



LOCAL COMMON SENSE CONSERVATION

**18 Main Street
 PO Box 669
 Chester MT 59531
 Phone: 406-759-5778, ext. 102**

The Liberty County Conservation District Board of Supervisors met May 17, 2023

Present:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Lanny Jones (remotely)</i> | <i>Tyler Jones (remotely)</i> | <i>Megan Hedge</i> |
| <i>Rod Oraw</i> | <i>Diane Roberts</i> | <i>Geoff Osterman</i> |
| <i>Mike Nelson</i> | | |

Absent/Excused:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Robert Pugsley</i> | <i>Kurt Matkin</i> | <i>Tyler Streit</i> |
| | <i>Rodney Svenson</i> | <i>Ray Morkrid</i> |

CALL TO ORDER: *Lanny Jones, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.*

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Motion by Megan Hedges, seconded by Rod Oraw to approve the minutes of the April meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Megan Hedges, seconded by Mike Nelson to file the Treasurer’s Report for April. Motion carried.

Motion by Megan Hedges, seconded by Mike Nelson to pay April bills. Motion carried.

**Income
 April 2023**

| Date | Name | Memo | Account | Amount |
|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ▶ 04/04/2023 | Brian Cudney | Ground Cover | 3417005 · Weed Barrier Fabric | 87.00 ◀ |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7350 Special assessment | 317350 · Special Assessment | 0.00 |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7350 Special Assessment | 317350 · Special Assessment | 26.67 |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7351 Permissive Health | 317351 · Permissive Health | 0.00 |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7351 Permissive Health | 317351 · Permissive Health | 6.38 |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7352 Regular Assessment | 317352 · Regular Assessment | 0.00 |
| 04/12/2023 | Liberty Co. | 7352 Regular Assessment | 317352 · Regular Assessment | 10.97 |
| 04/14/2023 | John Englund | Wall Map | 3417003 · Maps | 30.00 |
| 04/30/2023 | | Interest | 371000 · Interest and Dividend Inc... | 2.39 |
| TOTAL | | | | <u>163.41</u> |

**Payments
April 2023**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Num</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Memo</u> | <u>Account</u> | <u>Paid Amou...</u> |
|--------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 04/01/2023 | 157 | United States Treas... | 1st QTR 941 payroll taxes 20... | 141.1 · Federal | 820.47 |
| 04/05/2023 | DBT | Sam's Club | Coffee for office | 210 · Office Supplies | 11.98 |
| 04/28/2023 | DBT | PERS | April Contribution Diane Rob... | 131 · Retirement | 210.54 |
| 04/28/2023 | 159 | Diane M Roberts | April Net Payroll Diane Robe... | Net Payroll | 983.91 |
| 04/28/2023 | 158 | HSA Bank | HSA pmt LCCD portion | 130.1 · LCCD contr... | 34.58 |
| 04/28/2023 | 158 | HSA Bank | HSA pmt Permissive Levy am... | 130.2 · Permissive ... | 433.82 |
| TOTAL | | | | | 2,495.30 |

NRCS Report – Misty Vermulm, DC, Shelby Office (not in attendance)

Extension Report – Jesse Fulbright (not in attendance)

District Business

LOCAL ACTIVITY

MCDEO Spring Meeting in Helen: The Montana Conservation District Employee organizational yearly meeting is in Helena on June 6 & 7. This is a yearly meeting for **Conservation District Administrators**. Diane has registered to attend.

HARVEST FESTIVAL: The LCCD received an invitation to register as a vender at the Hi-Line Harvest Festival. The festival will highlight agricultural and community support. It would be a good opportunity to have a booth and raise awareness of what the Liberty County Conservation District does and promote tree sales. The cost to register at the first level would be \$100- \$499. Diane can vacillate the booth.

Motion by Megan Hedges, seconded by Tyler Jones to reserve a booth at the Harvest Festival for \$100 donation. Motion carried.

THOUSAND FARMS REGENERATIVE WORKSHOP: The NRCS, Liberty County and Choteau County will be hosting a workshop with the NRCS and Marni Thompson at Steve Skierka’s farm on June 26th at 2:00 p.m. It is for those who are currently enrolled in an EQIP program or TIP to talk about regenerative farming. The CD’s have been asked to help with a hamburger barbeque after the event. Liberty County CD and Chouteau County CD would split the cost of food. Estimated attendance 30-40 people. The LCCD board is invited to attend if they want.

Motion by Megan Hedges, seconded by Rod Oraw to cover the meal at the Thousand Farms Regenerative Workshop. Motion carried.

AVANTI 310 STREAM CROSSING PERMIT: A 310 permit was submitted by Avanti Helium US Inc. out of Alberta Canada. The project is located on Breed Creek near Whitlash. They are requesting to bore a 2” natural gas pipeline to supply natural gas from the outlet of the MCR compressor station at Whitlash to Avanti Helium’s recovery unit. The drill entry will be executed from the top of the creek breaks far enough back to avoid damaging the break slopes. The exit will be on the opposite side on top of the creek breaks far enough back to avoid damaging the break slopes. Standard boring techniques will be used for the horizontal directional drill. The drilling fluid used will be standard bentonite clay with no other chemical additives. The application

was forwarded to Katie Vivian for review, and she did not have any additional comments on the application. The application looks pretty straightforward.

Motion was made by Megan Hedges, seconded by Rod Oraw to approve Avanti Helium US Inc. 310 stream crossing permit with no changes. Motion carried.

NEW INSURANCE QUOTE from Glatfelter Insurance Agency: Megan Hedges shared that the new liability insurance through Glatfelter will take effect on July 1, 2023, with an estimated premium of \$3517. Included in the premium will be the Excess Liability Insurance at a cost of \$850 and the Montana State Workers Compensation policy will increase by \$75. as well.

REGIONAL AND STATE

One handout was presented as an update from Mary Hendrix.

Next Meeting –June 15, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Diane Roberts, Administrator

Lanny Jones, Chairman

Diane Roberts

Lanny Jones

District meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at the USDA Service Center, Chester, 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noticed.

MISSION: TO RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS BY PROVIDING LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAMS TO CONSERVE, IMPROVE AND SUSTAIN OUR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT.

VISION: Having a community that is economically stable with the natural resources conserved by:

1. providing education and encouraging control of nuisance weeds and eradication of noxious weeds
2. having no soils blowing above their tolerance level—ideally no soil or water erosion
3. sustaining and improving water quality, with rivers and streams running clear.
4. encouraging tree planting for shelterbelts and wildlife
5. encouraging recycling
6. working jointly with all other agencies/organizations to enhance conservation practices within the District
7. improving the public perception of the Conservation District