

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
January 22, 2013

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Gary Ingman, vice-chair
Commissioner Mike Murray Departed at 6:50 p.m.
Eric Regensburger
Jennifer Lowell
Jamie Schell
John Rundquist
Kris GOSS Departed at 6:50 p.m.

Members Absent

Staff

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

Guests Present

Kevin Hart, City of Helena

Stan Frasier, chair, called the 186th 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 were made.

MINUTES

Stan Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes December 4, 2012. Mike Murray made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Jamie Schell seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No additions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Norman Rostocki, Finance Coordinator, presented the WQPD cash flow statement and comparison to budget (see Attachment "A") and the cash flow analysis on page 9 of the board packet. As of December 31, 2012, we are 50% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$119,847; total revenues received are \$161,285 or 55% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$147,269 or 45% amount budgeted; revenues are over expenditures by \$14,016; ending cash balance is \$133,863.

CITY OF HELENA STORMWATER (MS4) PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Kevin Hart, utility maintenance superintendent with the City of Helena, gave a brief overview and update regarding the City of Helena Stormwater (MS4) Program. Kevin stated the MS4 program is a regulated permit program through the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The DEQ program regulates stormwater in 7 municipalities and/or counties with the City of Helena being one of them. The City of Helena and the WQPD have a Memorandum of Understanding which

defines the roles and responsibilities regarding storm water quality protection and enhancement. Mr. Hart noted that the City of Helena recently had a DEQ audit of their programs and the city's stormwater program received no permit violations with only a few recommendations. The full audit can be found on the City of Helena website. Mr. Hart presented an overview along with slides of the recent K-mart and Custer Interchange Stormwater projects. The retention ponds were expanded to hold more stormwater run off along with new release control structures for water control. Mr. Hart noted that most of the stormwater disappears into the ground with hardly any of the water making it to the creeks. In answer to a question from the board, Mr. Hart stated there is plenty of garbage and debris going into the stormwater ponds. The Board recommended to staff to add the issue of garbage and debris into the WQPD's outreach to the community. In answer to a question from Kathy Moore, division administrator for the Environmental Services Division, Mr. Hart stated that currently the City of Helena and the Montana Department of Transportation (DOT) have two different stormwater permits. The city would like in the future to work with the DOT to combine these permits.

WATER ISOTOPE RESULTS

James Swierc, hydrologist for the WQPD, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Helena Valley Groundwater Study isotope results. James spoke briefly on the background of the study. James discussed water isotope hydrology; the results from LCWQPD Monitoring programs; issues with the long term growth planning for valley; and data needs. James also presented a stiff diagram groundwater quality generalization slide along with several surface water isotope data and groundwater results slides.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

METG 2013 Interim Measure Work Plan: Jim Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, highlighted the comment letters on pages 13-17 of the board packet written by the District to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Montana Environmental Trust Group (METG) regarding the 2013 Interim Measure Work Plan for the former Asarco smelter site in East Helena. The comments focused on the technical content contained within the work plan document.

Targeted Watershed Grant: Jim stated that the 5-year EPA Targeted Watershed Grant will be completed this April. The grant supported the work on the creation of the Septic Maintenance Program, water riparian projects, and the surface water monitoring network. Staff will work on completing the reports on the data that came from their work on the grant. At a later date, Jim recommended discussing the changes to the budget now that the funds for the grant are finished.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Jamie Schell thanked staff for sending the City of Helena and WQPD Stormwater MOU to the Board by e-mail.

Throughout the 2013 Legislative Session, Melanie Reynolds, Health Officer, will provide regular updates regarding water quality bills that are being presented to the legislature.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair

