

**VALLEY FLOOD COMMITTEE (VFC)  
MEETING AGENDA  
7 PM—Thursday, April 25, 2013  
HELENA MOOSE LODGE  
4750 N. MONTANA AVE.**

Note: Please use the north door to enter the lodge.

1. Call to order and introduction of members and other interested persons.
2. A briefing/discussion of the County Commissioners' April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, held at 9:00 am on the master flood plan.
3. The following items may or may not be discussed at this meeting. They came from discussions at previous meetings.
  - There is a valid point to partially dredge/clean Ten-mile Creek as part of a long-range plan. The reason for this is because bed-load material has naturally built up in the channel and diminished the flow capacity in certain segments of Ten-mile Creek. This is especially problematic in the vicinity of McHugh Bridge and a reason why high-flood waters impinge on the bridge during floods. The county needs to be aware about this and we should bring this up as a county maintenance item.
  - An objection was voiced for not returning all flood flows back into Ten-mile Creek. This is untenable for the following reasons:
    - ✓ Ten-mile Creek is already at full channel capacity throughout its length during flooding situations; there have been small levees constructed in the past that protect nearby subdivisions, but they would not contain large flood flows.
    - ✓ Looping flood flows back into Ten-mile Creek only transfers the flood problems we are experiencing to other residents and property owners downstream, which risks serious legal ramifications to the county,
    - ✓ The small levees built downstream along Ten-mile Creek do not provide adequate capacity to withstand additional floodwaters that would be transferred downstream,
    - ✓ The county has already looked at the feasibility of building a levee system and enlarging Ten-mile Creek, but costs would be astronomical (greater than \$12-15 million) and would take many more years than the current plan to finally implement it.

- A Gun Club representative has a valid concern over the easement on its borrow pit because the Club fears it would substantially reduce property values. However, a counterpoint to that argument is that the current location of the Club's borrow pit is prone to valley flooding already rendering the property value lower. Are there any plans in the future for the Gun Club to move to a different location?
- A VFC member suggested pumping water from holding ponds to accelerate the process of relieving the area of residual flood waters once floods have subsided. This concept has value although the question remains where could be a receiving source of the pumped water for this action?

4. **Lake Helena Watershed Festival:** will be held August 17, 2013, 9 am-1 pm. Discussion on if VFC wants to be a part of it again.

5. Other miscellaneous business.

- Ray Read—Do you have our maps put on a display for the committee to use at their meetings?

6. Next Meeting may be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7 PM if needed.