

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

Members Present

Gary Ingman
Stan Frasier
Steve Ackerlund
Jamie Schell
Eric Regensburger
John Rundquist
Mike Murray
Kris Goss

Members Absent

Kammy Johnson

Staff

Jim Wilbur
Jennifer McBroom
James Swierc
Susan Browne
Melanie Reynolds

Guests Present

Gary Ingman, chair, called the 180th 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. Introductions of attending board members and staff were made.

MINUTES

Gary Ingman asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes March 27, 2012. Gary noted a spelling error in the minutes on page 2 of the board packet. Gary stated that “pile” should be “tile”. Stan Frasier moved to accept the minutes as amended. John Rundquist seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

James Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, requested board member discussion and approval regarding a Reclamation Grant application during the Updates and Announcements. Stan Frasier requested time during the Board Member Discussion to give an update regarding the Conservation District.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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 February 29, 2012, we are 75% through the year, beginning cash is \$115,396; total revenues received are \$173,602 or 62% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$206,532 or 69% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$32,930; ending cash balance is \$82,466. Norman stated that a District fee increase would not be necessary with the projected Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget.

FINAL FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET REVIEW

Norman presented the final FY2013 District Budget Fund 203 on page 10 of the board packet. Norman highlighted the final data for the full-time-equivalent (FTE's) for the District, personnel salaries and operating expenditures, and revenue for FY 2013. Norman noted that there will be a 2.5 percent pay increase for employees for FY2013. The operations figures are at a constant level unless unknown changes are made. Revenue is projected to be over expenditures at the end of FY2013 by \$23,784. Leaving an ending cash balance of \$82,000 which would be between the 90 day reserve and statutory limit. In answer to Steve Ackerlund's question, Jim Wilbur stated that staff will work on applying for further grants to hire an additional part-time employee. Kathy Moore, Division Administrator, also commented on the possibility of establishing a capital account for future hiring of part-time employees. Jim noted that the Board may see a fee request for FY 2014 to maintain the cost of services. In answer to Steve Ackerlund's question, Melanie Reynolds, Health Officer, stated that creating strategic plan would help with moving forward the planning for future budgets. Gary Ingman made a motion to move forward with no District fee increases for FY 2013 and to approve the recommended FY 2013 District Budget Fund 203 for County Commission approval. Stan Frasier seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0 with Commissioner Murray abstaining from the vote.

Norman presented the final FY 2013 Lake Helena Watershed Restoration Project Budget Fund 123 on page 12 of the board packet. Norman highlighted the final data for the full-time-equivalent (FTE) personnel salaries and operating expenditures, and revenue for FY 2013 Fund 123. Stan Frasier made a motion to approve the recommended FY 2013 Lake Helena Watershed Restoration Project Budget Fund 123 for County Commission approval. Gary Ingman seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0 with Commissioner Murray abstaining from the vote.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reclamation Grant: Jim Wilbur stated that James Swierc, Hydrologist, is recommending that the District apply for a Reclamation Grant which is funded by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MDNRC) and the state legislature. The deadline for the application is May 15, 2012. James stated that the grant would provide the funding to allow the District to collect baseline and hydrogeological data from the Silver Creek near the Drumlummon Mine. This would provide a data set for future comparison and understanding of streams and wetlands in the area of the mine. James also noted that if there were complications with the mine tailings, the data collected would allow the mine to restore the ground streams to their natural state. In answer to Gary Ingman's question, Jim stated that now that RX Exploration has purchased more of the historical abandoned mine areas, these areas are no longer considered abandoned by DEQ and cleanup of the old tailings is not planned. Jim stated that RX has not indicated that they would continue with the cleanup of the historical tailing issues. Gary Ingman made a motion to support moving forward with the application. Stan Frasier seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

Pleasant Valley/Tenmile Wastewater Lagoon: Jim stated that the Pleasant Valley/Tenmile Sewer and Water District has agreed to be co-plaintiff with DEQ in the lawsuit against Mr. Kelly the owner of the lagoons. Kathy Moore stated that the HATCO Title Company believes that the Mr. Kelly has violated his trustee agreement in which he agreed to operate the lagoon in compliance to DEQ standards. If the District wins the lawsuit, the lagoon could be taken away from Mr. Kelly and given to the water and sewer district. Jim will have Mr. Arrigo give an update on the lawsuit at the next board meeting.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Stan Frasier stated that at his last Conservation District meeting, he presented information regarding the Madison Conservation District rebates for well owners. The Lewis and Clark Conservation District will vote at their next meeting to provide rebates for well owners in the Lewis and Clark County. Stan requested that staff notify the district when an individual has tested their well so a rebate can be issued. The Conservation District will also provide public outreach regarding the rebates. Stan noted that WQPD should continue to request for additional funding from the Conservation District for their stream gauges.

The meeting adjourned at 6.40 p.m.

Gary Ingman, chair