

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
August 27, 2013

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Jamie Schell, vice-chair
Commissioner Susan Good Geise
Eric Regensburger
Kris Goss
Kammy Johnson
Jennifer Lowell

Members Absent

Staff

Jim Wilbur
James Swierc
Jolene Helgerson
Melanie Reynolds

Guests Present

Tillman McAdams, U.S. EPA

Stan Frasier, chair, called the meeting of the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) Board of Directors to order at 5:27 p.m. Introductions of Board members and staff were made. A quorum was established.

MINUTES

Stan Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes July 23, 2013. Jamie Schell made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eric Regensburger seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No additions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

No report was given.

UPPER TENMILE CREEK MINING AREA CLEANUP

Tillman McAdams, with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), gave an update on the upper Tenmile Creek Mining District Superfund site (see Attachment "A"). Mr. McAdams stated that due to a number of waste locations and potential contamination from Lee Mountain mine and Little Lily mine among others, the Rimini area was listed on the national priority list triggering remedial activities. The primary focus for EPA is the human health component: residential yards, drinking water source, and waste water. Mr. McAdams also highlighted the "The Take Ten for Tenmile" Tenmile timeline cleanup activity (see Attachment "B") from 2000 through 2012 along with future area plans. In answer to questions from Melanie Reynolds, Health Officer, Mr. McAdams stated that

after discussion with the Montana Department of Natural Resources (DNRC) regarding Institutional Controls (IC's) the EPA set aside monies to implement the IC's for the Tenmile Superfund site. Ms. Reynolds will work with staff on the possibility of enacting the IC's for the site. Mr. McAdams also addressed Ms. Reynolds question on controlled ground water. Mr. McAdams stated that as part of an IC, a controlled ground water area could be implemented for the area. Mr. McAdams will bring this request before EPA and DNRC and will follow up with staff. In answer to a question from Jennifer Lowell, Mr. McAdams will work on providing an area map of the plume contamination involving the mines and surrounding areas to the Board.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Water Matters” Update: (see Attachment “C”)

Prickly Pear Creek Rewatering Project: The District's Re-watering Project has been approved for additional funding of \$7,000 from PP&L for one year and completes the project's funding for the year. A future funding request will be made to Montana Natural Resource Damage Program for the project.

Beaver Control Workshop: The District and the Lake Helena Watershed Group hosted a Beaver Control Workshop on August 8 on Sweeny Creek. The group removed a beaver dam from a culvert and installed a beaver deceiver around the culvert which will prevent the beavers from rebuilding the dam. Total cost of the workshop project was approximately \$1700.

Annual Lake Helena Watershed Festival: The Annual Lake Helena Watershed Festival was held on August 17, 2013, from 9-1 at Women's Park next to Farmer's Market and was attended by over 500 people with 29 educational booths.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

A tour of the Asarco Smelter site will be on September 16 at 1:00 p.m. for all Board members who want to attend.

The City of Helena has hired a public works director. Jim Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, will be working with the city to have a representative of the Helena City Commission on the WQPD board. A third member of the general public on the WQPD board has not been chosen at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair