

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
Helena, MT 59601  
316 N. Park, Room 226  
July 24, 2012

Members Present

Jamie Schell  
Eric Regensburger  
Don Clark  
Commissioner Mike Murray  
Kammy Johnson  
Kris Goss

Staff

Kathy Moore  
Jim Wilbur  
Jennifer McBroom  
James Swierc  
Melanie Reynolds  
Norman Rostocki  
Jolene Helgerson  
Elizabeth Hezel, Carroll College Intern

Members Absent

Gary Ingman  
Stan Frasier

Guests Present

Wayne Berkas, USGS

Commissioner Murray, acting chair, called the 182<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) Board of Directors to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Murray asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes May 22, 2012. Jamie Schell moved to accept the minutes as written. Eric Regensburger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Kathy Moore, Division Administrator, stated that during a conversation with Gary Ingman and Stan Frasier, Gary stated that he would be willing to be vice-chair of the WQPD and Stan stated that he would be willing to be chair of the WQPD. Kris Goss nominated Stan Frasier as chair of the WQPD for fiscal year 2013 and Gary Ingman as vice-chair of the WQPD for fiscal year 2013. Donald Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

**PRESENTATION**

Wayne Berkas, data collection programmer with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Montana Stream Gaging Network. Mr. Berkas stated that stream gaging is the collection of hydrological data from a river. A stream gage measures the stream flow from a river and its discharge which is measured in cubic feet/per second. Stream gaging is completed by professionals within federal, state, and tribal agencies. Mr. Berkas stated there are

7,800 USGS stream gages in the United States with 223 of them in and around Montana. The data from the gages is used for water quantity management, recreation, water quality management, flood planning, and hydrological studies. Funding for the gages is primarily supported by the National Streamflow Information Program (SIP) along with funding from the Cooperative Water Program with local partners and other federal agencies. The average yearly cost to run a stream gage is \$16,000. The USGS provides hourly updates on their web site of the data collected from the gages. Through a cooperative funding proposal with the USGS, the WQPD for the 2013 water year will secure 50% of the funding for the gage on Tenmile Creek near Rimini and the USGS Cooperative Water Program will provide the other 50% of the cost to operate that gage. The USGS using SIP funding will continue the operation of the gage on Prickly Pear Creek near Clancy and also reestablish and operate a gage on Tenmile Creek near Williams Street Bridge next year.

### **FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT**

Norman Rostocki, Finance Coordinator, presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget for the WQPD on pages 8-9 of the board packet. As of June 30, 2012, we are 100% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$115,396; total revenues received are \$293,352 or 105% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$288,901 or 96% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$4,450; ending cash balance is \$119,847. Norman stated there will be an \$11,576 deficit for fiscal year 2013 in order to keep with a 90 day statutory reserve limit.

### **UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CD Well Testing Rebate Program: The Lewis and Clark Conservation District has received two reimbursements request from the public since the Conservation District began offering rebates for well testing. The recommended testing kit costs \$35.00 and the public will receive a \$25.00 rebate.

Tenmile/Pleasant Valley Lagoon Judicial Decision: After a brief background update on the Tenmile Creek Estates and Pleasant Valley Wastewater Lagoons, Kathy Moore stated that a judge ruled in favor for the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) against Mr. Kelly, owner of the lagoons for the Ten Mile Creek Estates and Pleasant Valley subdivisions. Ownership of the lagoons is to be transferred to the Tenmile/ Pleasant Valley Sewer District. Mr. Kelly was denied reimbursement for the lagoon system. The judge also ordered the lagoon property be surveyed. The Sewer District is currently working on securing funding for needed upgrades to the system. Kathy stated that at this time, Mr. Kelly has not appealed the court ruling.

Middle School Stream Monitoring Programs: In April and May of this year, the WQPD conducted an educational outreach program working with sixth through eighth graders from East Valley Middle School and Clancy School to conduct field and stream discharge measurements.

Lake Helena Watershed Festival: The 5th Annual Lake Helena Watershed Festival will be held Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 1:00 p.m. at Women's Park adjacent to the Farmer's Market (see attachment "A").

**BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION**

Donald Clark stated that the City of Helena is having their 3rd Annual Running Water for Helena Event on July 28, 2012 at the Upper Tenmile Creek Water Treatment Plant.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Commissioner Mike Murray, acting chair