



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 23, 2024

Present:

<i>Lanny Jones</i>	<i>Tyler Jones</i>	<i>Megan Hedges</i>	<i>Geoff Osterman</i>
<i>Diane Roberts</i>	<i>Rod Oraw</i>	<i>Tyler Streit</i>	<i>Kurt Matkin</i>

Absent/Excused:

<i>Robert Pugsley</i>	<i>Ray Morkrid</i>
<i>Mike Nelson</i>	<i>Rodney Svenson</i>

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

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Megan Hedges to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones to file the Treasurer’s Report for March. Motion carried.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones to pay March bills. Motion carried.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones to file the Treasurer’s Report for April. Motion carried.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones to pay April bills. Motion carried.

05/10/24

Cash Basis

**Payments
 March 2024**

<u>◊ Date ◊</u>	<u>◊ Num ◊</u>	<u>◊ Name ◊</u>	<u>◊ Memo ◊</u>	<u>◊ Account ◊</u>	<u>◊ Paid Amount ◊</u>
03/01/2024	218	MCDEO	MCDEO 2024 Dues	332 · Dues Expense	30.00 ◀
03/04/2024	220	Toole County CD	5 rolls weed barrier fabric	201.7 · Weed Barrie...	625.00
03/15/2024		Staples	Office supplies Ink	210 · Office Supplies	130.89
03/20/2024	ACH	U-I Contributions	1st QTR 2024 Unemployme...	141.3 · Unemploym...	6.47
03/22/2024	219	HSA Bank	HSA Diane Roberts March C...	130.1 · LCCD contr...	34.58
03/22/2024	219	HSA Bank	HSA Diane Roberts March C...	130.2 · Permissive ...	529.42
03/25/2024	221	Toole County CD	1 Roll ground cover	201.7 · Weed Barrie...	125.00
03/29/2024	ACH	PERS	March Pers Contribution Dian...	131 · Retirement	226.72
03/29/2024	BP	Diane M Roberts	March net Payroll	Net Payroll	1,053.35
03/29/2024	ACH	United States Treasury	941 1st QTR Payroll tax 2024	141.1 · Federal	852.16
TOTAL					<u><u>3,613.59</u></u>

05/10/24
Cash Basis

Payments
April 2024

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
04/08/2024	BP	HSA Bank	LCCD Contribution	130.1 · LCCD contr...	34.58
04/08/2024	BP	HSA Bank	Permissive Levy amount	130.2 · Permissive ...	529.42
04/10/2024	DBT	Vintage Floral	Karen Kultgen memorial	200 · Supplies	62.00
04/21/2024	DBT	Walmart	Ag in the Class Supplies and...	380 · Education Exp...	87.80
04/22/2024	DBT	Holiday Inn Great Falls	Lodging	380.3 · Envirothon	128.01
04/29/2024	ACH	PERS	Pers Contribution for Diane R...	131 · Retirement	241.65
04/29/2024	BP	Diane M Roberts	April Net Pay	Net Payroll	1,068.56
TOTAL					2,152.02

SUPPLIES:

Motion was made by Tyler Streit to purchase seven 6 x 500 ft rolls of weed barrier for next years inventory and up to \$500 worth supplies and promotional materials. Motion carried.

MONTANA STATE FUND Unemployment Insurance: It was discussed to have the MSF Unemployment Insurance set up on an automatic ACH payment withdrawal from LCCD checking. It would save time, postage and avoid any late fees.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones to set up MSFUI on auto withdrawal. Diane will complete the paperwork needed. Motion carried.

NRCS Written Report – Misty Vermulm (not in attendance)

May 23, 2024

NRCS Report

- Workload: NRCS is working on contracts for applications accepted into CSP in Shelby and Chester offices. We are completing field visits for practices/ seedings that have been installed. Several school workshops have been taught recently as well.
- Personnel: There were no applicants for the Chester Soil Conservationist or District Conservationist. These positions will continue to be advertised until they are filled. In Chester, the Pheasants Forever partner position was readvertised and there were a couple of applicants that are being interviewed. Talulah McGill is a Pathways that started in Shelby May 20th and will be working in both Shelby and Chester.
- A CRP Grasslands signup is anticipated soon, but dates have not been announced.
- NRCS employees are being assigned to attend various upcoming training courses this summer and may be out of the office to attend those.

Extension Report – Jesse Fulbright (not in attendance)

District Business

LOCAL ACTIVITY

2025 ADMINISTRATION GRANT APPLICATION: Diane presented the 2025 Administrative Grant application to the board for discussion. Completing the budget for FY2024/2025 the budget shows a shortfall of \$11,062. It was discussed that Diane complete the grant application paperwork and submit before June 30th.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Kurt Matkin for Diane to apply for the 2025 Administrative grant by June 30th for additional funding. *Motion carried.*

COST SHARE APPLICATION LOGAN HEALTH PUBLIC GARDEN: Twyla Anderson from Logan Health Assisted Living presented a cost share application to make improvements to the public garden used at the Assisted Living facility. The garden is open to the residents at the facility and extra produce is given away to the community. The project would help with water conservation and would be beneficial for the soil, to control weeds and help with pollinator habitat. The amount requested is \$1000 for a fertilizer composter, equipment, and plants/bee cups.

(cost per unit: Composter/fertilizer \$130, Equipment \$540, Plants/bee cups \$330).

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Kurt Matkin to approve the Cost Share application for Logan Health Assisted Living Community Garden project. *Motion carried.*

MT BIOLOGICAL WEED CONTROL PROJECT: The MTBCP sent a request for a donation to do research and gather data to better control leafy spurge, hounds-tongue, Canada thistle and flowering rush. After discussion it was decided that LCCD funds should be used in Liberty County first. No donation at this time.

PUGSLEY BRIDGE PRE-SURVEY VISIT: Due to weather conditions the pre-survey visit with John Muhlfield, David Pugsley and the LCCD board was postponed. The pre-survey visit has been rescheduled for June 19th at 1:00 p.m.

MARIA'S COUNTY FAIR / HARVEST FESTIVAL: Diane has contacted Hill County, Toole County and Glacier County to see if they would like to do a joint booth at the Maria's County Fair, July 17-20, 2024. Glacier County has confirmed that they would like to help. Registration is free and the booth would be open 12-6:00 p.m. It was also discussed having a booth at the Harvest Festival, September 20-21, 2024. There would be a booth fee of \$30-\$50.

Motion by Tyler Streit, seconded by Tyler Jones for Diane to work the Maria's County Fair and the Harvest Festival. *Motion carried.*

GLATFELTER LIABILITY INSURANCE: A notice was received from Glatfelter underwriting services stating that they are agreeable to renewing our policy subject to the following changes: Attaching forms GCO400 & CXE0116 to correct retro dates for Public Officials Management Liability coverage parts. As of 1/01/2024 Cyber coverage will only be offered as a standalone policy. With the removal of the Cyber coverage the estimated premium will be \$3167. It was discussed to not purchase a standalone Cyber policy at this time. Megan will add the LCCD shed to the policy and submit the appropriate paperwork for renewal.

REGIONAL AND STATE

One handout was presented as an update from Kasydi Lucas.

Next Meeting – June 20, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Diane Roberts, Administrator
Diane Roberts

Lanny Jones, Chairman
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