

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59624
316 North Park, Room 226 So.
May 22, 2018

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Mayor Jamie Schell, vice-chair
Dick Sloan
Amanda Harrow
David Donohue
Jeff Ryan
Kammy Johnson (arrived at 5:38 p.m.)

Staff

Kathy Moore
Jennifer McBroom
James Swierc
Pete Schade
Jolene Helgerson
Melanie Reynolds

Members Absent

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen
Randall Camp

Guests Present

Stan Frasier, chair, called the 229th 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

Mr. Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the April 24, 2018 minutes. David Donohue noted that on page 3 of the board packet in the Bureau of Mines and Geology Groundwater discussion the word ‘investment’ should read ‘investigation’. Mr. Frasier made a motion to approve the amended minutes as written. Jeff Ryan seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FY 2019 BUDGET

Kathy Moore, Environmental Division Administrator and Jennifer McBroom, Outreach and Watershed Coordinator, presented the WQPD FY2019 Budgets on pages 8-10 of the board packet and Attachment’s A & B”. Ms. Moore along with Ms. McBroom discussed the personnel, revenue, and expenditure changes for WQPD Fund 203, Donated Fund 140, and Lake Helena Fund 124. Ms. Moore noted that she would create a schedule for how the funds are used for better understanding among board members. After board review and discussion of the FY19 budget, Mayor Schell made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commission to approve the WQPD FY2019 Fund 203 budget as proposed. Dick Sloan seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. Mr. Donohue made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commission to approve the WQPD FY2019 Fund 124 budget as proposed. Amanda Harrow seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. Mr. Frasier

made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commission to approve the WQPD FY2019 Fund 140 budget as proposed. Mr. Donohue seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grizzly Gulch Update: Ms. McBroom has submitted the Grizzly Gulch Placer Mine Reclamation Grant to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). The \$50,000 grant request will allow the district to conduct a site assessment and develop a plan to reclaim the water resource and water quality impacts of placer mining in the project area. The project includes analyzing reclamation alternatives for the pit to restore the alluvial aquifer, reconnection of Grizzly Creek and restoration of the associated floodplain and riparian area. The grant funding will be used to develop a reclamation design to support preparation of a Reclamation and Development Project Grant proposal for the 2021 biennium. Ms. McBroom noted that the DNRC grant was extended to September 2019 and the request for proposal for a consultant was resent due to timing and response issues.

PROPOSED GWIP PROJECT- MBMG

James Swierc, Hydrogeologist, presented the proposed Groundwater Investigation Proposal (GWIP) Project Nomination Package, on pages 13-22 of the board packet, which was submitted to the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) for Canyon Ridge Subdivision and the area around East Gate Subdivision. The purpose of the project is to characterize the cause and potential impacts of groundwater depletion from the two areas. The first project component will evaluate the potential for ground water depletion from subdivision development along the drainage boundary. The second component will evaluate the cause and potential impacts of depletion from a higher volume-pumping source where water level monitoring indicates declining water levels during recent summers. If approved, the project will begin in the summer of 2019.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Site Investigations: Peter Schade, Water Quality Specialist, presented three site investigations on pages 24-33 of the board packet. He briefly discussed the setting, field observations and findings of each investigation. The board encouraged the district to use these investigations as public education pieces.

Board Member Terms and Elections: Ms. Moore announced that Ms. Harrow's term is ending in June. Ms. Harrow is interested in serving another term. Ms. Moore noted that board elections of chair and vice chair would be in June also.

Citizen Request: Ms. Moore announced that a citizen has submitted request to the WQPD, asking the WQPD to support a controlled groundwater area in a portion of North Hills, east of Lincoln Road. Mr. Sloan also noted that he has received similar water depletion concerns from citizens who live in the same area. Mr. Sloan will have them contact Mr. Swierc. Ms. Moore will place this request on the July agenda for further board member discussion. She will also contact the county attorney on how to develop a policy the district will follow when a request like this is made.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Jeff Ryan presented pictures of the Seven Mile Restoration willow soil lifts (see Attachment "C and D"). Mr. Ryan requested that the board tour the restoration after its completion in July or August.

Lewis and Clark Conservation District will be sponsoring Riparian Range Day on June 27. This will include a lecture in the morning and a field trip to the Sieben Baucus Ranch.

The meeting adjourned at 7.25 p.m.

Stan Fraiser, Chair