

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
October 23, 2012

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Jamie Schell
Commissioner Mike Murray
Kammy Johnson
Eric Regensburger

Staff

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

Members Absent

Gary Ingman, vice-chair
Kris Goss
Don Clark
Jennifer Lowell

Guests Present

Stan Frasier, chair, called the 184th 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 August 28, 2012. Jamie Schell stated on page 4 of the board packet second to the last paragraph, "Escape Goat Wilderness" should read "Scapegoat Wilderness". Mike Murray moved to accept the minutes as amended. Kammy Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Jim Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, stated that agenda item 6 will be presented as an update. Also added to the agenda will be discussions on the WQPD 20th Anniversary and changes to the board packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Norman Rostocki, Finance Coordinator, presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget and cash flow analysis for the WQPD for both August and September (see Attachment "A"). As of August 31, 2012, we are 16.67% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$119,847; total revenues received are \$8,185 or 3% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$46,791 or 14% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$38,606; ending cash balance is \$81,241. As of September 30, 2012, 25% thru the fiscal year, total revenues to date were \$9,397.63 and total expenditures were \$73,889.11. The ending operating cash balance was \$50,135.48. Norman stated

revenue is lower than the year before due to less property tax coming in. In answer to a question from Kathy Moore, Division Administrator, Norman stated that if the WQPD Fund 203 should go into a deficit the Mill Fund or the General Fund will loan the District funds to cover the deficit.

USGS GAGE FUNDING UPDATE

Jim Wilbur highlighted on pages 9-10 of the board packet a letter written to the Lewis and Clark County Commissioners from the WQPD requesting authorization to spend \$1,800 to help fund the Tenmile Creek stream gage near Rimini. The WQPD has obtained partners to help cover the \$8,000 in cost. The USGS has agreed to a long-term funding of the gages. The WQPD will need to obtain funding partners each year for the gages.

MT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2012 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Kathy Moore presented to Jim Wilbur the Montana Environmental Health Association (MEHA) 2012 Distinguished Service Award which is given to an individual or organization of the MEHA who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of environmental health in Montana.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WQPD Annual Meeting/WQPD Annual Report: Jim Wilbur stated that the WQPD hosted the WQPD annual meeting in which the four Water Quality Districts in the state meet to discuss activities each district has accomplished. Jim noted the four districts are from Lewis and Clark County, Missoula County, Gallatin County and Butte Silver Bow County. At the meeting Jim presented the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District 2012 Annual Report (see Attachment "B"). Also discussed at the meeting, was the Smirfit-Stone Container Corp pulp mill in Frenchtown being listed as a possible Superfund site by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

WQPD Anniversary: The WQPD will hold a public open house on November 15 from 1-5 in room 226 to celebrate the Anniversary of the WQPD. Guests will then have the opportunity to attend the Lake Helena Ground Water (LHGW) meeting at 6:30 p.m. which will be held at the East Helena Valley Fire Hall or at the Spring Meadow Resources. The topic of the LHGW meeting will be the Corral Fire.

MT AWRA Annual Meeting: Jim Wilbur and James Swierc attended the Montana American Water Resources Association annual meeting in October. Discussions were held with the Bureau of Mines and Geology on the fees the WQPD charges for well measurement and with BLM about future grant funding. Also discussed at the meeting was the flooding of Silver Creek and the Drumlummon Mine being the possible cause.

Helena Subdivision Regulation-Setbacks: Jim Wilbur attended the City Commission working group meeting on the Helena Subdivision Regulation regarding stream setbacks for subdivisions within the city limits. City of Helena Commissioner Dick Thweatt recommended a proposal of a minimum of 150 feet of vegetative buffer setback and 50 feet additional building setback from perennial streams in the area. Also recommended was a 100 feet vegetation buffer and 30 feet building setback from other water bodies which include wetlands, ponds, or intermittent streams, lakes, or reservoirs. The City Commission agreed to move forward with the proposed set of regulations. A public meeting on the regulations will be heard in December.

ASARCO Property Redevelopment Planning: Jim Wilbur provided copies of the 3 redevelopment proposals from the Montana Environmental Custodial Trust Group (MECTG). Each plan provided possible industrial, commercial, and residential development of off-site properties that Asarco owned but were transferred to the trust. The money from the sale of the property would go back into the trust for ongoing cleanup at the plant site. Jamie Schell stated that in 2007 the City of Helena did not include the Asarco land in their zoning. Jamie brought up his concerns regarding the Trust's proposed relocation of the rodeo grounds and the cost to the public for that relocation.

METG Hydraulic Testing Technical Memo: James Swierc highlighted the memo to Jim Ford with METG from Bob Anderson and Mark Walker of Hydrometrics, Inc. on pages 22-23 of the board packet. The memo pertained to the upper lake drawdown test at the former Asarco smelter site. The purpose of the drawdown test is to simulate the effects of eliminating recharge from Upper Lake on plant site groundwater levels, flow rates, and contaminant loading to groundwater. The information from the testing is being used in planning and implementation of remedial measures of the site.

Changes to the Board Packet: Jim Wilbur recommended providing the news articles found in the board packet as a weekly link emailed to the Board. The Board agreed to the weekly emails along with access to the articles on the WQPD web page.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

The next WQPD board meeting will be held on December 4, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair