

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
February 24, 2015

Members Present

Stan Frasier, chair
Mayor Jamie Schell, vice-chair (departed at 6 p.m.)
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen
David Donohue
Randall Camp (arrived at 5:37 p.m.)
Amanda Harrow
Jeff Ryan

Staff

Jim Wilbur
Jennifer McBroom
Jolene Helgerson
Melanie Reynolds
Norman Rostocki

Guests Present

Members Absent

Jennifer Lowell
Eric Regensburger

Stan Frasier, chair, called the 202nd meeting of the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) Board of Directors to order at 5:33 p.m. A quorum was established.

MINUTES

Mr. Frasier asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes December 2, 2014. David Donohue made a motion to approve the amended minutes as written. Jeff Ryan seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. Mayor Schell abstained from the vote.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No additions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Rostocki presented the WQPD 2015 fiscal year cash flow statement and comparison to budget on page 7 of the board packet and cash flow analysis (see Attachment "A") . As of January 31, 2015, we are 58% through the fiscal year, beginning cash is \$101,794; total revenues received are \$196,704 or 58% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$210,849 or 58% amount budgeted; revenues are under expenditures by \$18,366; ending cash balance is \$87,648. Mr. Rostocki recommended that the Board consider increasing next fiscal year's district fees in order keep up with upcoming expenditures.

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW/FY 14 WQPD ANNUAL REPORT

James Wilbur, Water Quality District Coordinator, highlighted WQPD 2014 Annual Report on pages 14-19 of the board packet. Mr. Wilbur presented to the Board an opportunity for the district to hiring a temporary staff and potential field technician through the Big Sky Watershed Corps Program. The cost to the district would be \$10,000 split between two fiscal years. The application is due in August

and work is set to begin in January 2016. The district may be eligible to receive a \$5,000 grant from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to apply to the cost the district will incur for the Watershed Corps person.

Mr. Wilbur discussed the WQPD Strategic Plan objectives and strategies 1.1.1 through 1.1.4 and 2.1.1 through 2.1.4. In answer to a question, Mr. Wilbur stated that he was not sure if there was a bill in the 2015 Legislature that would provide funding for the USGS gauges. Mr. Wilbur will look into that and get back to the board. He also noted there will be a legislative update at the next board meeting. In answer to a question from Mr. Donahue, Mr. Wilbur stated that strategy 5.6.1-Conduct an annual Board self-evaluation is up to the board to decide when and how this is to be done. Staff will be available to assist the board in this process.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canyon Ridge Subdivision review comments: Mr. Wilbur highlighted the memo written by James Swierc, Hydrogeologist for the district to Frank Rives of the Lewis and Clark County Community Development and Planning regarding the potential water supply issues at the Canyon Ridge Subdivision on pages 27-34 of the board packet. In answer to a question from Mr. Donahue, Mr. Wilbur stated that the Helena Regulating Reservoir is where the City of Helena draws its Missouri River water supply from. The water infiltration from the reservoir is unknown at this time, but is a possible recharge source for groundwater to the Holmberg subdivision that is north of the proposed subdivision.

City of East Helena News Letter: Mr. Wilbur highlighted the February 2015 City of East Helena Newsletter on pages 21-23 of the board packet.

METG 2015/16 Interim Measures Plan: The Montana Environmental Trust Group (METG) is sponsoring a Public Meeting and Open House on February 24, 2015 from 6:30- 8:30 p.m. at the office of the METG to review the draft 2015-2016 Interim Measures Work Plan.

COEH report: Mr. Wilbur highlighted the status report for the EPA METG City of East Helena Council meeting on pages 25-26 of the board packet. Mr. Wilbur noted there is a bill going in front of the Legislature that will allow for a high school to be built in East Helena. Discussion is being had about the East Helena School District purchasing land a portion of Dartman property on Valley Road for a new elementary school.

Lake Helena Watershed Group Meeting: The Lake Helena Watershed Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on February 26, 2015, at the Lewis and Clark Library. The members from DEQ and NRCS will be giving presentations.

Greater Helena Area Transportation 2014 Update review comments: Mr. Wilbur highlighted the comments regarding Long Range Transportation plan he made to Jeff Key on pages 35-38 of the board packet. Mr. Wilbur suggested that if no action is taken on these comments, he recommended that the board may want to take action in a form of a resolution. Commissioner Hunthausen who was at the meeting, stated that they believe that transportation corridors could be built in floodplain areas with adequate features.

Elliott Prickly Pear Creek Stream Project Update: The district has completed the engineering requirements of the County Floodplain Permit in accordance to the review by the DNRC Water

Operation Bureau for the Prickly Pear Stream Restoration Project located north of York Road at a cost of over \$10,000. After completion and review of the engineer's modeling of the project area, the DNRC Water Operations Bureau has recommended a map revision be done after the project completion. This additional permit requirement will cost the district \$16,000 more for permit fees and an engineer to redesign the flood plain map for the area of the project. The district has applied through the Lewis & Clark Conservation District for a DNRC riparian project grant and received \$9,000. They have also received \$7,500 from the Lewis and Clark Conservation District for the project. The district has put in a request to the Water Operations Bureau asking for a review of the flood plain engineering review and for a potential waiver the requirement for a map revision and of the FEMA review fee.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

March 4, 2015, at 7 p.m. at the Baxendale Fire Department there will be an update on the Tenmile fire mitigation.

March 6, 2015, at the Gateway Center is the Montana Conservation Donor Party.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Stan Frasier, chair