

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14, 1997, SPECIAL MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Jack Knobloch; Caprice Gregory; Layton Salsbery.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Con.; Katrina Rusley, NRCS; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Dennis Nixon at 2:25 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

ANNUAL MEETING: Board members were notified that the annual meeting/banquet date was changed to Sunday, February 23, 1997, at 5:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at the Hysham High School. Jim Knight, wildlife biologist with MSU-Bozeman, will provide entertainment with a humorous discussion on the endangered species act and wolf reintroduction. RSVP invitations will be mailed as soon as possible.

RIT/RDGP PROPOSAL: Even though the RDGP proposal on the feasibility of leaving open coal pits as water impoundments did not receive a funding recommendation from the review committee, the Long Range Planning Committee will conduct a hearing on January 29, 1997, in Helena to gather testimony. It was agreed that in order for the proposal to advance, input and support from both the coal mining companies and the local landowners would be necessary. It was decided to invite individuals and company representatives to the next regular Board meeting on January 22, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. at the Colstrip Human Services Building.

COMPUTER CLASS: Bob Nansel made a motion to allow Diane to attend a Windows 95 computer class at the Forsyth High School. Dave Davenport seconded and the motion carried.

NRCS: Rocky Schwagler requested the Board's input on his Job Performance Evaluation by distributing forms to the members. They are asked to return the forms to Dicksie Michael, Hardin Field Office, by January 15, 1997.

LOAN PROGRAM: Information provided by Laurie Zeller, DNRC-CDB, during the December 18, 1996, regular meeting, was reviewed. According to current law, funds from the regular assessment, loan repayments, interest charged on the principal, and administrative fees may be deposited into the Loan Program account. These funds are restricted for making loans and for administering the loan program. Because the law does not provide that interest earned on the loan program account may be deposited back into the account, it must be credited to the general operating account, which is unrestricted for use by the District. The Administrative Rules Bureau, under the Secretary of State's office, confirmed that Rosebud Conservation District did not file a publication in accordance with the Montana Administrative Procedures Act (MAPA) regarding the loan program guidelines and forms. Current law implies that interest must be charged on the principal by stating that the district adopt rules "establishing the interest rate for the loans", also two statutes are in conflict regarding the District's authority to charge an administrative fee. After careful consideration of the available options, Dave moved to request legislative changes that would strike the reference to MAPA as relating to the conservation loan program, that would allow the administration of a no-interest loan program, and that

would clarify the statutes to allow assessment of administrative fees. Robert Heinle seconded and the motion carried. Diane will work with Laurie to draft the bill language; MACD will be made aware of the Board's decision.

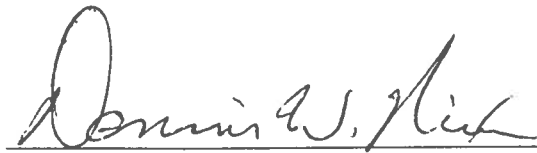
It was noted that the loan program account began earning interest in 1990 and has accumulated approximately \$139,500.00 through December, 1996. When this amount is transferred to the general operating account, the County will not assess any mills for the conservation district for a couple of years unless the funds are allocated for a specific project or projects. The Board will consider this option and will asked for project recommendations at a later date. The Board also has the option of transferring the interest to the general operating account and requesting the mill assessment necessary for the general operating budget be deposited into the loan program account, thereby making the funds accessible for loans. No further action regarding the loan program will be taken until the outcome of the legislative changes are known.

The Board also discussed the amount of funds previously appropriated for loans. This includes loans approved by the Board, but the applicant did not provide title insurance, or the District holds a mortgage and either the project did not cost as much as expected or projects planned for the future were not completed. The sum was deducted from the amount available for loans, leaving a deficit balance on the books. At one time the Board discussed notifying the applicants that their loan requests were no longer valid, however, this was never done.

Copies of a letter sent recently to Mr. Jim Carr, tax attorney, were distributed to the Board. The issue of tax liabilities, for both the conservation district and for the borrower, regarding the no-interest loan program, were questioned. No response had yet been received.

STRATEGIC PLAN/ANNUAL PLAN: The Board worked on the Strategic Plan by defining goals and action items; work will continue following the January 22, 1997, regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m., with Board members traveling to Hysham to attend the Treasure County Conservation District regular meeting to discuss working jointly on the local work group meetings.


Dennis Nixon, Vice Chairman


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

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LOCAL MEETING REGARDING RDGP PROPOSAL

Jack Knobloch, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 1997, in the Human Resources Building in Colstrip, Montana. Introductions were made; see the attached attendance list. John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Hydrologist, stated that the goals of the Reclamation and Development Grant Program (RDGP) proposal, titled "Hydrologic and Geologic Feasibility of Coal Mine Pits as Water Impoundments", are to build scientific methods and guidelines for evaluating impoundments in mine reclamation design, and to use those methods to predict final pit water quality and storage volumes. John emphasized that the impoundments under consideration are stockwater-size, not large ponds. Local landowners and coal company representatives voiced their concerns regarding the proposal, as well as current State permitting standards.

Even though the proposal did not receive a funding recommendation from the review committee, there is the possibility that with the support of local landowners and coal mining companies, the Long Range Planning Committee may move it to a funded position. In preparation for the January 29, 1997, hearing, individuals were asked to travel to Helena to express their support of the proposal.

As a result of the discussion, the following proposal modifications were put forth: create an advisory committee to the project sponsor, Rosebud Conservation District, consisting of representatives of local landowners, coal mining companies, and recreation organizations; utilize existing data collected by the mining companies and other sources; and, collect additional data only when necessary.

Dave Davenport will represent Rosebud Conservation District at the hearing.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Jack Knobloch, Chairman; Dennis Nixon, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Layton Salsbery.

Members Not Present: Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The regular meeting was called to order by Jack Knobloch at 5:50 p.m.

Dennis Nixon moved, seconded by Robert Heinle, to approve the minutes of the December 18, 1996, regular meeting. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: An error on the December Treasurer's Report Petty Cash expenditures was corrected leaving a January beginning balance of \$9.32. Layton Salsbery moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Dennis seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The previous month's activities report was distributed.

LOAN PROGRAM: LEGAL ISSUES: A brief update on action taken during the January 14, 1997, special meeting was provided. Don Holland, Montana state Representative, was contacted by

Robert Heinle and Mike Volesky, MACD, to carry legislation to change the conservation loan program. The changes are to strike the reference to the Montana Administrative Procedures Act (MAPA) as relating to the loan program, to allow the administration of a no-interest loan program, and to clarify Montana statutes to allow assessment of administrative fees. In drafting the bill, Laurie Zeller, DNRC-CDB, asked if Rosebud Conservation District wanted to include legislation that would allow the Board the option of leaving the interest accrued in the loan program account. The Board agreed to the inclusion providing it does not jeopardize the previously approved changes. Layton moved to include the option of leaving the interest in the loan program account as part of the legislation; Dave seconded and the motion carried. Laurie will be notified of the Board's decision.

OLD BUSINESS:

EQIP: Since Treasure County CD and Rosebud CD have agreed to work independently on the local work group meetings, discussion on how to proceed ensued. The Board agreed to conduct a preliminary meeting with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee and the County Executive Director (CED) to discuss the process of gathering natural resource concerns and details such as where, when, and who to invite to the meetings. Diane will notify the Board of the date selected after consulting with the CED. Rocky and Diane will draft an agenda for the preliminary meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING: The meeting date has been changed to Sunday, February 23, 1997, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hysham High School multi-purpose room. Invitations to the buffet meal will be mailed as soon as possible. The deadline for RSVP is February 7.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of projects worked on the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: Due to the late meeting, Rocky will report at the next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

NACD QUOTA: Caprice Gregory moved to pay the NACD 1997 assessment of 1% of the district's base operating budget, \$742. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

COAL GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Layton moved to approve the \$2684.40 expenditure for equipment; Dennis seconded and the motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

CHAIRPERSON: Robert nominated Dennis Nixon; Jack seconded and the motion carried. Dave moved, seconded by Robert, the nominations cease; the motion carried. An unanimous ballot was cast for Dennis as Chairperson.

VICE CHAIRPERSON: Dennis nominated Layton Salsbery, seconded by Robert; the motion carried. Dave moved the nominations cease, Robert seconded and the motion carried. An unanimous ballot was cast for Layton as Vice Chairperson.

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Dennis nominated Diane Stephenson as Secretary/Treasurer, Robert seconded and the motion carried. An unanimous ballot was cast for Diane as Secretary/Treasurer.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Committee assignments were reviewed, and the following changes were made.

Capitol letters designate a MACD standing committee:

Dennis: DISTRICT OPERATIONS, Southern Saline Seep Organization.

Layton: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE, Personnel Committee, Sand Creek Work Committee.

Dave: RESEARCH, Weed Management Coordinator.

Caprice: EDUCATION, RC&D, Ag in MT Schools, Personnel Committee, Sand Creek Work Committee.

Robert: FINANCE, Reserved Water Committees, Sand Creek Work Committee.

Jack: WATER RESOURCES.

Bob: RANGE, FORESTRY, PUBLIC LANDS.

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D: Caprice volunteered to serve as Rosebud Conservation District's representative on the Eastern Plains RC&D Board.

DNRC NOTES: The notes were distributed; information mentioned within is available at the district office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: Notices of wastewater permit renewals were received for Columbia Falls Aluminum Company, Flathead River, and for the Public Utilities Department for the City of Billings. No action was taken.

MONTANA WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM: Board members were notified of a planning meeting for an upcoming watershed symposium to be held in June, 1997. The planning meeting will be held on February 12, 1997. No Supervisors are able to attend.

WEED SUPERVISOR: Robert mentioned talk of a legislative bill that would place the weed supervisor under the direction of the Conservation Districts. No further information was available; Diane will contact Mike Volesky regarding the bill.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Eastern Plains RC&D.
Newsletters: Liberty County CD, Hill County CD, Missoula CD, McCone CD, Cascade County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Upper Musselshell CD, Ag in Montana Schools, District Leader, Tuesday Letter, Water Lines, Inside Agroforestry.

Due to the lateness of the meeting, time scheduled to work on the Strategic Plan was postponed until another time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



Jack Knobloch, Chairman



Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

**ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COLSTRIP, MONTANA
1/22/97**

RIT/RDGP MEETING

NAME

Jack Knobloch
Dennis Nixon
Rocky Schwagler
Brad Dingee
Reg Hoff
Mike Shea
Bruce Waage
Jim Parker
Doug McRae
Clint McRae
Wally McRae
Wendy Warren
Caprice Gregory
Bill Beaver
Layton Salsbery
John Wheaton
Wayne Van Voast
David Davenport
Robert Heinle
Bill Gillin
Nick Golder
Diane Stephenson

REPRESENTING

Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Big Sky Coal Company
Big Sky Coal Company
Western Energy
Western Energy
Montana Power
Greenleaf Land & Livestock Company
Rocker Six Cattle Company
Rocker Six Cattle Company
Rosebud Conservation District Technician
Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Spring Creek Coal Company
Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology
Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology
Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Rosebud Conservation District Supervisor
Rancher
Rancher
Rosebud Conservation District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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TREASURER'S REPORT JANUARY, 1997

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.
Balance brought forward:		\$49435.40	\$3604.98	\$1467.05	\$403811.81	\$9.
3890 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP25 (453.37)	680.00				
3891 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP25 (613.17)	822.40				
3892 U.S. Postmaster	Postage	55.00				
3893 Diane Stephenson	Petty Cash	50.00				
3894 IRS	PP24,25,23OT (725.46)	216.73				
3895 MT Tech	Coal Grant	991.70				
3896 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP26 (393.75)	680.00				
3897 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP26 (578.77)	822.40				
3898 Ag In MT Schools	Dues/1 yr	100.00				
3999 Clark Hardware	Supplies	3.60				
3900 Boss Inc.	Supplies	15.15				
3901 U.S. West	Phone Service	52.25				
3902 Unemployment Ins	4th qtr	38.17				
3903 Forsyth School	Registration/Computer	35.00				
3904 Dept. of Revenue	1995 Wthldgs (1309.88)	167.98				
Cellular One	Mobile Service	95.99				
3905 MCI	Long Distance Service	5.24				
3907 Rosebud Co. Plan	Jan. Medical (665.00)	370.00				
3908 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP01 (393.75)	680.00				
3909 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP01 (578.77)	822.40				
3910 IRS	Dpst/PP26,01 (604.52)	187.26				
3911 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep.Care (116.30)	0.00				
111 Barb Rolston	Loan				6500.00	
PC Range Phone	NRCS Copies					6.
PC Jacks IGA	Dec. mtg exp					12.
PC U.S. Postmaster	Cert. Letter/Hoff					2.
PC U.S. Postmaster	Postage					12.
PC Jacks IGA	Spec mtg exp					6.
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$6891.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6500.00	\$40.
INCOME DURING MONTH:						
County Budget	Warren/Reimb	15.15				
County Budget	Nixon/Phone	32.39				
County Budget	St of MT/Coal Grant	3181.70				
County Budget	Stephenson/Phone	21.30				
County Budget	Kenney/Phone	21.30				
County Budget	Nixon/Phone	22.08				
County Budget	Nansel/Phone	31.31				
District Account	Interest		11.51			
Loan Account	Pmt/Schwend				370.00	
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Rolston				195.00	
Loan Account	Interest				733.73	
Loan Account	Pmt/Kanta				1000.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Asay				4060.00	
Petty Cash	County Budget					50.
TOTAL INCOME:		\$3325.23	\$11.51	\$0.00	\$6358.73	\$50.
Balance Carried Forward:		\$45869.36	\$3616.49	\$1467.05	\$403670.54	\$19.

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 1997, SPECIAL MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice-Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Robert Heinle.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The Special meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Nixon at 2:50 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. The meeting immediately followed a Work Group planning meeting with representatives from the Farm Service Agency, Extension Service, and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE: Dave Davenport made a motion to approve travel for Diane Stephenson to attend a 310 Committee meeting, tentatively planned for the last of February in Missoula. Jack seconded and the motion carried. Diane intends to fly from Billings to Missoula if possible.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Members were reminded of the February 7, 1997, deadline to RSVP for the Annual Banquet, hosted by Treasure County Conservation District.

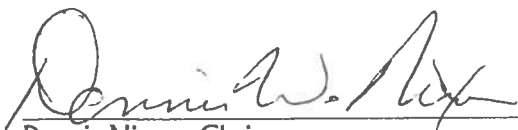
LOAN PROGRAM: Diane reported that Robert Heinle traveled to Helena to attend the House Ag Committee meeting on February 4, 1997. Don Holland introduced Rosebud Conservation District's bill to change the conservation practice loan program statutes. No other information was available at this time.

RIT/RDGP PROPOSAL: Dave's success at the Long Range Planning Committee hearing was noted. Members were reminded to thank Representative Tom Zook for his assistance. The House Appropriations Committee will approve final program budgets for the grant proposals. Board members must be prepared to contact their legislators regarding final approval, if called upon.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Committee members, Dennis, Layton and Caprice, were reminded of the February 12, 1997, meeting at 7:00 p.m.

NRCS: GREAT PLAINS: The Board reviewed cost-share rates for the Great Plains conservation program. Rocky explained the Board may suggest alternative cost-share rates or practices at any time during the year. Dave moved, seconded by Layton, to approve the rates as distributed; the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Con; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by acting Chairman Jack Knobloch at 2:00 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Robert Heinle moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to approve the following minutes; the motion carried: January 14, 1997, Special meeting; January 22, 1997, Regular meeting; February 5, 1997, Special meeting.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

ROSEBUD COUNTY WEED DISTRICT: Vince Thomas, Weed Supervisor, was unable to attend the meeting. He will be re-scheduled for the March regular meeting to give a brief report on the weed sprayer that the District purchased last spring.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Bob seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The format of the Administrator's report was changed to provide more information on the activities and duties undertaken throughout the month. Copies of the report were distributed at the meeting; in the future, the Administrator's report will be distributed with the tentative agenda prior to the meeting.

LOAN PROGRAM: LOAN APPROVAL: The Board discussed how to handle two loans that were approved in 1989 and 1990 totaling \$70,000, committed to Judy Candee and Mysee Ranch. Because no title insurance has been provided and no activity has taken place, Robert made a motion to cancel the loans due to lack of timely action, Dave seconded and the motion carried.

The Board discussed the procedure of considering funds committed when a mortgage is greater than the total of the project or projects. Bob made a motion to release funds totaling \$52,600, previously committed to the following individuals: Bob Mereness, Ray Batey, Tri-Can Ag, Schiffer Ranch, Greg Lackman, Tom Wimer, Hathaway Ranch. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

DELINQUENT PAYMENTS: Diane questioned what criteria delinquent loan payments are based upon. Following considerable discussion, a committee consisting of Dave Davenport, Robert Heinle, and Bob Nansel will meet to establish policy procedure for calculating delinquent payments and other issues. The Committee will meet on February 28 at 2:00 p.m. and will report their findings at the next regular meeting. Diane will review previous minutes for any information that may help the committee.

310 COMMITTEE: The February 310 Committee meeting was tentatively rescheduled for March 17 & 18 in Helena. The group will review the 310 forms and consider any necessary changes, and will develop model rules.

OLD BUSINESS:

AUDIT: Diane reported that Brent Olness, of Olness and Associates, will complete a financial review of the District's books during the second week of June. The review will take at least one day, but no more than two.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: Copies of MACD's legislative update were distributed to members, as well as an update on legislative action the District has taken regarding the following issues: HB 474: Changes to the 310 law; HB 402: Clean-up revisions for Conservation District loan program; HB 507: Indefinite Terms for Yellowstone River Basin Water Reservations; HB 427: Revisions to the Resource Indemnity Trust Funds Interest Earnings. Also, according to Mike Volesky, the Executive Director of Montana Counties did not know anything about a bill to place the county weed supervisor under the direction of the conservation district.

STREAM MECHANICS WORKSHOP: The Board reviewed a preliminary agenda and budget for a Stream Mechanics Workshop set for late April or early May. A grant through DNRC/Fish, Wildlife & Parks will help fund the workshop. The Board originally planned to have Interfluve from Bozeman conduct the session. However, due to the costs associated with Interfluve, it was agreed to ask Warren Kellogg, DNRC, to conduct the workshop. The workshop will focus on rock bank barbs with a classroom session and lunch provided by the District, followed by a field visit to inspect barbs constructed on the Yellowstone River by Robert Heinle. Diane will contact the Forsyth Country Club as a possible location for the classroom session and lunch. The Board felt that transportation to Robert's farm near Hathaway would not be a problem, as individuals will prefer to drive their own vehicles.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a written report of activities and training sessions for the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM: Rocky explained that EWP funds must be funneled through a sponsor that is a governmental body. Caprice made a motion to sponsor Emergency Watershed Program projects that may be submitted in the future; Robert seconded and the motion carried.

LTAs: Rocky presented the following LTA projects. Robert moved to approve the LTAs; seconded by Bob, the motion carried.

ROGERS RANCH: Jim Rogers plans to install a well, stockwater pipeline, tanks and fencing. Cost share totals approximately \$18,500.

DENNIS ARMSTRONG: Under a 10 year LTA, Dennis Armstrong plans to install an irrigation mainline pipeline, fencing, pasture grass seeding and trees. The plan calls for an intensive irrigated pasture rotation, with cost share totaling \$33,570.

CRP: March 4 through 28 is the sign-up period for new CRP contracts and for contracts expiring in 1997. National ranking will be based in wildlife habitat, water quality, and soil erosion, with set bid caps based on soils.

STRATEGIC PLAN: The Board agreed to work on the strategic plan prior to each regular meeting until it is done; 45 minutes will be devoted to the strategic plan prior to calling the March regular meeting to order.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT MEETING/PUBLICITY: Copies of invitation letters to be sent to persons and/or groups interested in attending the March 12, 1997, Conservation Needs Assessment meeting were distributed to the Board for review. A list of groups to invite to the meeting was also reviewed; Board members indicated who the invitations should be forward to. Previously Dennis Nixon volunteered to do a radio spot prior to the meeting;

Rocky and Lance Wasson, Farm Service Agency County Executive Director, will be asked to assist Dennis. Dave and Caprice will inquire if any local civic groups are interested in providing refreshments for the meeting as a small fund raiser. Diane will be contacted with any suggested groups as soon as possible.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Caprice and Diane presented a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to modify the evaluation process. After a lengthy discussion, Dave moved to adopt the following evaluation procedure as policy; Robert seconded and the motion carried:

- The employee and each board member will separately complete an evaluation form on the employee.
- Board members will note on the evaluation form any duties or directions necessary for the employee to complete during the upcoming evaluation year.
- During a closed meeting, the Chairperson will compile the board's individual forms into one form including all comments.
- The employee and the Chairperson will privately discuss the evaluations.
- The Chairperson will report to the Board the outcome of the discussion with the employee.
- The Board will review and sign the final evaluation and will make any decisions regarding merit increases.
- The Chairperson will discuss the Board's decision with the employee. The employee may either accept or not accept the evaluation.
- If the evaluation is not accepted, the same process will be followed as in the current policy, i.e., the employee may request a hearing before the Board. Following the hearing, the Board will reconsider the evaluation, reaffirm or revise the final evaluation. The Chairperson shall report the final evaluation to the employee in writing.

The Personnel Committee plans to meet again before the March regular meeting; no date was set as one committee member was in attendance.

The Board was reminded that April marks Wendy's first year of employment and an evaluation, utilizing the above steps, will be scheduled for April.

NEW BUSINESS:

MACD ASSESSMENT: Caprice moved to pay the 1997 MACD assessment of \$3013, which includes \$25 dues for the Plant Materials Center. Bob seconded and the motion carried. The assessment is based on 7% of the county funds actually received during the fiscal year.

COAL GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Dave moved to approve the \$702.71 expenditure for supplies; Bob seconded and the motion carried.

COMPUTER WORKSHOP: Diane request approval to attend a Microsoft Office workshop in Billings on March 20. The workshop will be conducted by Fred Pryor Seminars and costs \$79. Dave moved, seconded by Robert, that Diane attend the workshop. The motion carried.

ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT/WATER QUALITY GUIDES: Copies of the guide, published by the Department of Environmental Quality, were distributed to the Supervisors. It was suggested that the guides be sent to individual livestock producers in the county; no action taken.

GRAZING LANDS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE: The GLCI newsletter is available for review and application forms for grant projects are on file in the District office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

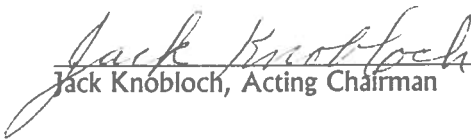
6TH GRADE CONSERVATION DAY: The Board agreed to sponsor a 6th grade conservation day near Lame Deer for students attending the Lame Deer, Birney, and Ashland schools, following the same format as is currently being used for the Forsyth and Hysham schools. Diane will

work with the Lame Deer NRCS field office to schedule a time, location, and instructors for the field day.

WATERSHED PLANNING VIDEO: The video was not viewed due to the meeting running late; another time will be scheduled, if possible.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Eastern Plains RC&D. Newsletters: DNRC Notes, MACD, Lower Musselshell CD, Big Horn CD, Montana Soil & Water Conservation Society, Ag in MT Schools, Ag in the Classroom, Conservogram (January & February), Forestry Notes (December & January), Watershed News, District Leader, CTIC Partners, Inside Agroforestry, Water Lines.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.


Jack Knobloch, Acting Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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FEBRUARY, 1997, TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.
Balance brought forward:		\$45869.36	\$3616.49	\$1467.05	\$403670.54	\$19.
3912	Jack's IGA	Supplies/Jan mtg	29.13			
3913	Forsyth Hardware	Coffeemaker	33.95			
3914	NACD	1997 Dues	742.00			
3915	Marquis Award	ConsAchvmt/LaBree	92.12			
3916	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP02(480.66)	680.00			
3917	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep. Care	0.00			
3918	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP02(590.86)	822.40			
3919	MT Tech	Coal Grant	2684.40			
3920	Cellular One	Mobile Service	123.40			
3921	U.S. West	Phone Service	67.80			
3922	U.S. Postmaster	Stamps	64.00			
3923	Indep. Enterprise	1 yr Subscription	24.00			
3924	Diane Stephenson	Petty Cash	50.00			
3925	Rosebud Co. Plan	Feb Medical(665.00)	370.00			
3926	MCI	Long Distance Service	22.52			
3927	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP03(393.75)	680.00			
	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP03(560.29)	822.40			
	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical	0.00			
3930	IRS	Depst/PP02,03(683.08)	199.54			
3931	Dennis Nixon	Travel/Spec.mtg exp	128.00			
3932	Layton Salsbery	Travel/Spec mtg exp	52.00			
3933	Dave Davenport	Travel/Helena	253.10			
3934	Caprice Gregory	Travel/Spec mtg exp	72.00			
3935	Robert Heinle	Travel/Helena	305.00			
3936	Jack Knobloch	Travel/Spec mtg exp	65.20			
3937	Bob Nansel	Travel/Spec mtg exp	59.40			
3938	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep. Care	0.00			
3939	U.S. Postmaster	Postage/Annual Report	12.24			
3940	Star Printing	Supplies	59.40			
3941	PERD	Soc.Sec.Assmt/PT'84-86	84.90			
3942	Trading Post	Supplies/Heater	48.72			
3943	MACDEO	1997 Dues	15.00			
822	Rails' Inn	Supervisors Dinner		42.25		
112	Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/Kanta,Asay			12.00	
113	Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/Giesick,Nansel,Ferguson			18.00	
PC	Town Pump	Supplies				3.
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Cert. Mail				5.
PC	Jack's IGA	Local Work Plan mtg exp				5.
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$8675.47	\$42.45	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$13.
INCOME						
County Budget	St of MT/Coal Grant	2684.40				
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	21.30				
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	27.40				
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	21.30				
County Budget	IRS/Reimbursement	1.50				
County Budget	MACDEO/Postage Reimb	42.98				
District Account	Interest		10.72			

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
 FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
 (406) 356-7479

FEBRUARY, 1997, TREASURER'S REPORT

	COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.
Balance brought forward:	\$45869.36	\$3616.49	\$1467.05	\$403670.54	\$19
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$8675.47	\$42.25	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$13
INCOME SUBTOTAL:	\$2798.88	\$10.72			
INCOME cont.					
Loan Account Pmt/Hoff				2320.00	
Loan Account Pmt/Tri-Can Ag				2170.00	
Loan Account Interest				551.31	
Loan Account Pmt/Shelton				1700.00	
Petty Cash County Budget					50
INCOME SUBTOTAL:				\$6741.31	\$50
Balance Carried Forward:	\$39992.77	\$3584.96	\$1467.05	\$410381.85	\$55

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
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Conservation Needs Assessment Meeting March 12, 1997, 7:00 p.m., Rosebud County Library

Dennis Nixon, Rosebud Conservation District Chairman, called the Conservation Needs Assessment meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of the Rosebud County Library. Introductions were made; see the attached registration list for attendance. Dennis briefly explained that the intended purpose of the meeting was to gather input from local landowners and producers of the natural resource concerns within Rosebud County. The information gathered would help the conservation district in their long term planning and use of equipment and staff.

Steve Van Fossen, NRCS and facilitator, explained the natural resource survey, provide by Rosebud Conservation District, was a means to initiate group discussion of resource concerns. The surveys were completed by the attendees and compiled. The resource issues were prioritized for discussion according to the number of votes received:

Agricultural Sustainability	10
Grazing Lands	10
Water Quality	10
Irrigation Water Management	7
Recreation	7
Agricultural Productivity	7
Pesticide Management	6
Soil Erosion	5
Soil Quality/Health	5
Water Availability	5
Wildlife	5
Flooding	4
Agricultural Land Conservation	4
Air Quality	3
Biological Diversity	3
Rural Land Use	3
Threatened/Endangered Species	2
Animal Waste	1
Land Disposal of Organic Waste	1
Urban Land Use	1
Riparian Corridors	1
Storm Water Management	1
Wetlands	1
Food and Fiber Production	1

Through group discussion specific concerns relating to the top six resource issues, listed above, and two additional issues were recorded as follows:

AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Economic viability, #1 industry in Montana
- Industrial Growth
- Urban sprawl
- Being productive

AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY – Continued

- Health of resources
- Noxious Weeds
- Saline seep
- Erosion
- Transfer of resource to new owner/operator

GRAZING LANDS

- Negative publicity towards ag industry
- Increased demand for recreation
- Damage from fire
- Range trend
- Loss of grazing lands due to noxious weeds, urban sprawl
- Cost of doing business
- Range condition
- Water distribution
- Grazing methods
- CRP

WATER QUALITY

- Loss of gain, livestock related
- Loss of quality drinking water, specifically Rosebud Creek
- Seismograph operations, 40 years ago
- Feedlots by river
- Coal mines, reclamation spoil
- Chemical contamination
- Agricultural and industrial practices
- Wildlife contamination of water
- Condition of riparian areas
- Water erosion

IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT

- Cost of power
- Saline seep
- Over watering
- Field erosion
- Water quality, high nitrogen
- Inefficient delivery systems

RECREATION

- Potential future impacts
- Lack of information
- Erosion problem associated with off-road vehicles
- Conflicts with traditional uses
- Maintenance, signs, roads, fences, damage control
- Economic value alternative income
- Increasing demand from outside

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

- Water quality for livestock
- Loss of windbreaks/shelter belts
- Loss of productivity due to wildlife
- Lack of local markets
- Lack of markets period

FLOODING

- Streambank erosion
- Condition of lands adjacent to rivers
- Grazing practices that affect runoff
- Returning land to productivity after flooding
- Replacing inventory, structures
- Emergency preparedness
- Involvement of Federal and State agencies, good and bad

WILDLIFE

- Competition for resources
- Poor management from FW&P
- Outfitters
 - Competition for permits
 - Difference in values
- Positive impacts of wildlife
- Endangered species

Upon the completion of a basic inventory of the resource issues listed above, Rosebud Conservation District will call another meeting of this work group to prioritize the concerns based on the information gathered through the inventory. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:



Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

**Rosebud Conservation District Conservation Needs Assessment Meeting
March 12, 1997**

NAME	ADDRESS/REPRESENTING
Dennis Kenney	Forsyth – RCD
Caprice Gregory	Forsyth – RCD
Robert Gregory	Forsyth – Rosebud Health Care Center, Sportsmen
Bob Nansel	Forsyth – RCD, J.M. Nansel Ranch, Inc.
Arthur Schiffer	Rosebud – Schiffer Ranch
Darrell Grogan	Forsyth – First State Bank
Sharon Moore	Miles City – DNRC
Bryon Bennett	Hathaway – Bennett Livestock
Brad Adler	Hathaway – Graveyard Creek Ranch, Inc.
James Wolfe	Forsyth
David Davenport	Forsyth – RCD
Bob Armstrong	Forsyth
Layton Salsbery	Forsyth – RCD
Bill Schwarzkoph	Forsyth
Floyd Dahlman	Forsyth
Lance Wasson	Forsyth – Farm Service Agency
Edna Olson	Forsyth
Kathy Lehman	Miles City – BLM
Newell Philbrick	Forsyth – Rancher
Dennis Nixon	Colstrip – RCD
Rocky Schwagler	Forsyth – NRCS
Steve Van Fossen	Miles City – NRCS, Facilitator
Diane Stephenson	RCD Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 26, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Duane Claypool, DNRC Project Coordinator; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The group worked on the Strategic Plan from 7:00 p.m. to 7:50 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Nixon at 7:50 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Layton Salsbery moved to approve the February 26, 1997, regular meeting minutes with the following addition. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

LOAN PROGRAM: ELIGIBLE LOAN COMPONENTS: Used gated irrigation pipe is an eligible component for a District loan if NRCS checks the pipe out, it meets their specifications, the life of the project and/or the term of the loan.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room with Strategic planning scheduled for the first 45 minutes.

ROSEBUD COUNTY WEED DISTRICT: Vince Thomas, Weed Supervisor, was again unable to attend the meeting. He will be placed on the April agenda to report on the weed sprayer the Rosebud Conservation District donated to the Weed District.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave Davenport moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Layton seconded and the motion carried. The following budget balances were reviewed by the Board; the balances are estimated through the end of the third fiscal year quarter:

ITEM	BUDGETED	EXPENDED	BALANCE	% USED
Salaries	\$ 44,405	\$ 29,753.14	\$ 14,651.86	67
Benefits	5,595	4,904.45	690.55	88
Cons Education	4,000	766.76	3,233.24	19
Dues	4,850	3,974.00	876.00	82
Office Supplies	2,500	1,503.24	996.76	60
Field Supplies	400	373.75	26.25	93
Security Bond	100	105.00	< 5.00 >	105
Maintenance Agree	450	143.00	307.00	32
Newsletter	2,000	0.00	2,000.00	0
Annual Report	3,000	71.64	2,928.36	2
Supervisor Expense	6,000	3,227.90	2,772.10	54
Reserved Water	400	0.00	400.00	0
Workshops	500	114.00	386.00	23
TOTALS:	\$ 74,200	\$ 44,936.88	\$ 29,263.12	

RESERVED WATER: ARLENE HAM: Duane Claypool, DNRC Project Coordinator, presented a detailed development plan for Arlene Ham's new 57 acre irrigation project near Hathaway. As no objections were received, Robert Heinle moved to approve the project; Jack Knobloch

seconded and the motion carried. The application and plan will be forwarded to DNRC for final approval.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The Administrator's monthly report was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions were asked.

LOAN PROGRAM:

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:15 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken during the closed session:

SCOTT GIESICK: Scott plans to install a buried irrigation mainline pipeline and gated pipe through a five year long term agreement totaling \$10,500. Scott also intends to purchase additional used gated pipe for fields not under this LTA project. Layton moved to approve the loan for \$23,000; Caprice Gregory seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was opened to the public at 8:45 p.m.

LOAN PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT: Suggested changes to the loan program guidelines were distributed to the Board members prior to the regular meeting. Committee members, Robert, Dave, and Bob, answered questions and minor changes were made to the suggestions. Layton moved to adopt the changes, seconded by Robert, the motion carried. Diane will send the revisions to Laurie Zeller, DNRC, to ensure the changes follow the law.

LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE: The following loan program funds, available as of March 17, 1997, reflect the cancellation of previously approved loans:

LOAN FUNDS ON HAND:	\$ 403,261.13
FUNDS COMMITTED, w/ title insurance	29,700.00
BOARD APPROVED LOANS, w/o title insurance	<u>127,300.00</u>
SUBTOTAL:	\$ 246,261.13
LOAN ACCOUNT INTEREST	145,670.50
3% ADMIN. FEE COLLECTED, based on \$970,00 loaned	<u>29,100.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 71,490.63

310: DENNIS KENNEY, DRAIN DITCH MAINTENANCE, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-01, APO: The Board reviewed a 10 year maintenance application from Dennis Kenney to clean a drain ditch. Dennis estimates removing less than 5 cubic yards of driftwood and silt where the ditch drains into the Yellowstone River on a as-needed basis. The application was forwarded to Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, on March 13, 1997; Phil recommended approval of the project as it would have no detrimental effects on the river. No on-site inspection is requested. Caprice moved the activity is a 310 project; Layton seconded and the motion carried. Layton moved to approve the project as submitted; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Form 273, Supervisor's Decision, was signed by members and will be forwarded to both Dennis and Phil Stewart.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING: Diane was unable to attend the Helena meeting on March 20 and 21, but reported that the group made major changes to the 310 forms and reviewed the model rules, which will be sent to the Districts on floppy disks. Area IV Administrators plan to meet immediately after the model rules are distributed by DNRC to discuss the public hearing process.

OLD BUSINESS:

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: The following legislative action was taken during the previous month:

HB 402, Clean-up revisions for Conservation District Loan Program: The Senate Ag Committee heard the bill on March 12. Letters were faxed to Reiny Jabs and Gerry Devlin providing a brief background on why the bill is necessary. According to Mike Volesky, the Ag Committee will take executive action on the bill.

SB 306, which proposes to repeal the RIT Tax upon reaching a balance of \$100 million, was scheduled before the Senate Taxation Committee. Opposition letters were faxed to Mack Cole and Gerry Devlin with reference to Rosebud Conservation District's RIT project recently approved by the Long Range Planning Committee. Currently the RIT tax assessment is ½ of one percent on minerals extracted in Montana. Mike Volesky thanked us for sending the letter; no further information was available.

STREAM MECHANICS WORKSHOP: In order to coordinate with Warren Kellogg's schedule, the workshop will be held on Thursday, May 8 with the classroom session held at the Forsyth Country Club and the tour at Robert Heinle's farm near Hathaway. The classroom session will be approximately an hour and a half long. Copies of the draft agenda and preliminary budget were distributed. The Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks grant request totals \$705.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT MEETING: The March 12 meeting was conducted with 23 people in attendance. A summary of the surveys completed at the CNA meeting was distributed to the Board, along with the list of the top resource concerns. Rocky reported that Montana will receive approximately \$6.5 million for 1997 EQIP; 35% of those funds may be utilized outside the designated priority areas. The Board discussed how this may affect projects in Rosebud County and requested that NRCS help conduct an assessment on the identified resource issues.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Layton reviewed items the Committee agreed to place in the Personnel Policy; the items are required by law, but were not in the current policy. Following a lengthy discussion to include items recommended by DNRC but not required, Layton moved to table the issue and send it back to the Personnel Committee for further guidance. Robert seconded and the motion carried. The items under consideration were: employee work rules; employee appearance; recruitment, selection, and promotion; promotions and raises; employee orientation; dismissal for cause; layoffs; lawsuits; and absence without leave. The Board concurred with the Committee's recommendation to place employee conduct items in the Personnel Policy; these are currently detailed in the job descriptions. It was agreed to incorporate NRCS' input to the district employee evaluation process. The process was amended to read as follows:

- The employee, the NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist, and each board member shall separately complete an evaluation form on the employee. The NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist will gather input from NRCS personnel working directly with the employee and compile comments for the Board's consideration.
- Board members will note on the evaluation form any duties or directions necessary for the employee to complete during the upcoming evaluation year.
- The NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist will be invited to meet with the Board during a closed meeting to review NRCS' input on the employee's evaluation.
- During a closed meeting, the Board will compile their individual forms into one, including all comments.
- The employee and the Chairperson will privately discuss the evaluation forms completed by the Board, the employee, and NRCS.
- The Chairperson will report to the Board the outcome of the discussion with the employee.
- If the employee and/or NRCS provide the Board with conflicting opinions, the Board will call a joint meeting with both parties involved to discuss and resolve the differences.
- The Board will review and sign the final evaluation form and will make any decisions regarding merit pay increases.
- The Chairperson will discuss the Board's decisions with the employee. The employee may either accept or not accept the evaluation.
- If the employee does not accept the evaluation, the employee may request a hearing before the Board. Following the hearing, the Board will reconsider the evaluation,

reaffirm or revise the final evaluation. The Chairperson shall report the final evaluation to the employee in writing.

- Any merit pay increases will be based on the employee's performance evaluation. The amount will be determined by the Board of Supervisors and shall be effective as the Board deems appropriate.

The Board also discussed maximum hours of holiday pay. It was explained that when a holiday falls on a day the employee is scheduled to work more than 8 hours, the employee will be paid 8 hours holiday pay and must make up the additional time before the end of the week so that the hours worked are no more than 40. When the holiday falls on a day the employee is scheduled to work less than 8 hours, the employee will be paid 8 hours of holiday pay and must take the remaining hours off before the end of the week so that the hours are no more than 40. Currently the technician works a compressed schedule, the administrator works straight 8 hour days. Wendy is aware of the requirements regarding holiday pay.

April 1 marks Wendy's first year of employment and her annual evaluation is scheduled as follows: Evaluation forms will be mailed out to Board members prior to the April 23 regular meeting. Compilation of the Board members' individual forms will be completed by the Chairperson in a closed session either during or following the April meeting. Wendy will meet with Dennis sometime between the April and May meetings. At the May meeting and again during a closed session, Dennis will review with the Board the outcome of the meeting with Wendy. The Board will make recommendations and Dennis will present the final evaluation to Wendy sometime after the May meeting. NRCS involvement in the evaluation will be as outlined above.

6TH GRADE CONSERVATION DAY: The field days are scheduled with Lane Deer on May 6 and Hysham/Forsyth on May 7. Plans are tentative regarding the Lane Deer session as arrangements have not been confirmed with the schools and instructors, and the site location has not been selected.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a written report of activities and training sessions for the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: SNOW SURVEY: Rocky reported the most recent snow survey showed a decrease from 180% of normal snow pack to 150%.

CRP: Of the thirty-four contracts scheduled to expire in 1997, twenty-four have been re-bid into the CRP and seven to ten new contracts have been submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

COAL GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Layton moved to approve the \$2794.72 expenditure; seconded by Caprice, the motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding the administrative funds collected through the Coal Grant. The money must be used before the grant expires at the end of May, 1997. Equipment needs, specifically a fax, color printer, scanner, and chair for Wendy, were discussed. Prices will be gathered and members notified of the findings. Since administrative funds have not been utilized in the one and a half years the grant has been in place, Layton moved to pay Diane's salary out of these moneys. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

GROUNDWATER MODEL: The Board was informed the Rock Springs School will be using the groundwater model. No decision was made on how to make the model more accessible to educators.

NATIONAL AG WEEK: Bob Nansel discussed NRCS programs during a brief radio spot on March 21, in conjunction with National Ag Week activities.

SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP: A workshop for both Supervisors and administrators was held in Glendive on March 25; no one was able to attend.

MONTANA RIPARIAN & WETLAND ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP: Information on the Missoula workshop on April 9 – 10 was available.

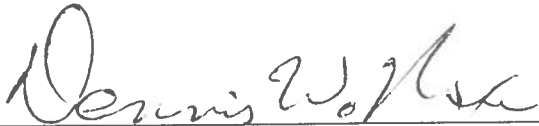
ANNUAL BANQUET: Margaret Cole sent a thank you note for annual banquet dinner and entertainment.

DNRC & MACD NEWSLETTERS: The newsletters were distributed to member prior to the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: BUSINESS CARDS AND PICTURE ID CARDS: The Board again discussed purchasing business cards and picture id cards for members and employees. Pending the purchase of new office equipment that would have these capabilities, no action was taken.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Ag in MT Schools. Newsletters: Liberty County CD, Pondera County CD, District Leader (February & March), Forestry Notes, CTIC. Workshop: National Soil & Water Conservation Society, Toronto, July 22 - 25.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.



Dennis Nixon, Chairman



Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
 FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
 (406) 356-7479

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH, 1997

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Balance brought forward:		\$39992.77	\$3584.96	\$1467.05	\$410381.85	\$55.03	\$0.00
3944	MACD	1997 Assessment	3013.00				
3945	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP04 (393.75)	680.00				
3946	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (93.15)	0.00				
3947	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP04 (560.29)	822.40				
3948	Cellular One	Mobile Service	132.31				
3949	Boss, Inc.	Supplies	59.95				
3950	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (70.00)	0.00				
3951	U.S. West	Phone Service	46.12				
3952	Lone Wolf Photo	Slides/Cons. Award	14.00				
3953	Montpress, Inc.	Envelopes	61.10				
3954	VOID	VOID					
3955	U.S. Postmaster	Bulk Mailing Permit	85.00				
3956	U.S. Postmaster	CNA Mailing	39.06				
3957	MT Tech	Coal Grant	702.71				
3958	Fred Pryor Seminars	MS Office Workshop	79.00				
3959	Rosebud Co. Insur.	Security Bond	105.00				
3960	Rosebud Co. Plan	March Med. (665.00)	370.00				
3961	MCI	Long Distance Service	8.65				
3962	CTIC	Watershed Kit	15.00				
3963	Rosebud Co Library	CNA/Room Rental	15.00				
3964	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP05 (393.75)	680.00				
3965	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP05 (560.29)	822.40				
3966	Marquis Awards	Pencils	113.86				
3967	IRS	Depst/PP04,05 (580.52)	187.26				
3968	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (53.15)	0.00				
3969	Diane Stephenson	Reimburse/Supplies	17.69				
3970	Independent Ent.	Legal Notice/Ham Res Water	24.00				
	JE Journal Entry	Transfer funds	2190.00				
823	Treasure Co. CD	Annual Banquet		252.00			
114	Don Youngbauer	Loan			13500.00		
115	Rosebud Clerk & Rec	Mortg Rel/Asay			6.00		
	PC Jacks	Feb mtg exp				7.00	
	PC Jacks	Loan Committee mtg exp				2.69	
	PC Jacks	Supplies/CNA mtg exp				15.28	
	PC Jacks	Fax Letters				11.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$10283.51	\$252.00	\$0.00	\$13506.00	\$35.97	\$ 0.00
INCOME:							
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	21.30					
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	21.44					
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	151.26					
County Budget	St of MT/Coal Grant	702.71					
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	25.44					
INCOME SUBTOTAL:		\$922.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 0.00

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200

FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327

(406) 356-7479

Page 2

MARCH, 1997, TREASURER'S REPORT

	COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Balance brought forward:	\$39992.77	\$3584.96	\$1467.05	\$410381.85	\$55.03	\$ 0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$10283.51	\$252.00	\$0.00	\$13506.00	\$35.97	\$ 0.00
INCOME SUBTOTAL:	\$922.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
INCOME CONT.						
District Account	Interest	11.76				
District Account	Flag Sales	30.00				
District Account	Interest	9.44				
Loan Account	Pmt/Youngbauer			1540.00		
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Youngbauer			405.00		
Loan Account	Interest			1674.28		
Loan Account	Pmt/Hofer			390.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Walters			1280.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Wimer			1090.00		
Petty Cash	Map Sale				2.00	
Coal Grant Account	Transfer funds from CB					2190.00
INCOME SUBTOTAL:		\$51.20	\$0.00	\$6379.28	\$2.00	\$2190.00
Balance Carried Forward:	\$30631.41	\$3384.16	\$1467.05	\$403255.13	\$21.06	\$2190.00

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 23, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The group worked on the Strategic Plan from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Nixon at 7:55 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Layton Salsbery moved to approve the March 26, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. Jack Knobloch seconded and the motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth with Strategic Planning scheduled for the first 45 minutes.

ROSEBUD WEED DISTRICT: Vince Thomas, Weed Supervisor, again did not make the meeting; this item will not be rescheduled.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Nansel moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Layton seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The report was distributed prior to the meeting, no questions were asked.

RESERVED WATER: ARLENE HAM: Notice was received from DNRC approving Arlene Ham's detailed development plan. Arlene and Mike Ballensky, the lessee, were notified they may proceed with the project; copies of the detailed development plan were also provided to them.

ANNUAL STATUS REPORT: Copies of the annual water reservation update report, provided by Duane Claypool, DNRC, were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. The balances do not include the project listed above. There were no questions.

LOAN PROGRAM: GUIDELINES: The modified guidelines, adopted at the March regular meeting, were sent to DNRC to ensure the changes were within the law. No word was received from DNRC at the time of the meeting.

ELIGIBLE LOAN: A client raised the question of obtaining a district no-interest loan for a project installed on leased land. Following discussion the Board decided that a ten year lease must be provided and the loan must be secured by the borrower with his own property. Diane will notify the person interested.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING MEETING: Robert Heinle move to approve travel for Diane to attend the 310 Capacity Building meeting in Missoula on May 15. Caprice Gregory seconded and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The latest MACD legislative update was distributed. The following action had been taken by the District:

HB 2 Amendment: A letter was faxed to Representative Tom Zook in support of the amendment to transfer the nonpoint source pollution program from DEQ to DNRC. No word received on the outcome.

HB 507 Reserved Water Indefinite Terms: The bill was signed by the Governor.

HB 402 Clean Up Revisions for Conservation Loan Program: Our bill was also signed by the Governor.

STREAM MECHANICS WORKSHOP: Transportation arrangements to the field site were discussed. Lynn and Steve Wilkins, from Hysham, will be hired for round trip bus transportation at a cost of \$100. Letters of invitation and flyers were mailed to surrounding conservation districts and NRCS offices and news releases were sent to area newspapers. Room arrangements, meals and refreshments will be taken care of by the Forsyth Country Club. The Board was informed that a DNRC grant up to \$500 will be available to cover room rental, publicity, and transportation. Robert agreed to provide details of his rock barb project during the field tour.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT: Information regarding reimbursement from NRCS, through MACD, for conducting the conservation needs assessment meetings was discussed. It was agreed to submit a request for \$200 reimbursement. Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist, presented a draft questionnaire and letter for the Board's consideration. The letter/questionnaire would be sent to local landowners and producers to gather specific information on local natural resource concerns. The Board made minor changes and approved of the distribution. The letters will be mailed on May 12 with a return deadline of May 28.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. Reminders will be sent to committee members prior to the meeting.

6th GRADE CONSERVATION DAY: The Rosebud 6 and 7th grade teachers requested to attend the conservation day at Margaret Cole's. Problems have been encountered in obtaining enough instructors for both the Hysham/Forsyth and the Lane Deer sessions. If necessary, fewer conservation site stations will be conducted. Caprice volunteered to help lead a group of students; final agendas will be sent out as soon as possible.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT JACKETS: Caprice moved to purchase six customized jackets from Sand Hills Sewing Center in Miles City at a cost of approximately \$65 each; Dave Davenport seconded and the motion carried.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT: Due to other workload commitments, no additional information regarding the purchase of office equipment was available; the information will be provided at the next regular meeting.

GOODYEAR AWARD: Rocky agreed to give the Goodyear Cooperator of the Year plaque to Frank and Jeanne LaBree on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. The 1996 Goodyear Award nomination was not submitted.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy Warren distributed a written activities report and presented information on a local noxious weed training session scheduled for June.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP: Information on EQIP was provided during a forum in Miles City on May 22. Even though the EQIP rules are not final, Montana will have \$2.27 million to utilize outside the priority areas. Sign-up for EQIP is continuous under 5 to 10 year contracts with funding up to \$50,000 per individual per year. Maximum cost share is 75%; however, by accepting less cost share, an individual may increase his resource benefit rating. Unlike previous cost share programs, EQIP allows cost share for management practices. Projects for 1997 funding must be submitted to NRCS State Office by May 22. As understood at

this time, a resource inventory must be completed on each EQIP project proposal and a benefit evaluation form completed. The Conservation District will then prioritize the project based on the resource benefits and forward them to NRCS State Office. The Board reviewed a news release prepared by NRCS, and after making modifications, Diane will forward the release to the local newspaper. The Board discussed submitting the Sand Creek watershed as a 1998 EQIP priority area, prior to the May 16 deadline. Requests may be made for either technical or financial assistance. Rocky will find out if there are advantages in requesting technical assistance for Sand Creek; the Board agreed.

LTA: SCOTT GIESICK: Rocky presented Scott Giesick's plan of operation for an irrigation pipeline project, with \$10,500 cost share. Bob Nansel moved to approve the plan; Robert seconded and the motion carried. In relation to Scott's no-interest loan, Rocky also informed the Board that NRCS can not sign-off on used gated pipe. Based upon information that the pipe is two years old and that NRCS has determined the normal life of gated pipe is ten years, Layton moved that the term of the loan used to purchase the used gated pipe be no more than eight years. Caprice seconded and the motion carried. Since NRCS is unable to assist, Layton and Robert agreed to inspect the pipe to determine the condition prior to purchase. Scott will be informed of the Board's decision.

STEVE SHELLEY: Steve Shelley will be utilizing an intensive grazing rotation and installing fences, water control structures, land leveling and grass seeding under a 10 year long term agreement with cost share totaling \$50,000. Layton moved to approve the plan, and Robert seconded. The motion carried, with Dave Davenport voting nay.

INTERIM GREAT PLAINS: NORTHERN CHEYENNE: Layton moved to approve the \$553,000 interim Great Plains contract; Jack seconded and the motion carried. The Bureau of Reclamation will fund the remaining project which totals \$3.2 million.

NEW BUSINESS:

COAL GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Layton moved to approve the \$2088.49 expenditure for supplies and other associated services; Caprice seconded and the motion carried. Caprice moved to submit an invoice for \$793.00 for administrative services the District has provided; Layton seconded and the motion carried. The Board was updated on training sessions John Wheaton will be attending or conducting pertaining to the computer workstation.

DEQ WASTEWATER PERMIT: A notice of application was received from the Department of Environmental Quality to renew wastewater discharge permits to four companies and/or entities, including Decker Coal Company. No action taken.

NACD NORTHERN PLAINS REGIONAL MEETING: Information on the June 15-18 meeting in Omaha, Nebraska was available.

PHONE CALLING CARDS: New calling cards were distributed; the District will have an 800 phone number soon.

TRAVEL APPROVAL: Bob Nansel moved to approve travel for Diane to attend the MACDEO Executive Committee meeting in Red Lodge, tentatively scheduled for May 28 - 30, and a MACDEO training session in Miles City, scheduled for the week of May 19th. Jack seconded and the motion carried.

RANGE CAMPS: Bob Nansel moved to designate up to \$500 for scholarships, on a first come basis to the camp the student wishes to attend; Caprice seconded and the motion carried. Camp information will be sent to the county vo-ag instructors.

OTHER BUSINESS: ANNUAL BANQUET: A thank you note was received from Marianne Hanser for the invitation to the annual banquet.

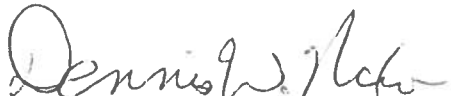
NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS: Diane requested guidance on purchasing advertisement space in specialty newspapers, such as a graduate paper. It was left to the administrator's best judgment.

LOAN PROGRAM: The Board briefly discussed utilizing accrued loan program interest funds to help the County purchase an irrigation system for the Forsyth Cemetery. The issue was tabled for lack of information on the propose project and because no decisions have been made on utilizing those funds.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Rosebud FAC. Newsletters: MACD, Cascade County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Ag in the Classroom, Ag in Montana Schools, Forestry Notes, Conservogram, District Leader.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

A closed session was conducted to begin Wendy Warren's annual evaluation.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
 FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
 (406) 356-7479

APRIL TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Balance brought forward:		\$30631.41	\$3384.16	\$1467.05	\$403255.13	\$21.06	\$2190.00
3971 Dorothy Gregory	CNA mtg expenses	60.00					
3972 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP06 (393.75)	680.00					
3973 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP06 (560.29)	822.40					
3974 Diane Stephenson	Travel/Miles, Blgs	90.08					
3975 U.S. Postmaster	Stamps	87.00					
3976 Indep. Enterprise	CNA ad	18.00					
3977 Rosebud County Press	CNA ad	10.00					
3978 Yellowstone Pharmacy	Supplies	6.56					
3979 Boss, Inc.	Supplies	17.95					
3980 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (84.45)	0.00					
3981 IRS	Depst/PP06 (277.63)	93.63					
3982 Unemployment Ins.	1st Qtr	39.27					
3983 Rosebud County Plan	April Med. (665.00)	370.00					
3984 MT Tech	Coal Grant						2794.72
3985 Cellular One	Mobile Service	103.39					
3986 Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (183.00)	0.00					
3987 U.S. West	Phone Service	54.47					
3988 Diane Stephenson	Reimburse/Supplies	7.99					
3989 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP07						560.29
3990 VOID	VOID						
3991 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP07 (393.75)	680.00					
3992 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (76.90)	0.00					
3993 Diane Stephenson	Travel/Miles 2X	63.80					
3994 Dennis Nixon	Travel/2 Spec mtg	83.40					
3995 Layton Salsbery	Travel/2 Spec mtg	52.40					
3996 Dave Devenport	Travel/2 Spec mtg	88.40					
3997 Caprice Gregory	Travel/2 Spec mtg	52.40					
3998 Robert Heinle	Travel/2 Spec mtg	76.00					
3999 Bob Nansel	Travel/2 Spec mtg	64.88					
824 Wendy Warren	Reimburse/CD jacket		87.95				
825 Treessential Co.	50 Tree Shelters		156.26				
828 VOID	VOID						
829 Layton Salsbery	Conservation Plan			15.00			
PC U.S. Postmaster	Postage/Stream Mech, Res Water					12.01	
PC Jack's ICA	Fax letters					2.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$3622.02	\$244.21	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$14.01	\$3355.01
INCOME:							
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	21.30					
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	21.30					
District Account	Flag Sale		5.00				
District Account	Tree Shelters Sale		156.26				
Loan Account	Interest				3428.54		
Loan Account	Rmt/P. Hofer				350.00		
Petty Cash	Flag Sale					15.00	
Coal Grant	State of MT						2794.72
TOTAL INCOME:		\$42.60	\$161.26	\$0.00	\$3778.54	\$15.00	\$2794.72
		\$477051.00	\$42301.21	\$1452.05	\$407033.67	\$22.05	\$1629.71

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice-Chairman; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Dave Davenport.

Others Present: Dallas Johannsen, Eastern Plains RC&D, Sidney; Duane Martens, Rosebud County Commissioner and Associate Member; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The Board of Supervisors worked on the Strategic Plan from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Nixon at 7:40 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Layton Salsbery moved, seconded by Jack Knobloch, to approve the March 12, 1997, Conservation Needs Assessment meeting minutes and the April 23, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 25, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Layton moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

BUDGET BALANCES: The following budget balances, through May 21, 1997, were presented: Salaries: 12,611.86; Benefits: -369.61; Conservation Education: 2750.84; Dues: 876.00; Office Supplies: 519.74; Field Supplies: 26.25; Security Bond: -5.00; Maintenance Agreements: 307.00; Newsletter: 2000.00; Annual Report: 2928.36; Supervisors Expenses: 2200.74; Reserved Water: 376.00; Workshops: 66.00; TOTAL: \$24,288.18.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: The report was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions were asked.

310: BILL ALLISON/PEABODY DEVELOPMENT, ROCK RIP RAP AND BANK BARBS, TONGUE

RIVER, 97-02: The on-site inspection was conducted on May 7 with Jack Knobloch and Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, meeting with Bill Allison. At that time it was apparent that some action was necessary to protect cropland and buildings, however, there were no concrete plans on how best to accomplish it. Vic Garber, Peabody Development later provided detailed information on the proposed project and the planned activity by fax to Diane. The information was forwarded to Phil Stewart, who agreed with the proposed action. Due to expected high water, the Board members were contacted by phone and verbally approval the project as presented. Bill Allison and Vic Garber were notified of the Board's decision, with copies sent to Army Corps of Engineers and Department of State Lands. Layton moved to officially approve the project and waive the 15 day waiting period; Caprice seconded and the motion carried. Board members signed Form 273, which will be sent to Bill Allison.

ABNER FARNUM, CABLING TREES AND RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 96-03, 97-03:

When Abner Farnum applied for a 310 last year, 96-03, the application was for a ten year maintenance permit at a pump site. This only came to light when he applied for the same project again this year, 97-03. Phil Stewart, also unaware the 96-03 application was for an annual activity, agreed the activity would best be covered under a ten year permit. Bob Nansel moved to amend the 96-03 permit approval from a one year permit to a ten year maintenance permit. Robert seconded and the motion carried. Abner will be notified of the Board's decision.

LEROY MICKELL, STREAMBANK STABILIZATION, SLAUGHTERHOUSE CREEK, 97-04:

Layton moved to declare the activity a non-project as it is not on a designated 310 stream. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Mr. Mickell will be notified of the Board's action and copies sent to the Army Corps of Engineers.

BURLINGTON NORTHERN/SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY, ROCK RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-05, EMERGENCY:

Under emergency provisions, granite rock will be, or has been placed, on 100' of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe railroad mainline track 3 miles west of Forsyth. The application was forwarded to Phil Stewart on May 27. Jack moved the activity is a 310 project and meets the emergency provisions. Robert seconded and the motion carried. The Board will conduct an on-site inspection with Bob Nansel representing Rosebud Conservation District.

FELTON ANGUS RANCH, INC., MORRIS FELTON, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-06:

In order to move livestock and farm machinery across the Tongue River, Morris Felton plans on installing a 12' wide bridge, with a span of 120 to 130'. Railroad flat cars will be used as the bed and one or two pilings will be needed depending on the length of the flat cars. The pilings will be flexible culvert pilings filled with rock. Anticipated starting date is this fall. The application was forwarded to Phil Stewart on May 28. Jack moved the activity is a 310 project; seconded by Robert, the motion carried. If an on-site inspection is requested, Jack agreed to conduct it.

TONGUE RIVER FARMS, ABE YODER, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-07:

Abe Yoder, agent for Tongue River Farms, submitted a 310 application to install a 10' wide, steel bridge on the Tongue River. The bridge will be a 120' span with cement pilings. Starting date is expected in June or July. The application was forwarded to Phil Stewart on May 28. Robert moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, the activity is a 310 project; motion carried. Jack will do this on-site as well, if needed.

310 PROJECT BOOKLET:

Jack and Diane recently discussed compiling general information on 310 projects as a guide for persons interested in streambank stabilization, crossings, etc. The Missoula Conservation District has compiled such information and is currently working on a booklet for streambank stabilization. The information is awaiting legal review and will be available upon request from Missoula CD.

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D, DALLAS JOHANNSEN:

Dallas provided a update on RC&D activities and distributed the 1996 annual report and the 1997 annual plan of operations.

CEMETERY IRRIGATION PROJECT, DUANE MARTENS, ROSEBUD COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

The Rosebud County Commissioners were approached regarding the anticipated expenditure of interest funds generated from the loan program account. The commissioners are interested in installing a new irrigation system for the Forsyth Cemetery as the current system requires stringing pipe across the cemetery entrance and must be disassembled for every funeral. Duane reported that two wells have been drilled north of the cemetery and are producing more than sufficient flow rate for irrigation. A Billings engineering firm will design the sprinkler system and the project will be advertised for bids. Anticipated cost of the total irrigation system is \$40,000 to \$50,000. Upon questioning, Duane stated that

the project will be installed whether the conservation district contributes financially or not. When asked how the district, if they choose to contribute, would be recognized for the donation, Duane suggested conducting a dedication ceremony following completion of the project. The Board will discuss their options regarding the loan program interest funds at an upcoming budget meeting and will notify the Commissioners of their decision.

310 MODEL RULES: The 310 Model Rules must be adopted by October 1, 1997, following a public hearing. The hearing must be published in a newspaper at least twice with an interval of 14 days between the two publication dates. The criteria for conducting the public hearing was reviewed. The model rules with explanations on the required and optional sections were reviewed. The following decisions were made:

RULE 6. STREAMS COVERED: Option 1 will be used, which lists the streams by name. No changes will be made from the streams listed in the current 310 rules for Rosebud Conservation District.

RULE 8. FORMS: Delete (g) "The district will accept forms generated by other districts, however, additional information may be required of the applicant."

RULE 10. APPLICATION PROCESS. (2)(f) "Upon acceptance of an application, the district shall notify landowners with property adjacent to the project site as identified by the applicant on Form 270." Following discussion on the effect of including this section, Layton moved, seconded by Caprice, to strike; motion carried.

RULE 11. DECISION. (10) Conduct of Meetings. Delete all.

Diane will make the changes to the rules and the Board will review them at the June regular meeting.

It was agreed to conduct the public hearing on August 27, at 7:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting and with proper notice.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING MEETING: Diane reported on the May 15 Capacity Building meeting in Missoula. The forms will be revised again to provide more detailed information for the Board to make their decision. The committee will make the following recommendations to the 223 review Board on how to utilize the legal and engineering funds made available by the 1997 legislature:

- split the legal funds 20% for education and 80% for direct legal assistance;
- split the engineering funds 80% for education and 20% for project design review;
- and, advertise both as two year contracts to ensure continuity throughout the funding period.

The next 310 Capacity Building meeting is scheduled for July 10 in Great Falls. Agency representatives will be invited to discuss streamlining the permitting process, as well as a representative from Washington state, which has completed a similar task there.

LOAN PROGRAM: GUIDELINES: DNRC-CDB completed the review of the changes to the loan program guidelines and made the following recommendations:

- state the interest rate – 0%;
- under the section regarding foreclosure insert the statement: "Applicable state laws will be followed". Larry Bloxsom, DNRC, will provide the specific laws this refers to;
- and, finally, conduct a public hearing to gather input on changes. The final adoption can be at the following regular meeting.

Jack moved to make the include the recommendations in the loan guidelines; Caprice seconded and the motion carried. The public hearing will be conducted on August 27, 1997, at 7:30 p.m. following proper notice.

OLD BUSINESS:

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The final MACD legislative update was distributed prior to the meeting. The amendment to HB2, which transfers the Nonpoint Source Pollution Program from the Department of Environmental Quality to DNRC, passed.

STREAM MECHANICS WORKSHOP: Warren Kellogg's, DNRC-DEQ, presented information and color slides on stream dynamics, restoration, and stabilization to twenty-seven people in attendance at the workshop held at the Forsyth Country Club. Following lunch, provided by Rosebud Conservation District, the group toured Robert Heinle's rock bank barb project near Hathaway. Robert explained the erosion problems encountered and the anticipated outcome of the project, which was installed last summer. Photos of the field site were passed. Robert was thanked for allowing the group to tour the site. Bob Nansel was thanked for doing the introductions and announcements during the meeting. The DNCR-CDB grant agreement was signed by Dennis Nixon, and the funds request will be mailed as soon as the grant report is completed.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT: The conservation needs assessment survey was mailed on May 12, with a return deadline of May 28. Thus far of the 335 mailed, 55 have been returned. The information will be compiled and available at the next Board meeting. Another public meeting will be held to provide follow-up on the information gathered.

EQIP: In order to review and prioritize 1997 EQIP applications before the August 19 submittal deadline to NRCS State Office, a special meeting will be held on August 13, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be by quorum or committee, depending on the number of Supervisors in attendance. Rocky reported that resource inventories and ranking forms will be completed on the applications received so far.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The Personnel Committee will present their recommendations for revisions to the Personnel Policy at the June meeting. A copy of a letter from DNRC-CDB was distributed regarding the involvement of NRCS in the evaluation of district employees. Information from NACD on the same issue was available as well.

6th GRADE CONSERVATION DAYS: The first session was held at the Crazy Heads Spring Recreation Area near Lame Deer on May 6 with forty students from the Ashland and Lame Deer schools attending. Five conservation sites on trees, range, surveying, soils and cultural resources were conducted. On May 7 a session was held at the Margaret Cole and Frannie Nile farms west of Forsyth. Approximately 70 students from the Hysham, Forsyth and Rosebud schools attended; this group included students from the sixth and seventh grades as well as a couple of foreign exchange students. Four conservation sites were conducted instead of the usual six. The sites were soils, range, surveying, and trees. Thank you notes were received from the Rosebud and Hysham students and will be sent to the instructors and the hosts.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT JACKETS: Seven conservation district jackets were ordered recently from Sand Hills Sewing Center in Miles City.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT: Following discussion on prices of new office machines, Layton moved, seconded by Caprice, to purchase a plain paper fax machine and a computer upgrade from Boss, Inc. The expenditures will be made with administrative fees collected through the Coal Grant.

RANGE CAMPS: Information on the \$500 scholarship fund was forwarded to the county vo-ag instructors. There has been no response thus far.

RIT/RDGP PROJECT: DNRC notified Rosebud Conservation District that the water impoundment project was funded at \$150,000. John Wheaton, Bureau of Mines and Geology, will supply DNRC with information on the project budget and the starting date. John would like to begin the

project this fall, and the Board agreed. Diane will get the revised budget information from John.

AUDIT REVIEW: Diane informed the Board that an audit review will be conducted on June 10 by Brent Olness, Olness and Associates of Billings. The Board discussed a couple of items they would like covered during the review.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a written activities report and a list of computer prices.

NRCS REPORT: CRP: Rocky reported 10 individuals have signed up for grazing on 4500 acres of CRP.

RANGE TOUR: Information on a range tour to be conducted by Wayne Burleson near Billings was available.

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROJECTS: Operation and maintenance inspections must be conducted on all Emergency Watershed Projects. It was believed that two projects were installed in 1986 on Sand Creek and on Greasewood Creek. The inspection must be conducted annually with the NRCS Senior resource conservationist and/or a NRCS Engineer and a representative from the project sponsor present. Robert agreed to help with the Sand Creek project and Layton will help with the Greasewood Creek project. Diane will check the minutes to ensure the District was indeed the project sponsor.

NEW BUSINESS:

COAL GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Caprice moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to approve the \$2295.33 expenditure for supplies, travel and other expenses associated with the project. The motion carried.

BUDGET MEETING: In order to review the proposed fiscal year 1998 budget, a special meeting will be held on June 18, at 7:00 p.m. The budget is due to the County Commissioners by July 7.

COOPERATOR'S AGREEMENT: Layton moved to approve a cooperator's agreement for Steve Seleg on 82 acres. Jack seconded and the motion carried.

FAIR BOOTH: Discussion on ideas for the fair booth were tabled until the June meeting. The fair is scheduled for July 31 through August 3.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FUNDS: Information regarding funding available through MACD for professional assistance in facilitating watershed planning group meetings and activities and to coordinate watershed management efforts was distributed. No action taken.

MACDEO TRAINING PLAN: Copies of the MACDEO Development Plan were distributed. Overall members thought the plan helped identify what MACDEO is trying to accomplish and support the effort.

1997 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Initial discussion began on possible recipients for the 1997 Conservation Achievement Award, which will be presented to a cropland producer. Floyd Dalhman was mentioned for using alternative cropping systems. Additional names will be presented at the June meeting, with a decision to be made at that time.

SUPERVISOR'S TOUR: Due to limited time and full schedules, the Supervisor's Tour was canceled again this year. However, a quick tour of projects within short traveling distance from the district office may be conducted on the spur of the moment.

MACD INSURANCE: Information on alternative insurance plans offered through MACD was distributed prior to the meeting.

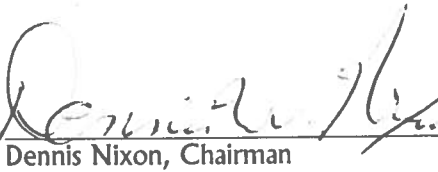
DNRC NOTES & MACD NEWSLETTER: Were distributed prior to the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: It was agreed to purchase flowers for Dave Davenport who suffered a serious accident on his horse and remains in the hospital.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD. Newsletters: Custer County CD, Dawson County CD, McCone CD, Upper Musselshell CD, Missoula CD, Lower Musselshell CD, Tuesday Letter, Watershed News, Forestry Notes (April & May), District Leader, Ag in MT Schools, Conservogram, Inside Agroforestry.

There being no further business, Bob Nansel moved, seconded by Layton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

A closed session was conducted to finalize Wendy Warren's annual evaluation.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
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MAY TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRAN
Balance brought forward:		\$27051.99	\$3301.21	\$1452.05	\$407033.67	\$22.05	\$1629.71
4000 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP08 (393.75)	680.00					
4001 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP09						560.29
4002 IRS	Depst/PP07,08 (634.52)	187.26					
4003 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (64.40)	0.00					
4004 Rosebud Weed Dist	Workshop Registration	20.00					
4005 U.S. Postmaster	Stamps	64.00					
4006 Lone Wolf Photo	Stream Mechanics Wksp/Photos	46.80					
4007 Boss, Inc.	Ledgerbook	94.93					
4008 NACD	Supplies	76.70					
4009 Wendy Warren	Reimburse/Chair						99.99
4010 Cellular One	Mobile Service	109.36					
4011 MT Tech	Coal Grant						2088.49
4012 Town Pump	6th Grade pop, ice/Lame Deer	42.02					
4013 Town Pump	6th Grade pop, ice/Forsyth	20.72					
4014 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP09 (393.75)	680.00					
() Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP09						560.29
() Forsyth Country Club	Stream Mechanics Wksp	200.00					
4017 U.S. Postmaster	Postage/CNA Questionnaire	96.00					
4018 MCI	Long Distance Service	5.38					
4019 U.S. West	Phone Service	58.92					
4020 Yellowstone Pharm	NRCS Supplies	12.92					
4021 Rosebud County Plan	May Medical (665.00)	370.00					
4022 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (74.40)	0.00					
4023 Don Pontius	6th Grade/Toilets	75.00					
4024 Steven J. Wilkins	Stream Mechanics Wksp/Bus	100.00					
830 Treessentials	Tree Shelters		156.26				
831 Lincoln-Oakes Nurs	Trees		50.25				
PC Range Phone	NRCS Copies					12.25	
PC Jacks IGA	6th Grade Supplies					5.06	
PC Jacks IGA	May Meeting Expense					3.99	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$2940.01	\$206.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21.30	\$3309.06
INCOME:							
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	39.49					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	21.30					
County Budget	Reimburse/MACED	48.65					
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	21.30					
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	45.46					
District Account	Interest		8.66				
District Account	Check #825 Void		156.26				
District Account	Flag Sale		5.00				
I Account	Interest/P. Hofer				11.39		
I Account	Rmt/McDaniel				530.00		
Loan Account	Interest				3053.23		
Petty Cash	Flag Sale					5.00	
Coal Grant	State of Montana						2881.49
TOTAL INCOME:		\$176.20	\$169.92	\$0.00	\$3594.62	\$5.00	\$2881.49

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 1997, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Dave Davenport; Jack Knobloch.

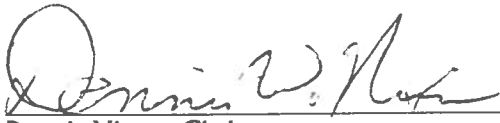
Others Present: Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by Dennis Nixon, Chairman, at 9:05 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, the 1998 fiscal year budget was discussed and reviewed. The final budget will be presented at the June 25, 1997, regular Board meeting.

The loan program was also discussed, particularly utilizing accumulated interest from the account, which totals \$154,798.66 through June 9, 1997. The Board has previously discussed using a portion of these funds to help install an irrigation system at the Forsyth cemetery. Discussion included the resource benefits of the project and helping sponsor a community project. Because the irrigation system was rumored to cost three times the preliminary estimate, a call was placed to Duane Martens, Rosebud County Commissioner, to establish how the project would be funded. Duane assured the Board that funds were available. Diane reported approximately \$52,000 is in the loan account for new loans. Based upon the information and discussion, Layton moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to utilize the accumulated interest funds for additional loans. The motion carried.

There being no further business before the Board, Layton moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Caprice seconded and the motion carried.



Dennis Nixon, Chairman



Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch.

Members Not Present: Dave Davenport, Caprice Gregory, Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Robert Heinle moved, seconded by Layton Salsbery, to approve the May 28, 1997, regular meeting minutes and the June 18, 1997, special meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 23, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Jack Knobloch seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions asked.

310: BURLINGTON NORTHERN & SANTA FE RAILWAY, COMPANY, ROCK RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-05, EMERGENCY: Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, did not request an on-site inspection and recommended approval of the project. Bob Nansel has not been able to inspect the site due to high water. Because the project area was insignificant, the members present agreed an inspection was not necessary. Layton moved to approve the activity, Robert seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to BNSF and Phil Stewart.

FELTON ANGUS RANCH, INC., MORRIS FELTON, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-06: Phil Stewart again recommended approval and did not request an inspection. In reviewing the project description, a concern was raised on how the bridge would be anchored in the streambed, if it is on solid bedrock as stated on the application. Jack agreed to discuss the project with Mr. Felton and report at the July meeting. Action on the application was tabled.

TONGUE RIVER FARMS, ABE YODER, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-07: A few years ago the same site was considered for installation of a bridge by the previous owner, however, it was not installed. Phil Stewart did not request an inspection and recommended approval. Layton moved to approve the project; Robert seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to Mr. Yoder and Phil Stewart.

310 MODEL RULES: There were no additional changes to the model rules, which will be available to the public prior to the public hearing, scheduled for August 27 at 7:00 p.m.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING MEETING: Diane was given approval to attend the 310 Capacity Building meeting in Great Falls on July 10. The meeting will include a discussion with agency representatives on streamlining the permitting process.

LOAN PROGRAM: GUIDELINES: After talking with Larry Bloxsom, DNRC, and since a foreclosure statement appears on the mortgage form, it was not included in the loan program guideline changes. A public hearing will be conducted on August 27 at 7:30 p.m. to receive comments on the changes.

OLD BUSINESS:

STREAM MECHANICS WORKSHOP: The final grant report was submitted to DNRC, which responded that the report was sufficient and funds will be issued.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Layton presented the Committee's recommendations for changes to the Personnel Policy, including removing NRCS' input on conservation district employee evaluations. The Board members agreed and the final changes will be available at the next regular meeting.

COAL GRANT/OFFICE EQUIPMENT: In order to disburse funds from the Coal Grant after the contract ending date, Layton moved to transfer the remaining funds from the Coal Grant to the County Budget. Jack seconded and the motion carried. The new fax machine will be installed on NRCS' modem line.

AUDIT REVIEW: Brent Olness conducted the review on June 12, 1997, and will submit a report for each Board member. The nine items in the report were quickly reviewed; however, no action was taken on the suggested procedure changes until the reports are received.

FISCAL YEAR 1998 BUDGET: Robert moved to approve the fiscal year 1998 budget at \$71,200. Layton seconded and the motion carried. The final budget request will be forwarded to the County Clerk & Recorder for tax assessment.

FAIR BOOTH: Since a great deal of interest has been expressed in rock bank barbs, the fair display will include photos of Robert Heinle's project. Customized tee shirts will be presented throughout the three days to eligible individuals who correctly answer questions relating to conservation issues. A district jacket will be presented on the final day. Younger participants may play a dart game for prizes. The booth may not be "open" the same hours as the exhibit hall. Sign-up for booth duty will be done at the July meeting.

1997 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Kim Nile was suggested as a possible recipient of the Conservation Achievement Award, if he has not received it in the past. If not, information will be available at the July meeting on the conservation practices Kim has installed.

ANNUAL EVALUATION: Wendy Warren's annual evaluation has been completed and resulted in a .50 per hour raise.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities for the past month; no questions were asked.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP PROPOSAL: The Northern Cheyenne Tribe applied for fiscal year 1998 EQIP funding for the Rosebud Creek watershed area, naming Rosebud Conservation District as a participating partner. Even though the proposal was not funded, Rosebud Conservation District agreed to work with the Tribe when and if the project gets funded.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: The Emergency Board met on June 18, 1997, to assess flood damage in Rosebud and Treasure Counties. Approximately 5500 acres were affected, with 3500 acres sustaining land damage. Emergency Conservation Program funds totaling \$225,000 were applied for through the Farm Service Agency, and if accepted, the sign-up period will be July 21 through September 19. ECP funds may be used to reconstruct structures, re-level fields, etc. with 64% cost share.

EQIP/CRP DETAIL DUTIES: No questions were asked pertaining to the letter from Shirley Gammon regarding work detail duties for EQIP and CRP.

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM: Easements are available through the Emergency Watershed Program on chronically flooded land in order to decrease disaster payments.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT: The returned assessments were compiled and the information gathered was compared to other data sources, such as the long range plan and the strategic plan. Rocky provided a brief explanation of the assessment summary and

asked the Board members to review it. If there are glaring discrepancies between the summary and the actual situation, the members are to contact Rocky. The summary will be thoroughly reviewed at the July meeting.

LTA: JACK PAYER: Jack Payer plans to install a buried mainline irrigation pipeline, a gated pipeline, a pit, and landlevel. Installation of the irrigation pipeline will depend on the outcome of an assessment on a saline seep area. Cost share totals \$10,800. Robert moved to approve the project; Jack seconded and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

COAL BOARD, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Layton moved to approve the \$2987.38 expenditure for salaries, benefits, supplies, and travel. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

MACDEO TRAINING SESSION: Diane was given approval to attend the MACDEO Training Session in Great Falls on July 9.

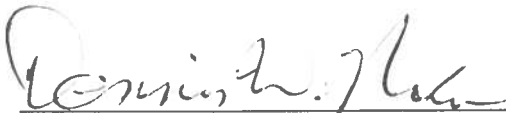
COOPERATOR AGREEMENT: Jack moved to accept a cooperator agreement with Thomas Griepentrog for 320 acres. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

TOLL FREE NUMBER: The District's toll-free phone number and security code were provided to the Board, along with instructions on how to operate the system.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: No action was taken on two surface mining permit applications for Western Energy Company nor on a wastewater discharge permit for Exxon Company.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Eastern Plains RC&D. Newsletters: Pondera County CD, Ag in the Classroom, CTIC Partners, Land and Water, Water Lines, Conservogram, Ag in MT Schools, The District Leader, NACD Annual Report, NACD Conservation at Work, MT Soil and Water Conservation Society.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVA DISTRICT

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT

	COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 24,288.18	\$ 3,264.62	\$ 1,452.05	\$ 410,628.29	\$ 5.75	\$ 1,202.14
Wendy Warren	\$ 680.00					
Diane Stephenson						
Diane Stephenson	\$ 114.90					
U.S. Postmaster	\$ 11.90					
IRS	\$ 192.38					
Wendy Warren	\$ -					
Selby's	\$ 143.00					
Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 39.02					
Peterson Typewriter	\$ 150.00					
U.S. West	\$ 66.37					
Boss, Inc.	\$ 25.30					
Diane Stephenson	\$ 140.60					
MCI	\$ 16.51					
Wendy Warren	\$ 720.00					
Wendy Warren	\$ 156.00					
Diane Stephenson	\$ 822.40					
Diane Stephenson	\$ 60.00					
Wendy Warren	\$ -					
MT Tech						
Cellular One	\$ 148.89					
Rosebud County Plan	\$ 370.00					
U.S. Postmaster	\$ 32.00					
Rosebud County Fair	\$ 20.00					
Diane Stephenson	\$ 30.00					
Wendy Warren	\$ 720.00					
Diane Stephenson	\$ 822.40					
Olness & Associates	\$ 832.00					
IRS	\$ 205.31					
Unemployment Insur	\$ 41.93					
State Fund	\$ 69.84					
U.S. Postmaster	\$ 119.00					
McCone Cons District		\$ 14.00				
Wear Guard		\$ 16.05				
Subtotal:	\$ 6,749.75	\$ 30.05	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,899.86

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		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Subtotal Carried Forward:		\$ 6,749.75	\$ 30.05	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,899.86
Scott Giesick	Loan				\$ 11,000.00		
Diane Stephenson	Reimbursement					\$ 6.59	
Jack's IGA	May mtg/Supplies					\$ 9.12	
U.S. Postmaster	Postage					\$ 4.00	
Range Telephone	NRCS Copies					\$ 5.00	
Range Telephone	NRCS Copies					\$ 16.75	
Jack's IGA	Budget mtg exp					\$ 7.08	
Clerk & Recorder	Mortgage Release					\$ 6.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 6,749.75	\$ 30.05	\$ -	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 54.54	\$ 2,899.86
INCOME DURING MONTH:							
County Budget	Phone/ Nixon	\$ 21.30					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.30					
County Budget	DNRC/Travel Reimb	\$ 73.75					
District Account	Tree Sales		\$ 50.25				
District Account	Flag Sales		\$ 10.00				
District Account	Interest		\$ 8.53				
District Account	Flag Sales		\$ 10.00				
District Account	MACD/CNA mtg exp		\$ 200.00				
District Account	MACD/Insurance		\$ 30.00				
Loan Account	Interest				\$ 2,646.39		
Loan Account	Pmt/Quinlan				\$ 400.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Patterson				\$ 2,650.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Mereness				\$ 720.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Schiffer				\$ 2,598.00		
Loan Account	Admin/Giesick				\$ 330.00		
Petty Cash	Flag Sales					\$ 5.00	
Petty Cash	County Budget					\$ 60.00	
Coal Grant	State of Montana						\$ 2,295.33
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 116.35	\$ 308.78	\$ -	\$ 9,344.39	\$ 65.00	\$ 2,295.33
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 17,654.78	\$ 3,543.35	\$ 1,452.05	\$ 408,972.68	\$ 16.21	\$ 597.61

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE JULY 23, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Jack Knobloch.

Others Present: Dennis Kenney, Associate Supervisor; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

Layton Salsbery moved, seconded by Robert Heinle, to approve the June 25, 1997, regular meeting minutes. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 27, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A Special meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on August 13, 1997, to review and prioritize EQIP applications for submittal to NRCS State Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert moved to approve the Fiscal Year 1997 year end report and the July, 1997, Treasurer's report. Layton seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting.

310: BURLINGTON NORTHERN & SANTA FE RAILWAY, CO., ROCK RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-08, EMERGENCY: The bank will be sloped and granite rock will be placed on 500' of the mainline railway 2 miles east of Rosebud under 310 emergency provisions. Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, did not request an inspection and recommended approval. Bob Nansel inspected the site on July 16 and recommended approval. Bob made a motion that the activity did meet the emergency provisions and was necessary. Layton seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to BNSF and Phil Stewart.

RANGE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC., BURIED OPTIC CABLE, ROSEBUD CREEK, 97-09: According to the application, the cable will be buried using a cable plow mounted on a crawler tractor, the bank will be sloped for crossing and will be restored and compacted after completion. Phil Stewart did not request an inspection and recommended approval. Layton moved that the activity is a project and to approve the project, waiving the fifteen day waiting period. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING MEETING: Diane reported on the 310 Capacity Building meeting held in Great Falls on July 10. The permitting agencies present agreed to pursue a "one application process" for stream permits. While the goal of the 310 Committee is to consolidate and eliminate some of the permits, this can not be accomplished without regulatory changes. Under a joint application process the applicant would complete one application and would be responsible to submit the application to the proper permitting agency. Ideally the application process would begin at nearly the same time with all agencies involved, permits would be issued more timely, and compliance would be improved. The committee will not proceed with this idea without the support of the conservation districts. Area Directors will be asked to introduce a resolution at each Area meeting to obtain support from the districts to pursue the joint application process.

310 FORMS: Copies of the revised forms, distributed prior to the meeting, were reviewed. The Board decided to use the checkbox-type Team Member Report form and to keep on hand the detailed checklist for reviewing a propose project.

LOAN PROGRAM: TIM COX: Mr. Cox has been in arrears since 1990 and has made no effort to pay off the \$3240 obligation. Lee Kerr, Rosebud County Attorney, was contacted in May, 1995 for guidance on collection options; no response was received. The Board instructed Diane to contact Mr. Kerr again regarding the issue. If a timely response is not received, direct contact will be made by the Chairman.

BYRON NEWMAN: Byron Newman submitted a loan application for \$6000 to install two small pipelines to supply water to two holding areas where livestock will be winter fed and to install a headgate on the Cartersville Irrigation Ditch. The pipeline projects do not meet needs and feasibility as they will not be used for animal distribution within a planned grazing system. A question arose whether or not the Irrigation Ditch company would provide a headgate, as it was determined needed and feasible. Nevertheless, in reviewing the security information, the Board questioned the estimated value of the irrigated land. Dave moved to disapprove the loan due to a lack of equity; Bob Nansel seconded, and the motion carried. Mr. Newman will be informed of the Board's decision.

OLD BUSINESS:

PERSONNEL POLICY: The revised policy was distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting, excluding the Montana Safety Culture Act, which was requested from DNRC. No questions were asked and the policy was accepted.

FAX MACHINE: The fax machine will be installed on the NRCS modem phone line soon. The new fax number is 406-356-7688.

AUDIT REVIEW: Copies of the audit review report completed by Olness and Associates were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. The following issues were addressed:

- Cash reconciliation will be done on a monthly basis by listing outstanding warrants and deposits for Board review and attached to the Treasurer's Report.
- Wage and benefits will be reconciled to state and federal payroll and other reports. State Unemployment and Worker's Compensation will be computed on gross pay.
- Caprice moved to maintain petty cash on an imprest basis of \$50.00; Robert seconded and the motion carried. Petty cash will be reimbursed by a check made out to the petty cash custodian (the administrator) and excess funds will be deposited into the bank account when necessary.
- Pre-numbered receipts will be issued for loan payments received, signed by the Administrator and, when available, the individual remitting the money, and reconciled with deposits made to the County Treasurer.
- Board members will sign travel vouchers prior to receiving reimbursement.
- No action taken regarding discontinuing the signing of warrants in advance.
- No action taken regarding insuring district-owned equipment.
- A physical inventory of equipment will be conducted every two years, removing insignificant items from the inventory list.
- Employee accumulated annual leave and sick leave liability will be reported to the Board annually at the end of the year.
- Loan receivable reports will be prepared quarterly for Board review.

FAIR BOOTH/ACTIVITIES: Copies of the conservation quiz were handed out for review. Participants will be required to answer seven out of ten questions correctly in order to be eligible for a daily drawing for a conservation district tee-shirt. The dart game will again be available, supplying conservation education prior to handing out a freebie. Board members signed up for booth duty.

1997 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: A list of past conservation achievement award recipients was available. Based on previous discussion, Kim Nile was selected as the 1997 recipient to be honored at the banquet in February, 1998.

CONSERVATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT: No further information was provided on the conservation needs assessment, therefore, the data collected thus far will be used to evaluate the resource concerns within the county. A public meeting will be conducted in the future to provide information on the resource issues identified at an earlier public meeting.

MACDEO TRAINING SESSION: Diane reported on the MACDEO training session held in Great Falls on July 9. Various types of insurances were discussed, such as unemployment, worker's compensation, property, liability, auto, bond, errors and omissions. Conservation Districts are not covered under county insurance policies, but may be insured through MACo, in a group separate from the county. District laws and the resolution process necessary to introduce legislation were discussed. The Renewable Resource Grant Program was reviewed with insight on the Long Range Planning Committee, which reviews the grant proposals, provided by Representatives Roger DeBruycker and Tom Zook. The session, held in both Great Falls and in Billings, was excellent.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities for the past month.

NRCS REPORT: EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: Rosebud County was approved to receive \$200,000 in ECP funds to restore or repair pre-existing structures damaged by flood waters this spring; cost share rates are 64%.

CRP/EQIP WORKLOAD: CRP contracts have been loaded and are ready for signatures. EQIP projects planning is still on-going.

CONSERVATION NO-TILL: Photos of Harlin Steiger's no-till cropland were distributed for the Board's information.

TEAM LEADER: Danny Burgett accepted the position of Team Leader for the South Central Plains NRCS team. The duties of the position are not yet clear.

310: FELTON ANGUS RANCH, INC., MORRIS FELTON, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-06: After a phone call to Jack Knobloch, Layton moved to extend the initial time limit until more information is available on the proposed project. Robert seconded and the motion carried. Jack agreed to discuss the project with Mr. Felton as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

PER DIEM RATES: New per diem rates, effective July 1, are \$35.00 plus tax for night lodging and \$23.00 for meals (\$5.00 breakfast, \$6.00 lunch, \$12.00 dinner).

COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT: Caprice moved to include a 3% cost of living adjustment, as awarded to county personnel, to District employees, retroactive to July 1. Robert seconded, and the motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PUBLIC HEARINGS: No action was taken on three public hearings scheduled for August 4 and 11 in Helena.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FUNDING: Information on 319 grant funds, for watershed best management practice demonstration projects or for nonpoint source pollution information and education projects, was distributed.

ARMY CORPS ON ENGINEERS: No action was taken on a public notice of a general permit for discharge of dredged or fill material associated with flood related activities within Montana or on the Forsyth Country Club's project to excavate a ditch for irrigation purposes.

HOUSE BILL 546/TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD: Information was distributed; no action taken.

MACD & DNRC NEWSLETTERS: Were distributed prior to the meeting.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD and annual work plan.
Newsletters: Cascade County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Liberty County CD, Ag in the Classroom, Forestry Notes, Watershed News, Montana Riparian & Wetland Review, Conservogram.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.



Dennis Nixon, Chairman



Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FY '97 YEAR END TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Brought Forward:		COUNTY	DISTRICT	CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (63.75)	\$ 17,654.78	\$ 3,543.35	\$ 1,452.05	\$ 408,972.68	\$ 16.21	\$ 597.61
Dennis Nixon	Spec mtg 2x	\$ 84.00					
Layton Salsbery	Spec mtg 2x	\$ 62.00					
Robert Heinle	Spec mtg	\$ 40.50					
Caprice Gregory	Spec mtg 2x	\$ 62.00					
Bob Nansel	Spec mtg	\$ 32.44					
Boss, Inc.	Fax, supplies	\$ 732.07					
Computerland	Computer upgrade	\$ 134.00					
Jack Knobloch	FY '97 mileage	\$ 435.55					
Dennis Nixon	FY '97 mileage	\$ 220.10					
Dave Davenport	FY '97 mileage	\$ 227.85					
Caprice Gregory	FY '97 mileage	\$ 68.20					
Robert Heinle	FY '97 mileage	\$ 175.15					
Bob Nansel	FY '97 mileage	\$ 59.52					
Layton Salsbery	FY '97 mileage	\$ 71.30					
Soil & Water Cons. Soc	Membership	\$ 100.00					
Rosebud County Plan	July Medical (665.00)	\$ 370.00					
Adjustment	Whld/Grant Salaries Paid	\$ 741.02					
Jack's IGA	June mtg					\$ 3.99	\$ 2,987.38
MT Tech	Computer Workstation						\$ 597.61
Transfer to Co Budget	Coal Grant						\$ 3,584.99
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 3,615.70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3.99	\$ -
INCOME DURING MONTH:							
County Budget	DNRC/Travel Reimb	\$ 39.50					
County Budget	JE/Transfer Coal Grant	\$ 597.61					
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 40.73					
District Account	Interest		8.28				
Coal Grant	State of Montana						\$ 2,987.38
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 677.84	8.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,987.38
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 14,716.92	\$ 3,551.63	\$ 1,452.05	\$ 408,972.68	\$ 12.22	\$ -

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ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JULY, 1997 TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Balance Brought Forward:		\$ 71,200.00	\$ 5,003.68	\$ 408,972.68	\$ 12.22
4073 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP13 (423.62)	\$ 720.00			
4074 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP13 (560.29)	\$ 822.40			
4075 Diane Stephenson	Travel/MC	\$ 31.00			
4076 Boss, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 6.97			
4077 Yellowstone Pharmacy	NRCS Supplies	\$ 6.99			
4079 Cellular One	Mobile Service	\$ 138.71			
4080 MCI	Long Distance Service	\$ 25.25			
4081 U.S. West	Phone Service	\$ 41.65			
4082 Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (392.00)	\$ -			
4083 Diane Stephenson	Travel/GF 310,macdeo	\$ 259.10			
4084 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP14 (423.62)	\$ 720.00			
4085 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (129.30)	\$ -			
4086 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP14 (560.29)	\$ 822.40			
4087 State Fund	FY'97 Remain Premium	\$ 41.87			
4088 IRS	Depst/PP13, 14 (658.76)	\$ 193.38			
4089 Diane Stephenson	Reimburse/Postage	\$ 16.73			
834 Sand Hills Sewing	7 CD Jackets	\$	455.00		\$ 5.00
835 Blackburn Manufact.	Flags	\$	104.96		\$ 12.00
PC Range Telephone	NRCS Copies				
PC Clerk & Recorder	Mortgage Release				
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 3,846.45	\$ 559.96	\$ -	\$ 17.00
INCOME DURING MONTH:					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.30			
County Budget	DNRC/Grant	\$ 225.00			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 42.60			
District Account	Flag Sales		\$ 10.00		
District Account	NRCS/Blueprints,copies		\$ 209.82		
Loan Account	Pmt/E.Spannagel			\$ 1,100.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Thompson			\$ 3,500.00	
Loan Account	Interest/May			\$ 497.67	
Loan Account	Interest/June			\$ 2,793.18	
Loan Account	Pmt/Kenney			\$ 250.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 288.90	\$ 219.82	\$ 8,140.85	\$ -
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 67,642.45	\$ 4,663.54	\$ 417,113.53	\$ (4.78)

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 1997, SPECIAL MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman.

Others Present: John Wheaton and Marv Miller, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, Billings and Butte, respectively; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

During Dennis Nixon's absence, the meeting was called to order by acting Chairman Robert Heinle at 7:05 p.m. in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth.

WATER IMPOUNDMENT PROJECT/319 GRANT: John Wheaton presented a proposal for Rosebud Conservation District to sponsor a EPA/DEQ 319 grant application to help finance the Water Impoundment Project, partially funded by the Reclamation Development Grant Program during the 1997 legislative session. The 319 grant request, which is expected to be two one-year projects, totals approximately \$132,000. Under this grant, Rosebud Conservation District would have direct involvement in the project by conducting workshops and providing direction to the steering committee, as well as carrying out administrative duties. Marv Miller provided a brief overview of the 319 grant program, the project review process, and funding available. Dave Davenport moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to sponsor the 319 grant application. Motion carried. Dave also volunteered to help form the steering committee, whose first duty will be to review the scope of work to ensure the project is headed in the right direction.

EQIP PLANS: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Senior Resource Conservationist, presented the following EQIP conservation plans for the Board's review:
Randy Batey; Felton Angus Ranch, Inc.; Morris Felton; Dick Ferguson; Garfield Diamond Ranch, Inc.; Thomas and Nancy Griepentrog; Jerry McDaniel; J.M. Nansel Ranch Company; Newell Philbrick; William Woods.
Dave moved to approve all EQIP conservation plans as presented and to forward to NRCS State Office. Robert Heinle seconded and the motion carried.
The question was raised whether or not conservation districts have the authority to prioritize EQIP plans, prior to forwarding to NRCS State Office, to coincide with resource concerns defined in the strategic plan. When the final EQIP rules were published, this responsibility was not included; therefore, conservation district Board's simply review, approve and sign the conservation plans. They have no say in whether or not a project is ranked higher than an other. Additionally, the following concerns were expressed by the Board members with the ranking criteria and EQIP itself:

- Cost share per acre is not a consideration; smaller farms/ranches fair better than larger ones through the ranking process.
- The final decision on whether or not a project should be funded should not be based solely on the index number.
- The benchmarks used on the ranking sheet are not consistent, i.e., some practices are considered beneficial while other similar practices are penalized.
- Improved water management practices on a water spreading system should be considered the same as improved water management practices on irrigation systems.

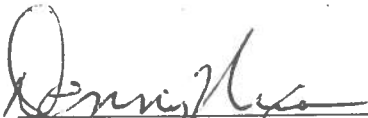
The board discussed options in having their concerns addressed, such as a resolution to be taken to the Area and State MACD meetings. No final decision was made.

OTHER BUSINESS:

TRAVEL: Diane was given travel approval to attend the Billings Area IV Administrator's meeting on August 20.

STREAMBANK WORKSHOP: Information was distributed prior to the meeting regarding a workshop to be held in Miles City, through the interactive video system METNET, on streambank permitting, etc. Robert Heinle plans on attending; Diane may attend if possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

310 RULE CHANGE PUBLIC HEARING AUGUST 27, 1997, USDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FORSYTH, MONTANA

Present: Rosebud Conservation District Board of Supervisors: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

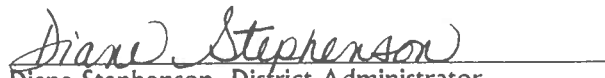
Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Lead Resource Conservationist; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

Chairman Dennis Nixon called the 310 rule change public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Forsyth USDA Conference room after due notice was given. No public attendance was present; no written comments were received regarding the proposed rule changes.

The resolution for adoption will be acted upon during the August 27, 1997, regular Board meeting immediately following the public hearing.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT LOAN PROGRAM PROPOSED GUIDELINE CHANGES PUBLIC HEARING AUGUST 27, 1997, USDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FORSYTH, MONTANA

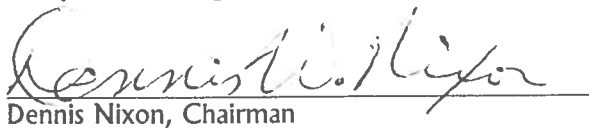
Present: Rosebud Conservation District Board of Supervisors: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Lead Resource Conservationist; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

Chairman Dennis Nixon called the Loan Program Guideline changes public hearing to order at 7:40 p.m. in the Forsyth USDA Conference room after due notice was given. No public attendance was present; no written comments were received regarding the proposed changes.

The Board briefly reviewed the proposed changes. Action for adoption will be acted upon during the August 27, 1997, regular Board meeting immediately following the public hearing.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 27, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Caprice Gregory; Layton Salsbery.

Others Present: Charles Hopf, Loan Applicant; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS Lead Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Dave Davenport moved, second by Jack Knobloch, to approve the July 23, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert Heinle moved to approve the August, 1997, Treasurer's Report as distributed. Dave seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions asked.

310: PROPOSED RULE CHANGES: Considering there were no comments or objections from the public hearing regarding the proposed 310 rule changes, Robert Heinle moved to adopt the changes. Jack Knobloch seconded and the motion carried. The adoption resolution was signed by the members present and a copy will be forwarded to DNRC-CDB.

FELTON ANGUS RANCH, INC., MORRIS FELTON, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-06: After discussing the proposed project with Mr. Felton, Jack reported the bridge would not be constructed on solid bedrock, as originally thought. Robert moved to approve the project as proposed; Jack seconded and the motion carried. Form 273, Board's Decision, was signed and will be forwarded to Mr. Felton and a copy sent to Phil Stewart, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

KIM NILE, STREAM CROSSING, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-10: Kim Nile would like to install a culvert across a slough on the Yellowstone River in order to access fill material; the material may be needed to repair a field that was damaged by spring flooding. Phil Stewart and Robert conducted an on-site inspection on August 8 and reported the crossing would be temporary and would be removed when the land leveling project was complete; both recommended approval of the project. Dave moved to approve the project as proposed; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. The signed Form 273 will be forwarded to Kim and a copy to Phil.

LOAN PROGRAM:

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:10 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken during the closed session:

CHARLES HOPF: Charles plans to install a stockwater pipeline, well, and three tanks and is offering property under contract for deed as security. Dave moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to approve the loan for \$16,500. The motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 8:40 p.m.

TIM COX: Lee Kerr, Rosebud County Attorney, responded to the District's request for legal assistance regarding Tim Cox's delinquent loan. According to Kerr, the District has three options available, i.e., write the debt off, attempt to collect under small claims court, or

refer the matter to a credit collection agency. Diane was instructed to contact Credit Services, in Billings, for information on how to proceed, a collection fee assessment, and whether the case may be pursued or not due to time limits.

GUIDELINE CHANGES: Considering there were no comments or objections from the public hearing regarding the proposed changes to the Loan Program Guidelines, Bob Nansel moved to adopt the changes. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

FAIR BOOTH: The fair booth photo display of Hathaway Ranch's rock bank barb project generated interest from landowners who suffered streambank damage from the spring floods; however, currently no 310 applications have been handed out for such projects. The following conservation quiz winners received a district t-shirt: Bob Miller, Hysham; Rachel Robinson, Hysham; and Marilyn Serrato, Forsyth. Treasure County CD wants to conduct the Range Plant Id contest next year; however, changes need to be made to the contest in order to make it more appealing to the audience. Other suggestions for next year include changing our booth hours to suit the "fair-goers" schedule and to recognize the conservation achievement award winner through a photo display. Diane thanked the Supervisors who were able to help at the booth.

1997 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Board was informed that Kim Nile had been notified he was selected as the award winner and that someone would be out to take photos of his operation.

MACD AREA IV ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING: Diane reported on the Area IV Administrators' meeting and the Women's Equality Workshop she attended in Billings on August 20. Most meeting business related to 310 workload, i.e., conducting the public hearings, and the one-application method being pursued by the 310 Capacity Building Committee. The administrators also discussed MACDEO business and computer compatibility among the districts in this area, with the possibility of conducting an accounting workshop.

TECHNICIAN'S REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities for the past month and discussed the possibility of assisting with the Northern Cheyenne Tribe Great Plains project if her schedule allowed and if other projects were not compromised. No decision was made.

NEW BUSINESS:

FLOOD DAMAGE/STREAMBANK PROJECT WORKSHOP: Robert briefly reported on the video conference he attended in Miles City on August 21. Unfortunately, the agency representatives did not answer the audience's concerns/questions regarding this spring's flooding; they provided information on additional permits that must be obtained prior to initiating a streambank project.

COAL BOARD GRANT, #0380, COMPUTER WORKSTATION: Bob Nansel moved to approve two invoices totaling \$223.90 for supplies, benefits, and travel. Jack seconded and the motion carried.

MACD AREA IV MEETING: Stillwater Conservation District will host the Area IV meeting in Columbus on October 2. Registration will be discussed at the September 24 regular meeting. The photo display of the rock barbs may be taken to the Area meeting. The Board discussed submitting a resolution modifying the EQIP ranking criteria; however, since NRCS has requested suggestions/comment on EQIP, it was decided to wait to see the outcome.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENT: Robert moved to approve a Cooperator Agreement with Roger Amadon, Park City, for 1320 acres, previously owned by John Hart. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP: Information was distributed on a workshop dealing with the movement and control of the Yellowstone River sponsored by Yellowstone CD and other agencies on October 16 and 17 at the Billings Clarion. The second day will feature a jet-boat tour of projects installed on the Yellowstone River. Registration fees, \$15 for the first day and \$10 for the second, are due by September 30. At this time, Robert, Wendy and Diane plan on attending.

WATERSHED SPECIALIST: Information provided by Warren Kellogg regarding his new position as a NRCS watershed specialist, housed with DNRC and working in cooperation with DNRC and MACD, was distributed earlier.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Performance evaluation forms for Diane Stephenson, covering the period of September, 1996 to September 1997, were distributed prior to the meeting, and Diane handed out a list of accomplishments for the same period. Dennis Nixon will compile the forms and review the compilation with Diane prior to the September meeting. The September regular meeting will be closed immediately following regular business in order to make recommendations on the evaluation. Dennis will present the agreed upon recommendations to Diane sometime following the September meeting.

DEQ/STORM WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT: No action was taken on a notice of approval for a storm water discharge permit in Rosebud County.

GOVERNOR'S RANGE TOUR: Information was distributed on the Governor's Range Tour sponsored by the Judith Gap—Garneill Pasture and Range Club. The tour will be held in Lewistown on September 16 and 17; registration is \$20.

NRCS REPORT: CRP: CRP contracts were reviewed and signed by the Board members between the two public hearings earlier in the evening. Rocky reported the new CRP sign-up period begins in October and will last about a month.

EQIP: Of the 421 applications that were forwarded to the NRCS State Office for funding under the statewide resource concerns, 216 were accepted. Rocky had not received confirmation on which projects were funded in Rosebud County.

RANGELAND MONITORING WORKSHOP: Treasure County CD is hosting a rangeland monitoring workshop on September 18 at the Ickes Ranch on Tullock Creek; lunch will be provided.

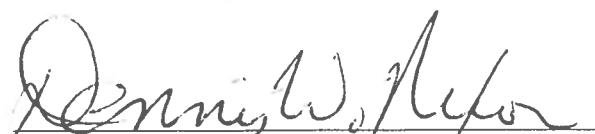
CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORIES: The remaining directories were handed out.

DNRC & MACD NEWSLETTERS: Both newsletters were distributed previously; no questions were asked.

OTHER BUSINESS: 319 GRANT: Jack moved to approve travel for Dave Davenport to attend the September 23 meeting in Helena to meet with the review committee for the 319 grant. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD. Newsletters: McCone CD, Dawson County CD, Lower Musselshell CD, District Leader (July & August), Tuesday Letter, Forestry Notes (July & August), CTIC, Land and Water.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.


Dennis Nixon Chairman


Diane Stephenson District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
	Balance brought forward:	\$ 67,642.45	\$ 4,663.54	\$ 417,113.53	(4.78)
4090	VOID				
4091	Diane Stephenson	\$ 27.90			
4092	Diane Stephenson	\$ 37.78			
4093	Wendy Warren	\$ 771.71			
4094	Diane Stephenson	\$ 881.92			
4095	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 370.00			
4096	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4097	MCI	\$ 15.19			
4098	US West	\$ 44.12			
4099	Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 7.07			
4100	Boss, Inc.	\$ 103.45			
4101	Cellular One	\$ 110.89			
4102	Lone Wolf Photo	\$ 86.22			
4103	Wendy Warren	\$ 741.60			
4104	Diane Stephenson	\$ 847.20			
4105	IRS	\$ 205.43			
4106	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4107	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 64.00			
4108	Jack Knobloch	\$ 65.92			
4109	Bob Nansel	\$ 33.06			
4110	Diane Stephenson	\$ 55.60			
4111	Independent Enterprise	\$ 28.00			
4112	V-Store	\$ 4.30			
836	Sand Hills Sewing		\$ 32.00		
117	Steve Shelley			\$ 7,200.00	
118	Rosebud Clerk & Recorder			\$ 18.00	
PC	Jack's IGA				\$ 3.99
PC	V-Store				\$ 6.76
PC	NRCS				\$ 5.00
PC	Jack's IGA				\$ 7.08
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 4,501.36	\$ 32.00	\$ 7,218.00	\$ 22.83

INCOME DURING MONTH					
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$	139.59		
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$	21.55		
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$	21.55		
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$	45.46		
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$	22.08		
District Account	Interest	\$	7.28		
District Account	Lathe Sale	\$	15.00		
District Account	Interest	\$	8.46		
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Shelley	\$		216.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Tri-Can Ag	\$		2,170.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Batey	\$		170.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Heinle	\$		190.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Mortenson	\$		250.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Larson	\$		250.00	
Petty Cash	Book Sales				\$ 19.00
Petty Cash	County Budget				\$ 37.78
TOTAL INCOME:		\$	250.23	\$	3,246.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$	63,391.32	\$	413,141.53
					\$ 56.78
					\$ 29.17

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Bob Johnson, loan applicant; Shirley Bollinger, NRCS Resource Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Robert Heinle moved, seconded by Dave Davenport, to approve the August 23, 1997, 310 Public Hearing minutes, the August 23, 1997, Loan Program Guidelines Public Hearing minutes, and the August 23, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved to approve the September, 1997, Treasurer's Report as distributed. Layton seconded and the motion carried.

The following budget balances, through September 24, were reviewed: Salaries: \$33,095.17; Benefits: \$7,027.25; Conservation Education: \$1,857.17; Office Supplies: \$2,160.44; Field Supplies: \$135.00; Security Bond: \$105.00; Maintenance Agreements: \$450.00; Newsletter: \$1,500.00; Annual Report: \$2,000.00; Supervisors Expenses: \$5,462.41; Reserved Water: \$300.00; Workshops: \$760.00; BUDGET TOTAL: \$59,052.44.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting. No questions were asked.

310: MODEL RULES: Copies of the final rules, adopted at the August 23, 1997, regular meeting were distributed to the members.

LOAN PROGRAM:

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:05 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken during the closed session:

ANCHOR ISLAND LAND & CATTLE COMPANY, BOB JOHNSON: Bob is installing a stockwater pipeline, tanks and fence in conjunction with a Great Plains contract. Dave moved, seconded by Robert, to approve the loan for \$35,000 under the condition that the boundary fence is maintained in order to confine and manage the livestock within the specified area. Motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 7:20 p.m.

TIM COX: Credit Services, in Billings, was contacted for assistance in collecting this delinquent loan. The statute of limitations for collecting is five years from the last date of activity. Since the last payment received from Mr. Cox was in 1990, no action may be taken. The file will be closed and the debt written off.

CHARLES HOPF: Concerns relating to Charles Hopf's stockwater pipeline project and loan, approved at the August 23, 1997, regular meeting, were discussed. A portion of the stockwater pipeline and a tank will be installed on property Charles is in the process of purchasing. After discussing the matter with Layton Salsbery, Diane contacted Charles relaying concerns with the project being installed on property not under the control of the borrower and that there would be a problem with the loan if the property sale fell

through. Charles assured Diane that the deal would be finalized and the paperwork sent to this office. The loan will not be made until the proper papers are in order.

LOAN RECEIVABLE REPORT: The Board reviewed the attached loan receivable report; total payable as of September 24, 1997, is \$391,452.00

LOAN FUNDS COMMITTED: The Board reviewed a list of loans previously approved; total committed funds is \$142,400.00.

PUBLIC INFO: Diane will send letters to EQIP and CRP participants informing them of the District's no-interest loan program.

OLD BUSINESS:

EQIP: Copies of a letter faxed to Dennis Loreth, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, stating the Board's concerns with the EQIP ranking criteria and EQIP in general were distributed. No further action taken at this time.

MACD AREA MEETING: Bob Nansel and Diane will attend the MACD Area IV meeting in Columbus on October 2.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER CONFERENCE: Reservations were made for three people to attend the conference and two to attend the jet-boat tour, sponsored by Yellowstone CD and other agencies.

MACDEO TRAINING: Diane reported on the MACDEO training session held in Lewistown on September 15. Items of special interest were legal requirements of 310 law, specifically, applicants must sign off on team member reports; the Montana Historical Society drafted a retention schedule for disposing of District files; DNRC suggests adopting a resolution for announcing regular and special Board meetings, which includes the number of days of notice prior to the meeting and the methods which will be used for noticing, i.e., postings and locations posted, newspaper, radio; and, NRCS presented an Operational Agreement, for use in conjunction with the Cooperative Agreement.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Since no formal action was taken during the August meeting to Wendy's request to assist on the Northern Cheyenne Tribe's Great Plains project, Jack moved to allow Wendy to assist on the project, as time permits. Caprice seconded and the motion carried. A list of activities for the previous month was distributed and reviewed.

NRCS REPORT: Shirley Bollinger, NRCS Resource Conservationist, attended the meeting in Rocky Schwagler's absence. Information on a Livestock Seminar to be held in January, 1998, in Bismark was distributed.

EQIP: The Board signed EQIP contracts for Diamond Ranch, Thomas Griepentrog, Jerry McDaniel, and Willy Woods.

NEW BUSINESS:

COAL BOARD: Memos from Jerry Feda, Montana Coal Board Chairman, and Governor Mark Racicot regarding the de-earmarking of coal severance tax revenues were reviewed. Copies will be sent to John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology. The Coal Board requested a list of proposed projects in order to secure funding through the 1999 legislature.

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D: No input will be made on the 1998 Eastern Plain RC&D annual plan of operations. The Economic Development Plan was made available to the Board.

MONTANA WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM: MACD will be sponsoring a Watershed Symposium in Great Falls on December 4 & 5.

MACDEO NEWSLETTER: Was distributed to Board members not on the mailing list

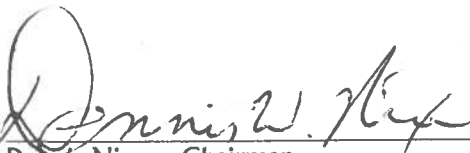
MACD & DNRC NEWSLETTERS: Copies were mailed out prior to the meeting; no questions were asked.

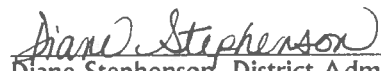
OTHER BUSINESS: 319 GRANT: Dave reported on the committee meeting he attended in Helena on September 23 for the Water Impoundment project the District is sponsoring. According to Dave some members of the review committee did not understand mining operations and felt the proposal was not related to non-point source pollution. The proposal will most likely be rewritten by the October 23 deadline to meet the committee's recommendations; all proposals will be ranked by the review committee prior to submitting them to EPA Regional Office.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD (three sets), Eastern Plains RC&D. Newsletters: Missoula CD, Custer CD, Pondera County CD, Watershed News, Ag in the Classroom, Watershed Focus, Conservogram.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

A closed session was conducted to discuss Diane Stephenson's annual evaluation.


Dennis Nixon, Chairman


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
4113	Balance Brought Forward:					
4114	Jack Knobloch	\$ 63,391.32	\$ 4,662.28	\$ 413,141.53	\$ 29.17	\$ -
4115	Robert Heinle	25.00				
4116	Wendy Warren	35.50				
4117	Diane Stephenson	741.60				
4118	Wendy Warren	847.20				
4119	Yellowstone Pharmacy	-				
4120	Cellular One	28.61				
4121	Forsyth Hardware	119.80				
4122	VOID	390.00				
4123	U.S. West	41.09				
4124	U.S. Postmaster	64.00				
4125	MCI	5.37				
4126	Montana Tech					\$ 223.90
4127	Rosebud County Plan	370.00				
4128	Yellowstone CD	65.00				
4129	Wendy Warren	741.60				
4130	Diane Stephenson	847.20				
4131	IRS	212.07				
4132	Wendy Warren	-				
4133	Diane Stephenson	135.80				
4134	U.S. Postmaster	64.00				
4135	Diane Stephenson	-				
119	NACD	14.81				
120	Greenleaf Land & Live			\$ 30,400.00		
PC	Barb Rolston			\$ 5,500.00		
PC	Jack's IGA				\$ 6.00	
PC	Clerk & Recorder				\$ 6.00	
PC	U.S. Postmaster				\$ 2.16	
PC	U.S. Postmaster				\$ 1.93	
PC	U.S. Postmaster				\$ 6.65	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 4,748.65	\$ -	\$ 35,900.00	\$ 22.74	\$ 223.90

INCOME DURING MONTH:		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	COAL GRANT
County Budget	DNCR/310 Travel	\$ 131.29				
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 20.21				
County Budget	State of MT/Coal Grant					\$ 223.90
County Budget	Reimburse/MACDEO	\$ 143.87				
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 20.21				
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 34.30				
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 45.08				
County Budget	Reimburse/Bollinger	\$ 14.81				
Loan Account	July Interest			\$ 1,164.32		
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Greenleaf			\$ 912.00		
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Rolston			\$ 165.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Garfield			\$ 3,340.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Shaver			\$ 1,000.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Payer			\$ 80.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Heinle			\$ 2,250.00		
Petty Cash	Flag Sale				\$ 15.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 409.77	\$ -	\$ 8,911.32	\$ 15.00	\$ 223.90
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 59,052.44	\$ 4,662.28	\$ 386,152.85	\$ 21.43	\$ -

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 1997, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Dave Davenport; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Layton Salsbery.

Others Present: Gilbert Weight, loan applicant; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Jack Knobloch moved, seconded by Dave Davenport, to approve the September 24, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 26, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Nansel moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Dave seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions were asked.

310: HARLIN STEIGER, ROCK RIP RAP AND ROCK BARBS, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-11: The site was inspected on October 20 by team members Robert Heinle, Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and Harlin Steiger, landowner. The proposed project is a series of rock bank barbs and rip rap approximately 2430' long. The project includes repairing rip rap damaged by spring flooding and installing new rock. All team members recommended approval of the project. Dave moved to declare the activity a 310 project and to approve it; Bob seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to Harlin and Phil.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 404 NATIONWIDE PERMIT: The Army Corps of Engineers' criteria for issuing a nationwide 404 permit for streambank stabilization is based on cubic yards of material placed below the mean high water mark, the volume of material used, and the type of material used. A project less than 500' may be permitted without coordinating with other agencies, however, the above criteria must be met.

LOAN PROGRAM: POLICY DECISIONS: Copies of a draft Loan Program Policy Decision paper was distributed to members prior to the meeting. One question was raised regarding the following decision, dated December 28, 1994: When property is purchased under contract for deed which has a mortgage against it, the new purchasers assume the debt, however, are not required to sign an assumption agreement. Diane was instructed to check on the specific circumstances for the decision and will report back to the Board.

LOAN FUNDS: As of October 15, 1997, approximately \$180,000 is available for loans.

ARLENE HAM: Arlene Ham was notified again that she must submit additional information on the security offered before December 18, 1997, or the loan approval will be canceled due to inactivity. If no response is received, a certified letter will be sent.

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:50 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken during the closed session:

GILBERT WEIGHT: Gil is land leveling 46 acres under a LTA; the initial loan request was modified to fund future projects under the LTA. Bob Nansel moved to approve the loan for \$17,500; Dave seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 8:00 p.m.

CRP FENCING: Following discussion, Dave moved that CRP fencing is not an eligible loan component since it is not a part of a planned grazing plan and is not included in a conservation plan showing a resource benefit. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

MACD AREA MEETING: Bob reported two resolutions passed and will be presented at the state convention, Jyl Scheel was re-elected as Area Director, the 1998 meeting will be hosted by Rosebud Conservation District, and the afternoon session dealt with TMDLs and the districts' future involvement in dealing with impaired streams or "de-listing" streams.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER CONFERENCE: Jack, Wendy, and Diane reported on the conference hosted by Yellowstone CD and other agencies on October 16 & 17 in Billings. All agreed the session was informative with a broad discussion of the "correct" treatment for different situations from a variety of experts. On the second day the boat tour of local projects was interesting as both successful and less successful projects were inspected. Diane was instructed to send a letter to Yellowstone CD commending them on the excellent workshop.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Final review of the Strategic Plan was tabled until the November regular meeting.

LIVESTOCK SEMINAR SCHOLARSHIP: Dave moved to provide up to four scholarships to cover the \$180 registration fees for the Livestock For Profit Seminar in Bismarck, North Dakota, on January 4 - 7, 1998. Jack seconded and the motion carried. The scholarships will be advertised and an application form drafted. Bob Nansel offered the Rosebud Range Committee to review the applications and to make the final selection; the Board agreed.

WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM: Following discussion, Jack moved to submit three names for the scholarships MACD is offering to the Watershed Symposium in Great Falls on December 4 - 5. Dave seconded and the motion carried. Two scholarships per district will be offered; if not awarded, additional requests will be filled on a first-come basis. It was suggested to send a Sand Creek Watershed Committee member, Layton Salsbery, and Diane.

319 GRANT: Diane reported John Wheaton was in the process of re-writing the 319 proposal, Hydrologic Feasibility of Final Mine Pit Impoundments, to address concerns raised by the review committee that 319 funds be utilized to address impaired waters on the 303(d) list. The grant submittal deadline is October 30. To help ensure a successful proposal, it is important to secure written support from landowners. Dave volunteered to talk to some people; if they agree, Diane will mail information relating to the grant for inclusion in the letter.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities for the previous month. Dave moved to grant Wendy two weeks of leave without pay when all other leave is exhausted for maternity leave, likely in April. Jack seconded and the motion carried.

NRCS REPORT: CRP: Rocky reported CRP 16 sign-up has begun and may be quiet active in Rosebud County.

SAND CREEK WATERSHED: A meeting was held with NRCS engineers and others to discuss alternatives for the Sand Creek Watershed project. Rocky will next meet with the Rosebud

County Commissioners to find out what their intentions are relating to the county bridge; Layton will be asked to attend the meeting.

NUTBAL: A training session on NUTBAL, a livestock nutritional analysis program, will be held in Billings in early November for interested persons.

EQIP: Rocky distributed a flowchart on the timelines for EQIP.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONVERGENCE: NRCS, FSA and RD agencies are in the process of converging administrative duties, as directed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

NRT TEAM LEADER: Danny Burgett, formerly from Great Falls NRCS, is the new team leader for South Central Plains team. His duties will include coordinating watershed projects and dealing with personnel issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

MACD CONVENTION: Until November 4, pre-registration for the MACD convention, November 12 – 14 in Bozeman, are \$115. Bob and Diane will be attending; Caprice will be contacted about the meeting. Room reservations must be made as soon as possible.

PERSONNEL ACTION: Bob moved to award a \$500 bonus to each district employee; Jack seconded and the motion carried. The bonus may be either cash or, at a later date, through a deferred compensation plan.

NEWSLETTERS: Copies of the MACDEO, DNRC, and MACD newsletters were distributed.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD. Newsletters: McCone CD, Cascade County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Liberty County CD; Land & Water, Inside Agroforestry, CTIC, Conservogram, District Leader.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Dennis Nixon, Chairman

Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
4136	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 59,052.44	\$ 4,662.28	\$ 386,152.85	\$ 21.43
4137	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP 19 (439.43)			
4138	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP 19 (574.87)			
4139	Cellular One	Mobile Service			
4140	Independent Enterprise	Farm Safety Ad			
4141	Yellowstone Pharmacy	Photos/Film			
4142	Rosebud County Plan	Oct Medical (665.00)			
4143	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (70.85)			
4144	IRS	Deps/PP 19 (345.48)			
4145	Unemployment Insur	3rd Qtr			
4146	State Fund	FY '98 2nd Qtr			
4147	Diane Stephenson	Travel/Area mtg			
4148	Bob Nansel	Travel/Area mtg			
4149	U.S. West	Phone Service			
4150	MCI	Long Distance Service			
4151	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP 20 (439.43)			
4152	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP 20 (574.87)			
4153	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (65.65)			
4154	U.S. Postmaster	Stamps			
4155	Wendy Warren	Per Diem			
4156	Diane Stephenson	Travel/Workshops			
PC	Diane Stephenson	Reimbursement			
PC	Jack's IGA	Sept mtg expense			
PC	Clerk & Recorder	Nile Subordination			
	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 4,335.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15.99
	INCOME DURING MONTH:				
	County Budget	Phone/Stephenson			
	County Budget	NRCS/Blueprints			
	County Budget	Phone/Kenney			
	District/CRP Account	Interest			
	Loan Account	Pmt/Spannagel			
	Loan Account	Pmt/McDaniel			
	Loan Account	August Interest			
	Loan Account	Pmt/Payer			
	Petty Cash	Flag Sale			
	TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 92.19	\$ 7.66	\$ 7,117.93	\$ 5.00
	Balance Carried Forward:	\$ 54,809.53	\$ 4,669.94	\$ 393,270.78	\$ 10.44

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1200
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
(406) 356-7479

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 1997 REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairman; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairman; Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Caprice Gregory; Jack Knobloch.

Others Present: Genie Garfield, Bernard Hein, Scott Hein, Leroy Michel, Ken Pratt, and son, loan applicants; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS District Conservationist; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Layton Salsbery moved, seconded by Dave Davenport, to approve the October 24, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 21, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert Heinle moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed; Layton seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed prior to the meeting; no questions were asked.

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 2:10 p.m. to discuss loan applications; the following action was taken during the closed session:

GENIE GARFIELD: Layton moved to approve Genie Garfield's loan request for \$35,000 to install stockwater and irrigation water management practices in conjunction with EQIP funds. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

BERNARD HEIN: After confirming the projects are in Rosebud County, Dave moved to approve Bernard (Butch) Hein's loan request for \$17,000 for stockwater development, a portion of which was installed one year ago. Robert seconded the motion and it carried. The previously installed pipeline was accepted by the Board for a loan because it is included with Butch's interim EQIP/GP contract.

LEROY MICKELL: Layton moved to table the loan request due to a lack of information; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Leroy was encouraged to return with more information.

ARLENE HAM: Dave moved to accept the property Arlene Ham listed as security for a \$35,000 loan previously approved. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 3:30 p.m.

310: LARRY McKENZIE, CAL THORNBERG, AGENT, ROCK RIP RAP, BARBS, YELLOWSTONE

RIVER, 97-12: The application was to repair 800' of existing rip rap, install 1550' of new rip rap, and install a series of rock bank barbs to protect an irrigation project. Phil Stewart, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and Robert met with Larry on December 4 to inspect the site. The three team members agreed to modify out the rip rap; the modification calls for installing a series of rock barbs. Dave moved to approve the project as modified by the team members; Robert seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to Larry, Cal, and Phil.

SHEFFIELD RANCH, ROCK RIP RAP, BARBS, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 96-08: Jerome Chvilicek requested an extension for this project, date of expiration was August 28, 1997. Layton moved to re-approve the 310 project and extend the date of expiration to December 10, 1998. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to Jerome.

310 CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING: Diane reported on the 310 Committee meeting in Great Falls on December 3. The 223 Grant contract(s) for engineering assistance have not been awarded. Three proposals were accepted and ranked; however, some rankings were questioned and opinions differed regarding which firm would accomplish the proposal objectives. Jim Suite, NRCS State Engineer, met briefly with the 310 Committee during the MACD Convention in November regarding a Montana law that requires professional engineering designs on all project within a stream. According to Jim conservation districts should be reporting violations of the law. Don McIntyre, DNRC legal counsel, responded that Conservation Districts are not bound to require PE designs on 310 projects and are not obligated to report "violators". McIntyre's response will be forwarded to Jim Suite. In order to work efficiently with other permitting agencies, a sub-committee of the 310 Capacity Building committee was appointed to work on the joint application process. The next 310 Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 12, 1998, in Helena.

OLD BUSINESS:

STRATEGIC PLAN: Action on the draft Strategic Plan was again tabled. A Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled immediately prior to the January 21 regular meeting at 1:00 p.m.

LIVESTOCK SEMINAR: The Rosebud Range Committee met on November 26 to select four scholarship recipients for the Livestock Seminar to be held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on January 4 – 7, 1998. The recipients are Kenney Lee, John and Dianna Bailey, and Clint McRae. The next Range Committee meeting will be held in Colstrip on January 23 at the Coal Bowl.

WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM: Layton, Rocky and Diane reported on the December 4 – 5 Watershed Symposium in Great Falls. A variety of watershed projects were featured, from small to large in size, and in varying stages of completion. Individuals involved with their local watershed project discussed specific problems and successes. Approximately 250 people attended the exceptionally well-run, educational symposium.

319 GRANT: The review committee has not made a decision on the 319 grant proposals. According to Stuart Lehman, Department of Water Quality, the committee may meet with the project sponsors to determine to what the extent the project addresses TMDLs, since a portion of 319 funds are legislatively mandated toward TMDLs. This review process has been frustrating and could be viewed as a means to eliminate proposals by stipulating additional requirements. Even though Rosebud Conservation District's project may not get funded, the Board of Supervisors will direct John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, to pursue the project with the latest request.

RIT GRANT: John Wheaton reported measuring devices have been installed at the Peabody final pit site, and the second study site will be located at Decker at a final pit that has been water-filled for approximately 10 years. The control site, located south of Ashland, has also been selected.

EQIP LETTER: After thorough consideration of a discussion with Dennis Loreth, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, during the MACD convention, Bob Nansel concluded that Dennis was offended by a letter sent to him from Rosebud Conservation District regarding EQIP and took the comments personally. It was suggested a letter of apology be sent to Dennis.

After again reviewing the letter dated September 23, 1997, the Board members did not feel an apology was in order as the concerns were directed toward a program not an individual. Since Diane wrote the letter on behalf of the Board, she asked the members if they supported the letter and her interpretation of their concerns with EQIP. The response was unquestionably yes. Dennis Nixon volunteered to call Dennis Loreth to reiterate the Board's position regarding EQIP and their support of the September 23rd letter. No written response has been received from Loreth regarding the Board's letter.

MACD CONVENTION: Diane and Bob Nansel reported on the MACD Convention in Bozeman on November 12 – 14. Mike Mollane, NASA astronaut, was the keynote speaker and provided insight on teamwork and his space flight experiences. Bob reviewed the eight resolutions passed during the MACD business meeting. Next year's convention will be held in Kalispell.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a project report for the Board's review.

NRCS REPORT: CRP: 41 CRP offers were accepted for Rosebud County totaling 27,000 acres.

ECP: The deadline for completion of emergency conservation program projects will be extended by the FSA County Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D: Layton moved to indefinitely table action on a \$50.00 invoice for "sponsor contribution for annual support of Eastern Plains RC&D". Robert seconded and the motion carried.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Layton agreed to emcee the annual banquet, with information provided by Diane. Dennis Nixon will present the slide show on conservation practices completed by Kim and Nancy Nile, achievement award recipients; Diane will write the presentation. Diane was instructed to find entertainment, at a reasonable cost, and to schedule the banquet at the Forsyth Country Club according to the speaker and the Country Club's availability, preferably on a Sunday evening in February or early March. Diane will review photos and slides of Nile's operation for a collage picture for the conservation achievement award, as well as district jackets.

ANNUAL PLAN: Since the strategic plan was not finalized, drafting the 1998 annual plan was tabled.

NRCS/DEQ LIAISON: Copies of Tom Pick's, NRCS liaison to Department of Environmental Quality, offer to meet with the Board was distributed prior to the meeting. Tom will be invited to the February regular meeting to discuss TMDLs and watershed planning.

NACD SURVEY: The Board completed NACD's survey on how agricultural producers are complying with the HEL provisions of the farm bill.

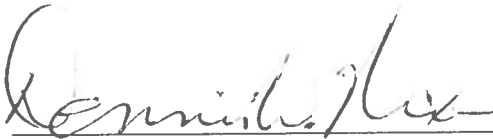
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP: NACD's "draft report" on suggestions to address future conservation needs and the conservation partnership was available for review. Comments on the draft are due by January 7, 1998. No action taken.

CD PROJECT POSTER BOOKLET: Board members reviewed the 1997 District project posters which were compiled into a booklet by DNRC.

OTHER BUSINESS: ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS: The Board discussed the need to secure associate supervisors, who would be able and willing to step into the elected positions if and when needed. A couple of names were suggested. No action was taken.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD (Oct, Nov), Treasure County CD (Oct, Nov), Yellowstone CD, Ag in MT Schools. Newsletters: Missoula CD, Lower Musselshell CD, DNRC (mailed earlier), Tuesday Letter, Ag in the Classroom, Ag in MT Schools, The Steward, Watershed Network (Sept, Oct, Nov), Water Lines, Forestry Notes (Oct, Nov), Conservogram, District Leader, MT Soil & Water Conservation Society.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.



Dennis Nixon, Chairman

Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

**ROSEBUD COUNTY EVALUATION DISTRICT I
DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT**

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 54,809.53	\$ 4,669.94	\$ 393,270.78	\$ 10.44
4157	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP21(796.70)	\$ 1,241.60		
4158	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (74.10)	\$ -		
4159	Wendy Warren	Flex/Medical (43.32)	\$ -		
4160	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP21(928.33)	\$ 1,400.15		
4161	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (116.00)	\$ -		
4162	IRS	Dpst/PP20,21(1048.02)	\$ 281.01		
4163	MACD	Convention Reg	\$ 230.00		
4164	Cellular One	Mobile Service	\$ 120.30		
4165	Rosebud County Plan	Nov Medical (665.00)	\$ 370.00		
4166	Stillwater CD	Area Meeting	\$ 20.00		
4167	Boss, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 101.94		
4168	MCI	Long Distance Service	\$ 5.30		
4169	Robert Heinle	Travel/310 Inspection	\$ 35.50		
4170	U.S. West	Phone Service	\$ 41.45		
4171	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP22 (439.43)	\$ 741.60		
4172	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP22 (574.87)	\$ 847.20		
4173	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (65.00)	\$ -		
4174	Diane Stephenson	Travel/MACD Conv.	\$ 293.00		
4175	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP23 (439.43)	\$ 741.60		
4176	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP23 (688.11)	\$ 1,006.06		
4177	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (116.00)	\$ -		
4178	IRS	Dpst/PP22,23(739.24)	\$ 212.63		
4179	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (67.60)	\$ -		
4180	Area IV NRC	Range Scholarships	\$ 670.00		
4181	J.M. Nansel Ranch	MACD Convention	\$ 351.04		
4182	Bob Nansel	MACD Convention	\$ 100.00		
4183	U.S. Postmaster	Stamps	\$ 87.00		
4184	Diane Stephenson	Petty Cash	\$ 50.00		
4185	MACD	Watershed Symposium	\$ 150.00		
4186	Diane Stephenson	Travel/310, Watershed	\$ 179.45		
4187	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP24 (660.55)	\$ 966.34		
4188	VOID	VOID	\$ -		
4189	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP24 (439.43)	\$ 741.60		
4190	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (57.85)	\$ -		
4191	Rosebud County Plan	Dec Medical (665.00)	\$ 370.00		
4192	Robert Heinle	310 Inspect/Thornberg	\$ 41.74		
4193	Selby's	Blueprint Machine Ser	\$ 143.00		
4194	Montpress, Inc	Envelopes	\$ 63.65		
4195	MCI	Long Distance Service	\$ 10.61		

4197	Cellular One	Mobile Service	\$	95.94				
121	Gilbert Weight	Loan				\$	7,600.00	
122	Charles Hopf	Loan				\$	23,500.00	
837	Shy Ann's	MACD Auction Item			\$			
PC	Jack's IGA	Oct Mtg Exp						\$ 3.99
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Cert. letter/J. Hofer			35.00			\$ 2.77
PC	Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/Weight						\$ 6.00
PC	Jack's IGA	Range Comm mtg exp						\$ 3.99
PC	Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/Martens						\$ 6.00

TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$	11,750.80	\$	35.00	\$	31,100.00	\$	22.75
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INCOME DURING MONTH:

County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$	24.87					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$	21.56					
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$	21.56					
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$	40.43					
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$	59.96					
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$	36.75					
County Budget	Check #3877 VOID	\$	116.25					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$	24.45					
District/CRP Account	Interest			\$	7.93			
District/CRP Account	Interest			\$	7.92			
Loan Account	Pmt/Shaver					\$	250.00	
Loan Account	September Interest					\$	2,442.60	
Loan Account	Pmt/Nile					\$	1,270.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/McDaniel					\$	1,550.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Weight					\$	330.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Lackman					\$	640.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Stokke					\$	2,660.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Shaver					\$	360.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Spannagel					\$	620.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Hein					\$	900.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/P. Hofer					\$	1,860.00	
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Weight					\$	228.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/J. Hofer + penalty					\$	3,033.52	
Loan Account	Pmt/Seleg					\$	530.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Schwend					\$	370.00	
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Hopf					\$	705.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Martens					\$	1,500.00	
Loan Account	October Interest					\$	2,701.73	
Petty Cash	Book Sale							\$ 4.00
Petty Cash	County Budget							\$ 50.00
TOTAL INCOME:			345.83	\$	15.85	\$	21,950.85	\$ 54.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$	43,404.56	\$	4,650.79	\$	384,121.63	\$ 41.69