

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
Helena, MT 59624  
316 North Park, Room 226 So.  
December 6, 2016

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair (dep't @ 5:38 pm)  
Mayor Jamie Schell, vice-chair  
Kammy Johnson (arrived @ 5:43 pm)  
David Donohue  
Jeff Ryan  
Randall Camp  
Amanda Harrow  
Dick Sloan

Staff

Jim Wilbur  
Kathy Moore  
Jennifer McBroom  
Jolene Helgerson  
Melanie Reynolds

Guests Present

Members Absent

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen

Jamie Schell, vice-chair, called the 216th 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. Introduction of Board members and staff were made.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Schell asked if there were any corrections or additions to the October 25, 2016 minutes. Stan Frasier made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mayor Schell seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator, presented Jim Wilbur, WQPD Coordinator, with a plaque and thanked him on behalf of the WQPD Board and staff for his 15 years of service to the WQPD.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Prickly Pear Re-watering Project: Mr. Wilbur announced that staff was able to raise sufficient funding for the Prickly Pear Re-watering Project (PPRWP) and that a final written report needs to be completed. The Coca-Cola Bottling Company provided an additional \$10,000 to the project, which will be available for next year. The NorthWestern Energy FERC re-licensing Conservation Fund has granted \$5,000 a year for the next two years to the PPRWP. The current PPRWP budget account is \$15,500 and has enough funding for next year. Staff is working with the Canyon Ferry Trust to assist with possible upcoming re-watering projects. Mr. Wilbur also announced that he had a discussion with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (MDNRC), Stan Bradshaw with Trout Unlimited, and Dave Donahue about the possible need to change the water rights to avoid the abandonment question regarding the water rights. The Prickly Pear Water Users Association has

signed a revised agreement regarding the water rights and staff will take the agreement to the County Commission for approval. Mayor Schell stated that he hopes that the Montana Department of Justice Natural Resource Damage Program will work with the WQPD regarding their restoration plan. Mayor Schell will keep the District updated on the plan.

Arsenic Monitoring Project: Mr. Wilbur highlighted the Helena Area 2016 Arsenic Project Sampling Results letters on pages 7-10 of the board packet. The public is showing interest in having their wells tested for arsenic. In answer to a question from Dick Sloan, Ms. Moore stated that she would get back to the board with any arsenic data collected from the Ten Mile Superfund Project.

DEQ 319 Grant 2017 Application Status: Jennifer McBroom, Watershed Outreach Coordinator, announced that Phase 2 of the Tyran Project was not awarded the DEQ 319 grant funding for the project. There were issues with the design that the Montana Department of Environmental Quality review committee members had concerns about. Ms. McBroom and Mr. Wilbur along with other involved in with the project presented finished projects to the committee to compare to the Tyran Project. The DEQ has an additional monies set aside and the hope is that they can be used it to fund the Tyran Project. Jeff Ryan recommended using the term bank stabilization using restorative techniques instead of stream restoration.

Big Sky Watershed Corps: Ms. McBroom announced that Ashely Rivero's time with the Big Sky Watershed Corp has ended. Part of the second phase of the Big Sky Watershed Corp grant is to hire a second corps member. Valerie Stacy will start January 9 for an 10 ½-month term. She will be located in the City-County Building.

#### **BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION**

Mr. Ryan announced that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts' (MACD) resolution discussion with the DNRC regarding the Floodplain Regulation has failed and that the MACD along with the Lewis and Clark Conservation District (LCCD) will take the discussion to the state legislature. Mr. Ryan will send the Board the specific legislative bill number for them to follow during the legislative session.

Mr. Wilbur announced that the DNRC water rights language contract would be going to the legislature. Mr. Wilbur will also send to the Board the specific legislative bill number.

In answer to a question from Mr. Sloan, Staff will send Mr. Sloan a copy of the minutes regarding the board's review of the strategic plan.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Mayor Jamie Schell, Vice-Chair