specific campers in mind to sponsor but it was moved by John Thompson, seconded by Reece Price, and motion carried to send the \$300 sponsorship fee to be used for any camper who needs it.
9. John Hollenback provided information on the 2023 406 Grazing Academy and GLCI Range Tour/Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative to be held June 6 – 8, 2023, at various locations throughout the Deer Lodge Valley. As more information comes out, Cathy will work on sharing it through the District newsletter and on social media.

FW&P 124 Permits: None

AGENCY REPORTS: None

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Cathy Johnson contacted a representative from Rocky Mountain Insurance Services and asked him to attend a meeting to provide a presentation on what coverage they can provide the District. Cathy also reported the rates on Certificates of Deposit at Pioneer Federal have changed and provided the new rate chart. Since they are updating the accounts with our new tax ID and signatures anyway, we will request the new rates.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 @ 6:30 pm. USDA Building.

Submitted by Cathy Johnson

Date: March 16, 2023