

**DEER LODGE VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting May 9, 2023 ~ 6:30 PM**  
**USDA Building, Deer Lodge**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Troy McQueary. Supervisors present were Don Despain, Reece Price, Joleen Meshnik, Jeff McQueary, and John Thompson. Also present were Caleb Uerling, Josh Schrecengost, and Cathy Johnson.

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

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

Treasurer Don Despain reported \$431.74 in the district checking account, \$3,930.30 in the Education account, and \$7,401.62 in the No Till account.

District Administrator Cathy Johnson reported \$461.96 in Petty Cash and \$48,953.10 in the DLV/NP Combined Account:

**CLAIMS TO BE PAID:**

2023 NACD Dues	\$???????
2023 MACD Dues	1,265.22
Michael Blakeley, CPA (1 <sup>st</sup> quarter payroll and payroll taxes)	150.00
Lickety Print (Fair Book and Rodeo Program)	97.00
2023 MACD Employee Organization Dues	30.00

It was moved by John Thompson, seconded by Don Despain, and motion carried to pay these claims with the exception of the NACD dues; that claim will be further discussed at the June meeting.

**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.

An inspection will be scheduled once the snow melts enough to allow for access to the site.

2. DLV-01-23-E Montana Rail Link, Little Blackfoot River Stabilize bank to prevent derailment

An inspection will be completed as soon as team member schedules can be coordinated. A letter will be sent if no further action is deemed necessary by the inspection team.

3. DLV-09-23 William Mosier Jr., Freezeout Creek Replace drain in irrigation system under creek.

It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by Reece Price, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon a positive inspection and subject to any conditions outlined in the Team Member Report. The inspection will be completed as soon as the team members' schedules allow.

4. DLV-10-23 Duane and Karen Solberg, Lost Creek  
Replace bridge beams and supports

It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by John Thompson, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon verification that no work will occur within the stream itself (replace bridge beams and planks only). Caleb will call the applicants for clarification.

5. DLV-11-23 Joyce Murphy, Mill Creek  
Replace headgate

It was moved by Don Despain, seconded by Jeff McQueary, and motion carried to make this a project and issue a permit contingent upon a positive inspection and subject to any conditions outlined in the Team Member Report. The inspection will be completed as soon as the team members' schedules allow.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The WRC meeting of 5-2-2023 was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. HB321 (the CD Funding Bill), which will provide a stable funding source for Conservation Districts, passed the Legislature and is awaiting the Governor's signature. The CD Administrative Grant application is due 5-31-2023. The FY24 budget will be drafted for review at the June meeting.
2. The District's Adopted Rules will be updated and sent out to the supervisors to review prior to the June meeting.
3. Summer tours (fish screens, solar wells, collars, French Gulch project) were discussed. The Big Hole Watershed Committee will be hosting a tour of French Gulch project in early summer and the GLCI grazing tour is 6-7-2023. Other tours will be revisited at a later meeting for the Fall.
4. Area schools have confirmed 80 participants for Natural Resource Field Day on 5-17-2023 (Anaconda had a scheduling conflict and won't be there).
5. Troy will pull the No Till drill in the Territorial Days parade. Cathy will look into signs with rental details and District info.
6. The 406 Grazing Academy/GLCI Tour, June 6 – 8, 2023, was noted. The deadline to register for the GLCI Tour is 5-21-2023.

**FW&P 124 Permits:** None

**AGENCY REPORTS:** Josh Schrecengost with NRCS has seen increased interest in the electric fence. They are wrapping up Regional Conservation Partnership Projects. Community Ag is ramping up – three high tunnels have been funded. They are working on Conservation Stewardship Programs.

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Cathy is working on getting an insurance quote from RMIS so that it can be added to the CD Admin Grant request.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 @ 6:30 pm. USDA Building.**

Submitted by Cathy Johnson

Date: May 10, 2023