

DEER LODGE VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Regular Meeting April 11, 2023 ~ 6:30 PM
USDA Building, Deer Lodge

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Troy McQueary. Supervisors present were John Hollenback, Don Despain, Reece Price, Jeff McQueary, Joleen Meshnik, and John Thompson. Also present were Josh Schrecengost, Bo Walker, Chris Hindoi, Dustin Lobdell, and Cathy Johnson.

It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by Reece Price, and motion carried to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

District Administrator Cathy Johnson reported \$431.74 in the district checking account, \$3,930.30 in the Education account, \$7,401.62 in the No Till account, \$451.96 in Petty Cash, and \$63,051.28 in the DLV/NP Combined Account.

CLAIMS TO BE PAID:

Big Hole Watershed Committee (FWP Funds for French Gulch Project)	\$10,000.00
Cascade Conservation District (Sponsor 1 team for Envirothon)	150.00
Lake County Conservation District (Pollinator Seed Cost Share)	156.85
Petty Cash (MT SOS Certificates for SAM, Seed Bags, Clipboard)	32.75
Total Claims	<u>\$10,339.60</u>

It was moved by Reece Price, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to pay these claims with the stipulation that the Envirothon sponsorship be paid out of the Education account.

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.

On hold until snow melts enough to allow for inspection.

2. DLV-07-23 Gregory Muller, unknown creek (Crossroad #1/S Frontage Road)
Clear out channel to mitigate flooding

It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit with the conditions outlined in the Team Member Report of 3-29-2023.

3. DLV-08-23 Ed or Jim Darfler, Telegraph Creek
Replace bridge stringers and planks (see DLV-01-22 – project was not completed prior to permit expiration due to weather)

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by John Hollenback, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit with the same conditions outlined in the Team Member Report dated 4-18-2022.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. John Hollenback gave a report on the WRC meeting of 4-4-2023.
2. Cathy Johnson reported that the pollinator workshop on March 28, 2023, went well and attendance was very good. Heidi Fleury from the Lake Co Conservation District gave the presentation and native wildflower seed packets were given out.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chris Hindoién and Dustin Lobdell from Rocky Mountain Insurance Services gave a presentation on what coverage they could provide and approximate costs. Chris will work with Cathy on getting the information together for a quote.
2. A grant from USFS to Circle P Enterprises for a virtual fence project was discussed. It was moved by John Hollenback, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to pursue the funding.
3. Committee appointments/points of contact were discussed and allocated as follows: External Committees, Boards, and Special Assignments – State Rangeland Resource Committee, John H; GLCI Rangeland Resource Committee, John H; Ana/DL Co Planning Board, Joleen; Powell Co Planning Board, John H; Ana/DL Co Weed Board, Joleen; Powell Co Weed Board, Reece; Headwaters RC&D Council, Don; Tri-County RAC, Don; Upper Clark Fork Flow Group, Troy; WRC, John H; and Powell Co Pre-Disaster plan, John T. In-House Committees – Finance (John H, Don, John T); HR/Personnel (Troy, Don); Projects and Education Programs (Jeff, John T, Reece, Joleen); District Policy (Troy, Reece, John H); Equipment/Rental Committee (Troy, Reece); and Conferences/Meetings (as determined appropriate/available for each event).
4. Cathy Johnson provided updates on the Pull Your Share and Pollinator Programs. DLVCD was awarded a mini-education grant from the DNRC to purchase the materials needed for the Pull Your Share program. Cathy is working on getting a site designated and identifying a class or youth group to adopt the site. There are seed packets left over from the pollinator workshop and Cathy will continue to distribute those.
5. PCHS will be sending one team to Envirothon, April 24 and 25, 2023, in Great Falls.
6. DLVCD will sponsor Donovan Peterson from PCHS for the Montana Resources Youth Camp, July 16-21, 2023, in Lubrecht. The District is interested in hearing from Donovan after the camp about his experience there.
7. John Hollenback shared more information on the GLCI Range Tour in June and reported donations are needed. It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by Jeff McQueary, and motion carried to donate \$500 to the GLCI for the tour.

FW&P 124 Permits: None

AGENCY REPORTS: Bo Walker with MSU Extension provided maps of camera locations on the Spotted Dog research project. They will be checking cameras and pulling data in May. They lost a funding source for the project so they are searching for new funding.

Josh Schrecengost from NRCS reported they are in the Obligating Funds part of the cycle. The sign up for CSP has been split – the batching period ended last fall and another one is starting. Josh recently got phone calls from new landowners in the valley.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Cathy Johnson reported the DNRC is currently offering twice-weekly training on 310s. Notes and materials from the trainings will be assembled into books for the Supervisors. Territorial Days is coming up – we will talk about having the No Till drill in the parade at the May meeting. There are several Rolling Rivers trailers across the state if we want to consider reserving one for the Fair this year. The DNRC has capacity grants available to purchase marketing materials and other things to help get the word out what the District does. The next application period for those grants will be this fall.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 @ 6:30 pm. USDA Building.

Submitted by Cathy Johnson

Date: April 17, 2023