Gary Ingman called the 177th meeting of the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) Board of Directors to order at 5:31 p.m. A quorum was established. Introductions of attending board members, guests, and staff were made.

Jim Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, introduced two new board members Jamie Schell representing the East Helena City Council and Eric Regensburger representing the general public.

MINUTES
Gary Ingman asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from December 6, 2011. Stan Frasier moved to accept the minutes as written. Gary Ingman seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA
No changes were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Joan Bishop stated that she is attending tonight’s meeting on behalf of the League of Women Voters.

FINANCE MANAGER’S REPORT
Kathy Moore, Division Administrator, presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget for the WQPD on page 8 of the board packet. As of December 31, 2011, we are 50% through the year, beginning cash is $115,396; total revenues received are $162,488 or 58% amount budgeted; total expenditures are $137,166 or 45% amount budgeted; revenues are over expenditures by $25,322; ending cash balance is $140,718.

Jim Wilbur presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget for the Watershed 123 Grant (See Attachment “A”). As of December 31, 2011, we are 50% through the year, total revenues
received are $7,052 or 13% amount budgeted; total expenditures are $12,028 or 22% amount budgeted; ending cash balance is a negative $4,976. Jim Wilbur presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget for the Helena Area Groundwater Phase II Grant (See Attachment “A”). As of December 31, 2011, we are 50% through the year, total revenues received are $19,811 or 29% amount budgeted; total expenditures are $22,595 or 33% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by $2,784; ending cash balance is a negative $16,003. Jim noted that with both statements, the negative ending cash balance will be in the positive when he bills the grants for the expenses that have occurred and the county receives the reimbursements.

COUNTY COMMISSION BOARD POLICY
Kathy Moore presented the newly adopted resolution establishing standard policy on board and committee appointments on pages 10-12 of the board packet. Kathy noted that the commission defined the policies for recruitment and selection of citizens who serve on the county boards and committees.

PRESENTATION
James Swierc, Hydrologist, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the district groundwater investigation. James initially presented the groundwater investigation presentation to the American Water Resources Association on October 6, 2011. James highlighted several PowerPoint slides using a stiff diagrams describing groundwater quality; the use of water management; the contamination of the drinking water; and temperature variations in certain wells within the Helena Valley. In answer to Gary Ingman’s question, James stated that he will look into using the stiff diagram data for use in the vulnerability assessment. Gary recommended that the information presented in the outline of the presentation be added to the State of the Basin report.

PRESENTATION
Jim Wilbur gave a PowerPoint presentation on the CV Ranch Prickly Pear Creek Stream project, The project work took place from November 28, to December 21, 2011 on the CV Ranch near Clancy. The erosion along Prickly Pear Creek occurred quite rapidly due to two stream modifications and flooding. Through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Water Quality District was able to repair about 1,700 feet of the Prickly Pear Creek channel using bioengineering structures including planting native grasses and willow sprigs.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drumullommon Mine Permit Application: Kathy Moore stated that the RX Exploration Company in Marysville is currently operating the Drumulmon Mine under the Small Miners Exclusion Statement. On December 28, 2011, the company applied for a large miners operating permit through the DEQ. The DEQ will review the application and send a deficiency letter to the mine regarding some problems with their application. The DEQ deadline for writing the letter is March 27th, 2012. The county may submit comments to DEQ anytime during the process. The commissioners along with assistance from the Board of Health and the WQPD will work together with the mine to create a
hard rock mine impact plan to provide to the Montana Department of Commerce. Kathy also noted that the county is hosting a public meeting on February 1 in Marysville to discuss public concerns with the mining operation. Commissioner Murray stated that the Water Resource Monitoring Work Plan will become part of the impact plan presented to the DEQ.

**Septic Maintenance Update:** Kathy highlighted the Septic Maintenance Program report for the reporting period of July 1, 2011 to January 19, 2012 (See Attachment “C”).

**City of Helena Proposed Riparian Setback:** Jim noted that the City of Helena is working on modifying their subdivision rules that will include a riparian setback of 100 feet for all streams. The city will possibly add the setback to their zoning regulations.

**February meeting-review of the Board Orientation Packets and 5-year plan:** The board will review the board orientation packets and 5-year plan at the next board meeting.

There being no board member discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Gary Ingman, chair