

# ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2013

7:00 PM

USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

7:00 pm: Meeting called to order by Doug McRae, RCD Chair @7:10 pm.

**Board Members Present:**

Doug McRae, Alan Mereness, Don Youngbauer, Steve Lackman, Dave Davenport

**Board Members Absent:**

Dennis Kenney, Bonnie Prince

**Others Present:**

Rocky Schwagler, Bobbi L Vannattan

**Guests:**

Scott Giesick

Leanna Johnson-CBMPA

**Treasure Report:**

April Treasure Report will be available at the meeting.

- Alan Made a motion to approve the treasure report,
- Don second the motion,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

**Meeting Minutes:**

The draft minutes from the March 6, 2013 meeting are in your packet.

- Steve made a motion to approve the minutes,
- Don second the motion,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

8:00 pm:

**Expense Vouchers:**

Keep Bobbi updated on any expenses and travel that need to be added to your FY 13 travel and expenses.

**Adminstrator Report:**

Report is in your packets.

**Outreach & Education:**

Conservation Days Schedule has changed to April 30, May 1, and May 2, 2013. Trees are scheduled to be delivered on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Arbor Day at the Forsyth Schools is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>. I have the rolling rivers trailer reserved for the older kids and NRCS is going to provide a station for the younger kids. There is a Rolling Rivers training in Sidney on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, Bobbi may attend, if time allows.

5<sup>th</sup> grade fishing days in Colstrip is scheduled for Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Schedule:**

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

ok

**Loans:**

Giesicks are moving forward with their feedlot project. They would like to amend their application to include a pipeline on the project. Scott will be at the meeting to answer any questions and request the amendment.

- Don made a motion to amend the existing loan to include an irrigation pipeline and structure for water control,



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- Alan second the motion,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

## ***ROM's:***

### ***310- Permit Applications:***

### ***Reserved Water:***

### ***New Business:***

- 310 soil health workshop- Friday, April 19, 2013 at the Forsyth Country Club.

## **1:00- 310'S SITE TOURS**

**3:15-Byron Hould weed pts**

**4:15- Mark Henning-Mixes- salt tolerant and problem soils**

- The Tongue River Railroad proposes several routes for the RR-one of those routes is through the Rosebud Creek Drainage-what are the plans for crossing the creek? The Conservation Districts concerns.

If the Railroad crosses Rosebud Creek, they will have to have a trusses to cross the creek.

- Review and update the Conservation District Policy Handbook. We currently do not have a written Procurement Policy in the handbook, although we do follow the state laws regarding Procurement.

The district already follows the state procurement policy. We will add the policy to the handbook.

- Montana Governor's Range Tour
  - Potential sites to visit on the tour. This will help determine how to set up meals. Do we want to have lunch both days or finish up before lunch.

Watty Taylor-Range ecologist from Fort Keogh-speak on fire sage grouse-marking fences- grazing cover corps, tree thinning. Forest thinning stops.

- Dates- End of August-September- Beginning of October- Days of the week: Tues and Wed or Wed and Thurs.

Mid September- the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> or the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Serve dinner the first night, entertainment could be Wally McRae or Bob Peterman

- Rosebud Treasure County Fair- July 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>- Do we want to have a fair booth this year and theme.

Promote the drill, soil health and cover crops- grow some of the plants in planters to have on display, have bags of seed available

Bobbi will get prices and ideas for give aways at the fair.

- Administrator summer work schedule- if the board would consider allowing four ten hour days during the summer months.

Tabeled til next meeting, need someone to be in the office everyday in case someone comes in.



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## Old Business:

- HB 223 Grant for a filming crew to come to Montana and film four episodes for RFDTV on a program called "Out on the Land" We have been asked to sponsor this grant as the fiscal agent. I will have more information at the meeting.
    - There was not enough information or cooperation provided by all of the agencies and private individuals and ranches that were interested in pursuing this project. Deadlines were given and we could not get written commitments for match funds. The grant application was not completed. Joyce Swartzendruber, NRCS would like to still pursue this project for the next round of 223 grants.
- Steve made a motion to discontinue any work on this project,
  - Dave second the motion,
  - All in favor and the motion passed.

## Soil Health Initiative:

The packets for the 2013 are available for signups.

## No-Till Drill:

The disengaging wheel does not disengage and the plates are bound up. There is a clip on the seed box that does not clip. The acre counter resets to zero- the other one did not turn- call Dalhman and see if they want to trade

## Newsletter:

Done, time to get ready for the next one!

## YRCDC: Don Youngbauer:

Solution for Intake-made 2 foot high- have to raise it 2 more feet to make it work. Bullock and FWP- develop an off stream storage and stockpile water for fracking.

The YRCDC is taking a summer trip to intake and have invited the governor to come.

Steve-is there concern with saline seep on off stream storage.

## NRCS: Rocky Schwagler:

No county EQIP Funding

47 acres of WRP on the Yellowstone and

They are looking at cottonwood regeneration.

## Range Committee: Dave Davenport

## CBMPA: Doug McRae:

Next meeting is on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 10 am at the Hysham Supper club. Will be discussing Bio-genetics.

LeAnna Johnson- next fiscal year- If the district is interested in applying for Water Monitoring Grants- sending samples to the lab. If they would like to hire someone to come in and do the monitoring-Leanna would train them-the grant will pay for all or part of the water monitoring and testing. The district would set and determine priority areas and testing. She left an outline in a letter to the district. If the district would like to review and decide at a later meeting.

## Whitetail Divide Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Grant: Chris Pilesky:

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Chris's report will be available at the meeting.

DNRC is going to have to retract the grant agreement and issue another agreement that will require board approval and signatures. The issue is that when the grant was originally put together the projects would be lands adjacent to federal lands; however those lands are no longer. The grant agreement will be for the same dollar amounts and projects that have applied will still fit the project scope however the money has to come from a different source.

**Ten Minute Training:**

None

**Next meeting Agenda:**

Fair- what to give away at the booth and set up.

Administrator office hours during the summer.

CBMPA sponsorship for well testing.

**Open Mike Board Members:**

**Public Comments:**

**ADJOURN: Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ PM**

9:00 pm: