

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59624
316 North Park, Room 326
December 1, 2015

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen (dept. @ 6:00 pm)
David Donohue
Jeff Ryan
Amanda Harrow
Kammy Johnson

Staff

Kathy Moore
Jim Wilbur
Jennifer McBroom
James Swierc
Jolene Helgerson
Melanie Reynolds
Norman Rostocki

Members Absent

Mayor Jamie Schell, vice-chair
Jennifer Lowell
Randall Camp

Guests Present

Stan Frasier called the 208th 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

Mr. Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes October 27, 2015. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No additions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Norman Rostocki presented the WQPD 2016 fiscal year cash flow statement and comparison to cash flow analysis budget on pages 8-9 of the board packet. As of November 30, 2015, we are 33% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$74,741; total revenues received are \$19,781 or 6% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$83,592 or 29% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$50,754; ending cash balance is a negative \$8,849. The District has not received its first installment of property taxes. Once they do, the ending cash balance will be back at a positive balance.

LAKE HELENA WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN

Jennifer McBroom, Outreach and Watershed Coordinator, presented the Lake Helena Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP). Ms. McBroom stated that the WRP is a community supported strategy to protect and restore water quality which uses existing studies of water quality impairments. Ms. McBroom noted that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) 319 grant will only fund

groups who have a working WRP. Ms. McBroom also highlighted the WRP's outreach, time frame, and the priority areas. After board member discussion, Amanda Harrow made a motion to authorize staff to present the draft Lake Helena Watershed Restoration Plan to DEQ on behalf of the WQPD Board of Directors, with the understanding that errors identified by staff will be corrected and some non-substantive editorial changes may be made to the plan. David Donohue seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

GROUND WATER LEVELS AND LAND USE PRESENTATION

James Swierc, hydrologist for the WQPD gave a presentation on ground water depletion in the Helena area. Mr. Swierc highlighted what is ground water depletion, discussed aquifer recharge and withdrawal, presented water isotope data along with ground water depletion data for study areas in North Hills Subdivision, Emerald Ridge Subdivision, and the South East Helena Valley.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Watershed Group Activities: Water for Helena Open House was held on November 5 and had 35 people in attendance. The Lake Helena Watershed Group meeting that considered the draft WRP was held on November 19th.

East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area: Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator, announced that the East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area (EVCGA) public hearing will be on December 10 at 1:00 p.m. at 1424 9th Avenue. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) should have a decision on the rule by February or March of 2016.

DEQ 319 Grant -Lake Helena WRP: Ms. McBroom announced that DEQ approved \$50,000 of the \$95,000 319 Grant that the WQPD Lake Helena WRP was asking for. The \$50,000 will allow for completion of Task 1-Tryan Project, 2-years of busing for Water Watcher students, \$750 for monitoring and administrative cost. The grant begins July 2016 and will be over a 3-year period.

Comments on Proposed Plan for Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex: Mr. Swierc presented his comments on the Proposed Plan for Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex on pages 18-20 of the board packet.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Mr. Wilbur announced that Great West Engineering has submitted additional information to FEMA in response to a request concerning the Prickly Pear Creek Project LOMR application to FEMA. Staff is waiting on their response to the application.

Mr. Fraiser presented Ms. Harrow with a certification of appreciation for her time spent on the WQPD Board representing the Helena Citizen's Council.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair