

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
September 23, 2014

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Mayor Jamie Schell, vice-chair
Eric Regensburger-Departed 6:35
David Donohue
Randall Camp -Arrived at 6:05
Amanda Harrow
Jeff Ryan

Staff

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

Guests Present

Members Absent

Commissioner Susan Good Geise
Jennifer Lowell

Stan Frasier, chair, called the 199th 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

Mr. Frasier introduced new board member Jeff Ryan, representing the general public.

MINUTES

Mr. Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes July 22, 2014. Mayor Schell noted a spelling errors on page 3 of the board packet Mayor Schell made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Jennifer Lowell seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

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 2014 fiscal year end cash flow statement and comparison to budget and cash flow analysis (see Attachments A&B). As of June 30, 2014, we are 100% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$119,679; total revenues received are \$304,470 or 100% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$317,055 or 98% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$12,584; ending cash balance is \$107,094.

Mr. Rostocki also presented the WQPD 2015 fiscal year cash flow statement and comparison to budget and cash flow analysis on pages 9-10 of the board packet. As of August 31, 2014, we are 16% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$101,794; total revenues received are \$15,694 or 4%

amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$56,415 or 13% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$23,668; ending cash balance is \$59,319.

Mr. Rostocki highlighted the suspended MOU between the Lewis and Clark WQPD and the Groundwater Assessment Program (GWAP) on pages 11-13 of the board packet. The GWAP funding for FY15 (7/1/14-6/30/15) will be cut by about \$125-130k. This is a 15 percent reduction in funding, which is what was budgeted for Operations. Operations include services state-wide groundwater monitoring network; collecting water level and water-quality data for groundwater characterization studies; supporting data collection, providing support to basin advisory councils. WQPD currently monitors 48 wells. Staff plans on continuing to monitor the wells as they see that the data they collect is far too valuable to lose. The WQPD has budgeted \$3,200 into the FY15 budget prior to the suspended MOU. Revenue will change in the budget if other source funding for the \$3,200 is not found.

DISTRICT FEE REVIEW

Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator, gave a PowerPoint presentation (see Attachments C&D) on how the WQPD determines the fee assessment for the district. Ms. Moore reviewed why the WQPD determines the fee, the formula they use, how to understand the assessment report, the rules under the Montana Codes Annotated, and the property card features on the Montana Cadastral.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Watershed Activities: The Lake Helena Watershed Festival that was scheduled on August 23, 2014, was canceled due to rain. The Watershed Group meeting will be held on September 25 at the East Valley Fire Hall with presentations from the Prickly Pear Land Trust and Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

ASARCO Smelter Site Tour: The Montana Environmental Trust Group will give the WQPD a tour of the ASARCO Smelter on September 29, 2014 focusing on the groundwater issues and changes to the site.

Presentation to MT American Water Resources Association (AWRA) & Geological Society of America (GSA): James Swierc, Hydrologist for the WQPD, is scheduled to give presentations to the AWRA on the Emerald Ridge groundwater depletion issues and to the GSA on the results of the study on the Non-Source Point loading issues.

Lewis & Clark County Growth Policy revision: James Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, noted that the growth policy is in revision and was sent Montana Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC) for review and comment.

DEQ MS4 Stormwater rule revisions: Randal Camp stated that after meeting with the Board of Environmental Review regarding the MS4 Stormwater Rule revisions, the City of Helena, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), six other cities, and three counties have drafted MOU to extend the stormwater permits for another two years and will also continue to work on the stormwater permit revisions. Mr. Camp was notified of a stormwater manual by the USEPA for Montana and North Dakota. It will be on the web for review. Mr. Wilbur gave a brief update on the background regarding the MS4 Stormwater Rule.

USGS Update: Partners of the USGS gauge monitoring have continued the 2015 gauge monitoring with the WQPD. The collaborative agreement will pay for the Rimini gauge and the USGS will carry forward the gauges at Prickly Pear Creek and the Tenmile gauge at Williams Street.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Mayor Schell noted that the maps that are used for Water Watchers program need to be updated. Mr. Wilbur noted that he will speak to Gary Burton on updating the maps. He also noted that Mr. Burton will give a Water Watchers presentation at the October board meeting.

Mr. Frasier noted there will be a rally at the capital October 27, 2014, at noon in support of public lands.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair