

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

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

Others Present: Leroy Mickell, loan applicant; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Danny Burgett, NRCS Team Leader; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The group worked on the Strategic Plan from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 1:50 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Robert Heinle moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to approve the December 10, 1997, regular meeting minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. in Forsyth. Review of a draft annual plan of operations will begin at 1:00 p.m.

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The report was distributed earlier. USDA's new phone system, LAN/WAN, scheduled for installation in the near future, was discussed. The system is promoted as improving customer service, however, incoming calls will be answered by an automated attendant, namely a recorded message listing available phone extensions for each agency. The District has three options: remaining independent of LAN/WAN and maintaining our current phone line, being included with LAN/WAN and giving up our line, or being included in LAN/WAN and keeping the current line. The system will enable phone call transfers from one agency to another within the building, which is currently unavailable. As understood, the entire building will be served by one fax line. It was decided to keep the current phone line for fax and voice use as well as being included on LAN/WAN, if possible.

LOAN PROGRAM: GREENLEAF LAND & LIVESTOCK , DOUG McRAE: Due to a land trade, Doug is requesting a mortgage release on a portion of the property used to secure his loan. Once the trade is finalized in March, 1998, he would mortgage the new property. Jack moved to approve the release, provided the criteria for security and equity are met. Robert seconded and the motion carried. Doug will be notified of the decision.

ELIGIBLE LOAN COMPONENTS: The Board discussed whether "debris removal" is an eligible loan component. Based upon the loan guidelines, it was clarified that debris removal is not a conservation practice and, therefore, not eligible for a loan.

PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED PROJECTS: Bob Nansel moved to add the following statement to the loan guidelines to clarify project eligibility: Applications will not be accepted for loans on previously completed projects or on functional portions of a project. Layton seconded and the motion carried.

LOAN FUNDS RECEIVABLE REPORT: As of January 12, 1998, loan funds receivable total \$462,452.00.

LOAN FUNDS COMMITTED REPORT: As of January 12, 1998, loan funds committed total \$151,000; leaving \$124,157.52 available for additional loans.

The meeting was closed to the public at 2:55 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken during the closed session:

LEROY MICKELL: Dave Davenport moved to approve Leroy Mickell's loan request of \$9000 to repair damage to irrigate land caused by flooding. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Practices eligible for the loan are: fence, land leveling, dike and ditch repair.

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

310: SHEFFIELD RANCH, ROCK RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 97-13: The proposed project is to install 100' of rock rip rap at the toe of an existing dike, repair a slump in the dike, and armor the top of the dike. The project is under design by Aquoneering, in Laurel. Phil Stewart, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, is not requesting an on-site inspection as the work is fairly simple and the site has been inspected a number of times. He recommends approval of the project. Layton moved, seconded by Dave, to approve the project as proposed. The motion carried. Form 273 was signed by the members and will be forwarded to Jerome Chvilicek, agent.

SHEFFIELD RANCH, ROCK RIP RAP, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 96-08: Rather than issue another 310 permit as determined at the December meeting, Diane reported that the original Form 273 was changed to reinstate the permit and to extend the deadline to December 10, 1998.

OLD BUSINESS:

319 GRANT: According to an unofficial report, the Water Impoundment Pit 319 proposal was not ranked high enough by DEQ to receive funding. It is also rumored that DEQ will be requesting a meeting with project sponsors; Dave volunteered to represent Rosebud Conservation District if such a meeting takes place.

RIT GRANT: John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, reported the scope of work for the RIT grant is nearing completion and will be forwarded to DNRC.

EQIP: Dennis Nixon reported that Dennis Loreth's concerns with the District's letter on EQIP have been responded to during a phone conversation.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Greg Keeler, MSU-Bozeman English professor, will provide entertainment with humorous songs about western life and more at the annual banquet, scheduled for Sunday, March 15, 1998, at the Forsyth Country Club. A no-host bar will open at 5:00 p.m. and buffet dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Cost of the meal is \$7.50 per plate; Mr. Keeler's charge is \$300. Invitations will be mailed in early February.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities and projects worked on the past month.

NRCS REPORT: PERSONNEL: Rocky reported that Katrina Johnson will be transferring to Plentywood in February and the Forsyth Field Office may lose another person, due to higher CRP and EQIP workload demands in other areas of the state.

GREAT PLAINS: A Great Plains contract is in non-compliance and cost share funds may have to be refunded.

SAND CREEK: Fred Wacker is interested in developing a watershed plan on his ranch on the upper portion of Sand Creek; he also wants to redevelop a couple of large reservoirs.

PRIME FARMLAND: Westmont Mine requested a prime farmland determination from NRCS.

NO-TILL PROJECT: The Board considered advertising a no-till project east of Forsyth along the interstate. No final decision was made.

EQIP: Suggested changes to the ranking criteria were not incorporated into the 1998 EQIP sign-up, due to time restrictions. According to information provided at a training session, the changes will be included in the next sign-up.

NEW BUSINESS:

NACD QUOTA: Robert moved, seconded by Caprice, to pay the minimum NACD dues, \$550. Discussion took place on what exactly NACD does and how we benefit. Board consensus to table the matter until the next meeting. Diane was asked to survey some other districts regarding the amount of dues they pay and will have information on NACD services available at the meeting.

AUDIT REQUIREMENTS: As required by the audit review, the following liabilities were reported for sick leave and annual leave, through the end of pay period 26:

Sick Leave, accrued at 3.69 hours per pay period, 25% payable at the time of termination: \$709.85

Annual Leave, accrued at 4.62 hours per pay period, 100% payable at the time of termination: \$2,628.53

The Board was informed that on July 26, 1998, Diane's annual leave accrual rate will increase to 5.54 hours per pay period, based upon ten years of employment with the conservation districts. Board members felt this was incorrect for a number of reasons: employment began in another district, time in service pertains only to this district, and district employees do not fall under Montana law relating to this subject. Caprice stated this is wrong and will investigate the matter and report on her findings.

NACD CONVENTION: No one will be attending the NACD convention in Nashville on February 1 – 5, 1998.

TRAVEL APPROVAL: Diane was given approval to travel to Miles City for a training session and to drop off jackets the conservation achievement award and to Colstrip for a Range Committee meeting.

IRRIGATION WATER SYMPOSIUM: Layton and Jack are interested in attending the Irrigation Water Symposium on February 26 – 27 at the Billings Sheraton. The purpose of the meeting is to distribute information on new irrigation technologies, equipment, and methods to local conservation leaders as well as professionals and industry leaders; cost is \$20.00 per person.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: DEQ is scheduling public meetings to get comments and review of the 1998 impaired stream list before it is finalized. As explained by Steve Schmitz, DNRC, districts are being asked to cosponsor the meetings. Following discussion, the Board decided not to sponsor the February 12th meeting, tentatively scheduled for Forsyth. The Board will help get word out about the meeting and will attend.

WATER RESERVATION ANNUAL STATUS REPORT: Copies of the 1997 water reservations annual status report, provided by Duane Claypool, DNRC Project Coordinator, were distributed.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS: Information on recently-approved nationwide permits were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

1996 MACD CONVENTION REPORT: The report is available for review.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL: A 1996 report on conditions and trends relating to 13 resource categories, such as water quality, agriculture, wildlife, was available for review.

LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS STUDY: Copies of a news article on a Senate study for livestock production were distributed earlier. According to the article, agricultural run-off is the largest contributor to impairing 60% of the nations rivers and streams.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Dave moved to keep the current slate of officers; Jack seconded and the motion carried. The officers are as follows:
Chairperson: Dennis Nixon
Vice Chairperson: Layton Salsbery
Secretary/Treasurer: Diane Stephenson

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: The following MACD and local committee assignments were accepted:
Dennis Nixon: District Operations (MACD), Southern Saline Seep Organization, Personnel Committee
Layton Salsbery: Sand Creek Work Committee, Personnel Committee, District Employee Supervisor
Dave Davenport: Education (MACD), Weed Management Coordinator
Caprice Gregory: RC&D, Personnel Committee, Sand Creek Work Committee
Robert Heinle: Water Resources (MACD), Reserved Water Committees, Sand Creek Work Committee
Jack Knobloch: Water Resources (MACD)
Bob Nansel: Land Resources (MACD), Rosebud Range Committee

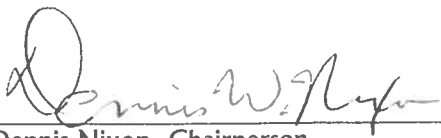
1998 SUPERVISOR ELECTIONS: Four supervisors' terms expire in 1998, Dennis Nixon, Dave Davenport, Robert Heinle, and Caprice Gregory. Nomination petitions must be turned in before March 19. Robert said he will not run again and has a couple of people in mind to ask to fill his position. Caprice indicated earlier she will not run. Jason Hirsch was suggested as a possible candidate; other individuals will be considered, as well.

NEWSLETTERS: The MACD newsletter was distributed earlier; DNRC Notes were handed out.

OTHER BUSINESS: ROSEBUD RANGE COMMITTEE: Dave asked if education budget funds could be used to help the Range Committee sponsor a range day for the Colstrip 5th grade classes. Diane thought the suggested activities were similar to those of the 6th Grade Conservation Days, conducted annually near Lame Deer and Hysham. Instead of conducting strictly a "range tour", another conservation day could be scheduled with the Colstrip school. Dave will find out if the Range Committee is interested in either activity.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Yellowstone CD (November & December), Ag in Montana, MACD Spring Board, State Tech Committee Meeting. Newsletters: Dawson County CD, Custer County CD, McCone CD, Pondera County CD, Liberty County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Cascade CD, NRCS MT Conservation Update, Plant Materials Today, Agroforestry Notes, Inside Agroforestry, Watershed Focus, Land & Water, CTIC Partners, Soil & Water Conservation Journal, District Leader, Forestry Notes, Conservogram.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JANUARY, 1998, TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Balance Brought Forward:		\$ 43,404.56	\$ 4,650.79	\$ 384,121.63	\$ 41.69
4198 Layton Salsbery	Travel/Watershed mtg	\$ 290.76			
4199 Ag in MT Schools	Memberships	\$ 100.00			
4200 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP25 (439.43)	\$ 741.60			
4201 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP25 (574.87)	\$ 847.20			
4202 IRS	Dpst/PP24,25 (727.20)	\$ 209.60			
4203 Unemployment Insur.	4th Qtr.	\$ 48.89			
4204 MT Dept. Revenue	1997 taxes (1563.35)	\$ 209.02			
4205 Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (87.45)	\$ -			
4206 Wendy Warren	Flex/Medical (60.00)	\$ -			
4207 State Fund	Fy '98, 3rd qtr	\$ 33.75			
4208 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP26 (443.87)	\$ 741.60			
4209 Wendy Warren	Flex/Medical (1.72)	\$ -			
4210 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP26 (573.25)	\$ 847.20			
4211 Cellular One	Mobile Service	\$ 129.25			
4212 Nat'l Watershed Coal.	Memberships	\$ 25.00			
4213 Yellowstone Pharmacy	Supplies	\$ 5.19			
4214 Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (118.00)	\$ -			
4215 U.S. West	Phone Service	\$ 44.74			
4216 MCI	Long Distance Service	\$ 5.24			
4217 Rosebud County Plan	Jan Medical (665.00)	\$ 370.00			
4218 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP01(443.87)	\$ 741.60			
4219 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP01(573.25)	\$ 847.20			
4220 IRS	Dpst/PP25,01(685.28)	\$ 200.64			
123 Arlene Ham	Loan			\$ 35,000.00	
124 Genie Garfield	Loan			\$ 25,700.00	
125 Hein Cattle Company	Loan			\$ 11,100.00	
126 Clerk & Recorder	Recording fees/Hein			\$ 30.00	
PC Jack's IGA	Dec mtg exp			\$	9.09
PC Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/McDaniel			\$	6.00
PC Jack's IGA	Supplies			\$	2.54
PC U.S. Postmaster	Postage Due			\$	0.46
PC U.S. Postmaster	Cert Mail/Hoff, Hofer			\$	5.54
PC U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$	8.68
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 6,438.48	\$ -	\$ 71,830.00	\$ 32.31

INCOME DURING MONTH:		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
County Budget	MACD/Watershed mtg	\$ 460.00			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.56			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 26.70			
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.71			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 60.67			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.71			
County Budget	MACDEO/Reimb	\$ 59.53			
District/CRP Account	Interest		\$ 7.39		
Loan Account	Pmt/McDaniel			\$ 410.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Shelton			\$ 1,700.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Stensvad, Inc.			\$ 1,180.00	
Loan Account	Admin/Ham			\$ 1,050.00	
Loan Account	Admin/Garfield			\$ 771.00	
Loan Account	Admin/Hein			\$ 333.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Rolston			\$ 650.00	
Loan Account	Interest			\$ 2,999.40	
Petty Cash	Clerk & Recorder/Reimb	\$ 471.88	\$ 7.39	\$ 9,093.40	\$ 6.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 37,437.96	\$ 4,658.18	\$ 321,385.03	\$ 15.38
Balance Carried Forward:					

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

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

Members Not Present: Jack Knobloch.

Others Present: Tom Pick, NRCS/DEQ Liaison, Helena; Bill Swanson, Loan Applicant; Dennis Kenney, Associate Member; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

A group consisting of Dennis Nixon, Layton Salsbery, Robert Heinle, Bob Nansel, and Diane Stephenson met prior to the regular meeting to review and revise the draft 1998 annual plan of operations. Copies of the APO will be distributed prior to the March regular meeting.

The Rosebud Conservation District regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Dave Davenport moved to approve the January 21, 1998, regular meeting minutes as distributed. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TMDL: Tom Pick, NRCS/DEQ Liaison from Helena, attended the meeting at the Board's request to discuss the TMDL process. Of the fourteen-member advisory board established by statute, conservation districts are the only group that has two representatives serve. The draft 303(d) list of impaired streams was compiled with data from a variety of sources, such as 208 study information, other agency reports and observations, and consultant's input. Through a public meeting, DEQ is looking for guidance on whether streams should or should not be listed, and on what watersheds can be worked on effectively. Tom noted that non-perennial streams were listed and streams with "natural impairments" were not listed in the report. According to Tom, direction from the grassroots level is necessary in order to assess an impaired stream. Tom and other DEQ staff are available to assess the streams at the request of the local landowners or the conservation district.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved, seconded by Layton Salsbery, to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The report was provided earlier; no questions were asked.

TECHNICIAN'S REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities and projects worked on for the previous month.

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the following loan applications; the following action was taken during the closed session:

VOV BIG PORCUPINE CREEK RANCH, BILL SWANSON: Dave moved to approve VOV Big Porcupine Creek Ranch's loan request for \$26,000 to install a well, tanks, and possibly three spring developments, pending needs and feasibility determination. Layton seconded and the motion carried.

JAMES HECKER: Dave moved to table the \$5000 loan request to renovate CRP acres and to ask Mr. Hecker to attend the next meeting or to provide more information on the project.

Robert seconded and the motion carried. A letter will be sent to James notifying him of the Board's decision.

J.M. NANSEL RANCH, BOB NANSEL: Dave moved to approve J.M. Nansel Ranch's \$35,000 loan request for stockwater developments and fencing for grazing management. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 3:45 p.m.

REG HOFF: Dennis Kenney volunteered to contact Reg Hoff regarding his delinquent loan payment.

GREENLEAF LAND AND LIVE STOCK COMPANY: The Board was informed that First Montana Title Insurance Company, closing agent for a land trade involving Doug and Kim McRae, Greenleaf Land and Live Stock Company, will record the necessary documents and return them to our office. The mortgage Rosebud Conservation District holds on the land being traded will be released, and another mortgage on the new property will replace the released one.

310 COMMITTEE MEETING: Diane reported on the February 12, 1998, 310 Committee meeting held in Helena. The group met with Land and Water, the engineering firm selected to draft general project designs and information for various stream projects. An in-the-field type manual will be developed to use when assessing a project, including design alternatives. The manual will be easily copied and up-dateable. The first draft for review will be available sometime after July 1st. Fish Wildlife & Parks offered to help fund training sessions for District supervisors and employees and FW&P biologists in using the manuals. Before continuing the one-application stream permitting process, the agencies involved will be asked for a cooperative commitment, in writing. Bob Nansel moved, Dave seconded, to approve travel for Diane to attend the next 310 Committee meeting, tentatively scheduled for April 2 in Helena. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

DEQ PUBLIC MEETING: In order to publicize the DEQ public meeting on the impaired streams list, Dave moved to purchase advertisements, not to exceed \$200, in the local papers and on the radio stations, and to publish news articles. Robert seconded and the motion carried. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 1998, 2:00 p.m. at the Colstrip Human Services Building.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Robert moved to adopt the Strategic Plan as distributed; Dave seconded and the motion carried.

319 GRANT: Stuart Lehman, DEQ, notified Rosebud Conservation District by phone that the 319 proposal received a funding recommendation of \$75,000. If we accept the funding, our proposal would have to focus on water quality issues, specifically TMDL assessments, instead of final pit impoundments. John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, suggested conducting water quality and land use assessments on East Fork Armells and Rosebud creeks. Layton moved, seconded by Dave, to change the proposal in order to make it more acceptable to DEQ; motion carried. Diane will notify John of the Board's decision.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Invitations were mailed in early February, with a March 5th deadline for response. Ads were also placed in the local newspapers selling tickets for \$8.00 per person. Diane asked if someone would be willing to watch over the registration; no one specifically volunteered, but it was stated that one of the supervisors would take care of it.

NACD AND MACD DUES: Bob Nansel moved to pay \$300.00 of the NACD dues and to pay the total \$4335.17 MACD dues. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

ANNUAL LEAVE: Copies of a letter from Norman Klein, Department of Commerce, were distributed prior to the Board meeting, which clarified the Board's questions relating to annual leave accrual rate and anniversary dates.

IRRIGATION WATER SYMPOSIUM: If Layton and Jack attend the Irrigation Water Symposium in Billings on February 26 and 27, they will be reimbursed for registration charges on a travel voucher.

ELECTIONS: Diane reminded the Supervisors that nomination petitions must be submitted to the Election Administrator by 5:00 p.m. on March 19th.

EQIP: The Board received a request from Garfield County Conservation District to send letters to Ken Kaul, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, to request cost share for waterspreading under EQIP. Layton moved to send a letter to NRCS before the March 13th deadline stating the environmental benefits of waterspreading and requesting it be an eligible cost share item under EQIP. Caprice Gregory seconded, and the motion carried. Diane will draft the letter with assistance from Rocky.

AMERICAN RIVER HERITAGE INITIATIVE: A meeting will be held at the Treasure County Courthouse in Hysham with Linda Moss, director of the Western Heritage Center, to discuss the Center's American River Heritage Initiative proposal. Diane stated she could attend the meeting.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP: Rocky reported that Lower Musselshell CD will be submitting a request for an EQIP priority area and was informing Rosebud Conservation District of their intentions. The Board was also informed that 5 EQIP applications have currently been submitted in Rosebud County. Montana was allocated approximately \$5 million, with \$1.7 million available for statewide resource concerns.

CRP: Of the 27,000 CRP acres bid in Rosebud County, to date 25,000 acres have been accepted and three rejected.

NEW BUSINESS:

COLSTRIP CONSERVATION DAY: The Board agreed to sponsor a 5th Grade Conservation Day with the Colstrip students. Diane has discussed the activities with Mr. Nygaard, Colstrip Principal, and plans are being made to conduct the tour on Thursday, May 7.

VIDEO CONFERENCE: The March 12 video conference with MACD, NRCS, and DNRC regarding Cooperative Working Agreements has been canceled.

RANGE/YOUTH CAMPS: Layton moved to sponsor scholarships for students to attend the Natural Resources Camp, Montana Range Days, or the Montana Youth Range Camp, at the same rate as last year. Caprice seconded and the motion carried. (NOTE: from the April 23, 1997, regular meeting minutes: \$500 was designated, on a first come basis, to the camp the student wishes to attend.) Information will be forwarded to the area FFA instructors.

YOUTH EDUCATION: Diane asked for permission to work with a Colstrip elementary class, possibly the 4th grade, to introduce Project WET curriculum, which includes hands-on activities to demonstrate the importance of water. Since the program is just beginning Diane was not able to define how much of her time would be required; however, if it were beyond reason, the program would be dropped. Layton asked why it is being used in the Colstrip school, Diane stated the idea was prompted by a phone conversation with Mr. Nygaard regarding the conservation day. The Board agreed to support the program.

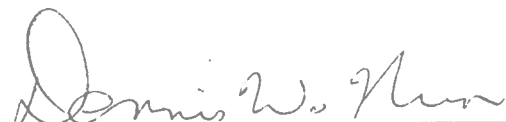
COUNTY PLANNING BOARD: Layton agreed to serve on the Rosebud County Planning Board, if rumors are true that the Board will be re-established. No official notice has been received from the County Commissioners.

OTHER BUSINESS: FFA: Dennis Nixon asked if the local FFA Chapter had approached the District to help sponsor teams to the state competition; the answer was no. Dennis will inquire about the scholarships with the Colstrip instructor and report back at the next meeting.

NEWSLETTER: Dennis Kenney asked what has happened to the District newsletter, since it has been some time since it was last published. He thought the newsletter should be published on a monthly basis; this met strong resistance from Diane. The 1998 annual plan states the newsletter will be published twice this year. Tentative plans are to distribute a newly-formatted newsletter in May.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD. Newsletters: Lower Musselshell CD, Big Horn CD, Missoula CD, Garfield County CD, DNRC Notes, Land & Water, CTIC, Conservogram (Jan & Feb), Forestry Notes (Jan & Feb), Watershed News, District Leader, Ag in Montana Schools, DEQ Watershed Management Update. Tuesday Letter.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. The Board went into an Executive session to discuss a personnel matter with the following persons present: Dennis Nixon, Chairperson; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairperson; Caprice Gregory; Robert Heinle; Bob Nansel; Dennis Kenney, Associate member. The executive session adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FEBRUARY, 1998, TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Balance Brought Forward:		\$ 37,437.96	\$ 4,658.18	\$ 321,385.03	\$ 15.38
4221	MACDEO	1998 Dues			
4222	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (83.20)			
4223	Jack Knobloch	Travel/Water Seminar			
4224	Diane Stephenson	Travel/MC			
4225	U.S. Postmaster	Stamps			
4226	Jack's IGA	Supplies			
4227	VOID	VOID			
4228	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP 02(527.26)			
4229	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP 02(597.26)			
4230	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical(116.00)			
4231	Wendy Warren	Flex/Dep Care (95.00)			
4232	Rosebud County Plan	Medical (665.00)			
4233	Robert Heinle	Reimb/Phone Call			
4234	Boss, Inc.	Supplies			
4235	Cellular One	Mobile Phone			
4236	U.S. West	Phone Service			
4237	Independent Enterprise	1 yr Sub			
4238	No-Till Farmer	1 yr Sub			
4239	MCI	Long Distance Service			
4240	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP 03 (443.87)			
4241	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP 03 (573.25)			
4242	Diane Stephenson	Travel/Helena			
4243	Diane Stephenson	Petty Cash			
127	Treasure Co. Clerk & Re	Hein Mortg		\$ 24.00	
128	Rosebud Co. Clerk & Re	Wimer Release		\$ 6.00	
PC	Jack's IGA	Jan mtg exp			\$ 9.26
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 1.93
PC	Jack's IGA	Supplies			\$ 2.82
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 7.07
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 10.06
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 4,474.83	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 31.14

INCOME DURING MONTH:		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 25.16			
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 23.33			
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Reimb/S. Redding	\$ 34.10			
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 23.19			
District/CRP Account	Interest		\$ 8.17		
Loan Account	Pmt/P. Hofer + penalty			\$ 1,665.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Holmes			\$ 1,000.00	
Loan Account	Interest			\$ 970.19	
Loan Account	Pmt/Wimer			\$ 2,840.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Youngbauer			\$ 1,540.00	
Petty Cash	County Budget			\$	50.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 171.00	\$ 8.17	\$ 8,015.19	\$ 50.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 33,134.13	\$ 4,666.35	\$ 329,370.22	\$ 34.24

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FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
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MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

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

Members Not Present: Caprice Gregory.

Others Present: John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Billings; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

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

Dave Davenport moved, seconded by Robert Heinle, to approve the February 25, 1998, regular meeting as distributed. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in Forsyth.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Layton Salsbery moved to accept the Treasurer's report as distributed; Dave seconded and the motion carried. The following budget balances were reviewed:
Salaries: \$11,109.82; Benefits: \$3014.76; Conservation Education: \$804.22;
Dues: -\$575.17; Office Supplies: \$1201.25; Field Supplies: \$135.00;
Security Bond: \$105.00; Maintenance Agreements: \$307.00; Newsletter:
\$1500.00; Annual Report: \$1950.00; Supervisor Expense: \$3643.32;
Reserved Water: \$300.00; Workshops: \$760.00; TOTAL: \$24,255.20.

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

GRANT PROJECTS: John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Billings, attended the meeting to discuss Rosebud Conservation District's two grant projects, the RDGP water impoundment project and the 319 water assessment project (TMDL). Diane provided background information on how the initial project began, the feasibility of water impoundment pits, the grant process and procedure, and how we ended up with a separate project to conduct TMDL assessments on East Armells and Rosebud Creeks. John reviewed the goals, time frames, organizational structure and financial commitments of the projects. The RDGP scope of work was submitted to DNRC in early March; they forwarded it to DEQ for review. Since DEQ did not like the water impoundment project when the RDGP committee reviewed it, the Board discussed the possibility of the project being delayed or not funded, due to DEQ's input, and what action would be taken in that event. Both project proposals require establishing an advisory group to provide oversight on the projects; most likely the same group will serve both project requirements. The Board discussed potential advisory committee members; invitations will be mailed for the first meeting to be held at the Colstrip Human Resource Building on Wednesday, April 15, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. The Board discussed conducting a preliminary meeting for East Armells and Rosebud Creek landowners relating to the 319 grant to conduct water assessments on those streams. The initial decision was to wait since the immediate concern is the water impoundment project, however, the Board later changed this decision. Bob Nansel will ask Luther Waterland, MACD Vice President, to discuss the process by which Carter County Conservation District went through to get their streams off of the 303(d)

list. Dave will secure the meeting location, the Colstrip Human Resource Building, for April 15 at 2:00 p.m. Diane will be notified of the final arrangements when completed.

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken:

AVAILABLE LOAN BALANCE: Diane provided an accounting of loan funds available as of March 25. The Board inquired if any previously approved loans would not be completed. Kim Nile is the only applicant who has not notified our office of his intentions. A letter will be sent to Kim notifying him that if no progress is made on the project, the loan approval will be canceled.

JAMES HECKER: Layton moved to approve James Hecker's reviewed loan application for \$2600 to renovate 60 acres of CRP. Dave seconded and the motion carried.

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

310: CARTERSVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT, REPAIR IRRIGATION DIVERSION, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 98-01:

The proposed project is to place rock in front of and behind the diversion to plug a 40 to 50' long hole under the dam. The depth of the hole is unknown. According to Pam Ash, Cartersville Irrigation District secretary, the contractor, Williams Construction, intends on using a backhoe to place rock in front of the machine and work out toward the hole. Diane read the model rules project definition, Rule 4, 13 (a): Project does not include: (2) customary and historic maintenance and repair to existing irrigation facilities that do not significantly alter or modify the stream in contravention of 75-7-102, MCA. Following discussion of whether the action was a project, Bob Nansel moved that it was not a 310 project; Dave seconded and the motion carried.

Pam Ash inquired about funding available to repair the damage caused by the 1997 flood. DNRC has emergency funds available which can be allocated within three weeks to make immediate repairs to the dam. Other funding sources will be considered for more long term repairs.

310 COMMITTEE MEETING: Board members reviewed information regarding the 310 project design and construction guidelines manual. They felt it covered all stream projects in our area; no suggestions were made.

OLD BUSINESS:

ANNUAL PLAN: Layton moved to adopt the 1998 annual plan of operations as presented. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Seventy-three guests attended the banquet. Diane thanked everyone who helped with the program. 1997 annual reports were forwarded to those on the mailing list who did not attend the meeting. Thank you letters were sent to the Forsyth Country Club, the Forsyth Independent Enterprise, and Greg Keeler.

EQIP/WATERSPREADING: Copies of the letter sent to Ken Kaul, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, regarding EQIP cost share eligibility for waterspreading practices, were distributed prior to the meeting. A response was received stating that waterspreading would be eligible for cost share. It was noted that 1998 EQIP applications must be submitted by March 31. Information regarding the 1997 program was available for review.

NOMINATING PETITIONS/ELECTION: The following people submitted nominating petitions for the conservation district supervisor positions: Dave Davenport, Steve Lackman, Doug McRae, and Dennis Nixon. Layton move the Board declare the election by acclamation; Bob Nansel seconded. The motion carried. Diane will notify Geri Custer, Election Administrator, of the Board's declaration. The new members will take office on January 1, 1999. The names will not appear on the ballot in the general election.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy Warren is on maternity leave until May 5; no report will be available.

NRCS REPORT: CRP: Rocky presented the following CRP contracts for approval: Paul Kanta, 260 acres renovated; Louise Galt, 2200 acres renovated; Errol Galt, 4000 acre new seeding. Rosebud County is nearing the 25% cropland limitation for CRP sign-up, approximately 50,000 is currently enrolled in CRP.

SNOW SURVEY: Snow pack survey was noted with Yellowstone Basin at 90-96% and Tongue River Basin at 100%.

SUMMIT: Rocky distributed information on a Regional Agricultural Development Summit to be held in Sidney, with such topics as alternative crops and economics being discussed.

SURGE VALVE: Kim Nile is interested in using the District's surge valve; minor repairs may be necessary before irrigation season.

GLCI: Applications for funding demonstration projects are available and due by May 1, 1998. Copies of the 1997 activities report were distributed.

FSA STATUS REVIEWS: Twelve Food Security Act statute reviews will be performed in Rosebud County. The reviews will be conducted by airplane within the next couple of weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE: Worker's Comp is now providing employers liability coverage, at no additional charge. This protection is for employee sustained work related injuries which are not covered under Workers Comp. The liability limits will increase after July 1.

FAIR BOOTH: It was decided to order more notepads and pencils for the upcoming fair and conservation days. Diane provided information and cost estimates on portable display boards; it was decided to investigate other sources before purchasing anything. The Extension Service is requesting sponsors for the 4-H awards so that they are more consistent. Robert moved to donate \$100 toward the 4-H awards; seconded by Dave, the motion carried. Diane will contact the Extension office for a list of categories still available for sponsorship.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY CONFERENCE: Will be held in San Diego on July 5 -9.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT: Information on grants for wetland development, enhancement, restoration, etc., was available.

RURAL COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Information on grants to enhance economical sustainability for rural communities was available.

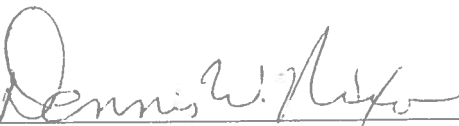
OTHER BUSINESS: OFFICE EQUIPMENT: Robert moved to reimburse Diane for a new office chair; Layton seconded and the motion carried.

BUDGET MEETING: A special meeting will be held on May 13, 1998, to review the preliminary budget and to discuss use of the loan program interest funds and administrative fees.

BUSINESS CARDS: Dennis Nixon would like each Board member to have business cards which identify them to the conservation district; Diane will order cards and print them.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Ag in MT Schools, Eastern Plains RC&D and 1998 Plan of Operations. Newsletters: DNRC, MACD, Custer County CD, Pondera County CD, Liberty County CD, Ag in the Classroom, District Leader, No-Till Farmer, Watershed Focus, Journal of Soil & Water Conservation, Conservogram.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MARCH, 1997 ASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Balance Brought Forward:		\$ 33,134.13	\$ 4,666.35	\$ 329,370.22	\$ 34.24
4244	Jack's IGA	29.39			
4245	Wendy Warren	741.60			
4246	Wendy Warren	-			
4247	Diane Stephenson	847.20			
4248	Diane Stephenson	-			
4249	IRS	212.40			
4250	NACD	300.00			
4251	Rosebud County Press	20.00			
4252	Independent Enterprise	36.00			
4253	MACD	4,335.17			
4254	Cellular One	96.49			
4255	U.S. West	41.09			
4256	MCI	26.79			
4257	Wendy Warren	741.60			
4258	Diane Stephenson	847.20			
4259	IRS	200.64			
4260	Rosebud County Plan	370.00			
4261	U.S. Postmaster	64.00			
4262	Diane Stephenson	65.85			
838	Greg Keeler		\$ 300.00		\$ 15.00
839	Forsyth Country Club		\$ 675.00		\$ 2.24
840	VOID				\$ 6.17
PC	Range Telephone				
PC	U.S. Postmaster				
PC	Jack's IGA				
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 8,975.42	\$ 975.00	\$ -	\$ 23.41
INCOME DURING MONTH:					
	County Budget	21.74			
	County Budget	21.74			
	County Budget	31.27			
	County Budget	21.74			
	District/CRP Account		\$ 7.93		
	District/CRP Account		\$ 330.00		
	Loan Account			\$ 1,777.66	
	Loan Account			\$ 2,320.00	
	Petty Cash				\$ 16.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 96.49	\$ 337.93	\$ 4,097.66	\$ 16.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 24,255.20	\$ 4,029.28	\$ 333,467.88	\$ 26.83

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

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

Members Not Present: Caprice Gregory; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairperson.

Others Present: Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the USDA Conference Room in Forsyth. A quorum was present.

Dave Davenport moved to approve the March 25, 1998, regular meeting minutes as distributed. Robert Heinle seconded and the motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. Members were reminded of the Budget meeting scheduled for May 13, 1998, at 7:30 p.m. Diane will mail budget information out to the members prior to the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved, seconded by Jack Knobloch, to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. The motion carried.

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

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 7:15 p.m. to discuss a loan. The following action was taken:

STEVE SHELLEY: Dave made a motion that a request by a prospective buyer to assume Steve Shelley's loan be denied and the balance be paid before the property is sold. Robert seconded and the motion carried. A letter will be mailed to the buyers, Dakota Partners, along with loan application forms and information on the program.

The meeting was open to the public at 7:25 p.m.

310 COMMITTEE: Diane reported on the 310 Committee meeting in Helena on April 2nd. A draft of the joint stream permitting application form was reviewed; changes were made and another draft will be reviewed at the next meeting. Rob Hazelwood, US Fish and Wildlife Service, met with the group to discuss how, in his opinion, the Endangered and Threatened Species Act relates to the 310 law. Basically, Mr. Hazelwood believes District Supervisors can be fined and placed under arrest if actions taken by a 310 applicant harm or disturb a listed endangered or threatened animal. The 310 committee did not agree. Mike Rabey, Army Corps of Engineers, asked each district in the state to send him a list of 310 applicants, so the Corps can ensure a 404 permit is applied for as well. Mike also invited the group to attend inter-agency meetings, held bi-monthly, to inform and educate permitting agencies of related activities. The next inter-agency meeting is scheduled for May 20; the 310 Committee will meet on the 19th in Helena. Bob Nansel moved to approve travel for Diane to attend the meeting; Robert seconded and the motion carried. A 223 grant will help defray some travel expenses for the 310 Committee members.

OLD BUSINESS:

RDGP GRANT: Thirteen people attended the Advisory Group meeting in Colstrip on Wednesday, April 15. Meeting notes were distributed to Board members not on the mailing list. The group will tour possible monitoring sites at Western Energy and Peabody on April 28. It is imperative as soon as the grant contract is received, it be signed and returned to DNRC.

319 GRANT: The watershed meeting with landowners on East Fork of Armells and Rosebud Creeks that was discussed at last month's meeting was postponed because plans were too tentative. June 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Colstrip was suggested, and to invite Tom Pick, NRCS/DEQ; John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology; and Luther Waterland, Carter Conservation District Supervisor, to present information on TMDLs. A committee of Dave, Bob Nansel, and Diane will meet to discuss arrangements and make final preparations.

FAIR BOOTH: Supplies for the fair booth activities have been ordered. Jack moved to purchase a 3 X 5' display board and easel; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. The District will be sponsoring one of the 4-H food category awards for \$100, which will total approximately 15 awards. Payment will be sent to the Extension Service following the fair.

BUSINESS CARDS: An example of the District business cards was distributed. Supervisors were asked to notify Diane if they wanted cards.

RANGE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: Information on District scholarships for students to attend summer youth range camps or natural resource camp was distributed to the Vo-Ag instructors at Forsyth, Rosebud, Colstrip, and St. Labre schools, as well as the two county Extension Agents. No response has been received to date.

EQIP PRIORITY AREA: The Board was notified a group of lower Musselshell River landowners may submit a proposal for an EQIP priority area. A portion of the proposed area is in Rosebud County; most of the conservation planning will be completed through the Roundup NRCS Office.

CONSERVATION DAYS: Three separate conservation tours are scheduled for May 5, 6, and 7 at Lame Deer, Sanders, and Colstrip, respectively. There will be 160 6th grade students from Lame Deer, Ashland Public, St. Labre, Forsyth, Hysham, and 90 5th grade students from Colstrip attending. The conservation sites will be instructed by personnel from NRCS, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Department of State Lands, and Bureau of Land Management. There is still a need for group leaders. Dave and Jewell volunteered to help at the Colstrip session, and Jack will try to make the Lame Deer session.

ANNUAL PLAN: Nothing is planned for April.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: No report.

FMLA REQUEST: Jack moved to accept Wendy Warren's request to be placed under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) effective April 6, 1998. Robert Heinle seconded and the motion carried. While under FMLA, benefits remain the same as if the employee were working. In this case, the employee's insurance premium will be paid by the District. FMLA may not exceed 12 weeks.

PART-TIME SCHEDULE: Dave moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to allow Wendy to work a part-time schedule through August 31st. The motion carried. The Board also discussed allowing Wendy to work at home; Dennis will contact Wendy to discuss this option. According to Geri Custer, insurance plan administrator, Rosebud County's policy for payment of insurance premiums for part-time employees is as follows:

20 – 30 hours:	½
31 – 39 hours:	¾
40 hours:	all

Because District employees are under the County's insurance, we may not vary from their policy.

TRAVEL CLAIM: Dave moved to reimburse Wendy for mileage to Great Falls for an Irrigation Water Management training session. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP: Rosebud County has 10 EQIP sign-ups; March 31st was the deadline for sign up.

FOOD SECURITY ACT STATUS REVIEWS: All of the producers reviewed were in compliance. The reviews were conducted by airplane survey.

LOAN PROGRAM: With the elimination of traditional cost-share programs, more producers are installing their own projects under the District loan program. Since these producers are not tied to a federal program, annual status reviews are not conducted. Rocky asked if the Board wants NRCS to conduct annual status reviews on borrowers. It was mentioned that Supervisors could discuss whether or not a project is meeting a borrower's expectations, however, they wouldn't be able to provide technical advise. The members agreed that some sort of follow-up should be done. In order to coordinate with those producers who currently receive a review, Diane will provide Rocky with a list of borrowers.

NEW BUSINESS:

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES: The county is requesting a list of authorized signatures for the District accounts. Dennis Nixon, Layton Salsbery, and Diane Stephenson will provide the information.

NORTHERN PLAINS REGIONAL MEETING: The Northern Plains Regional meeting will be held in Medora, North Dakota, on June 14 – 17. At this time, no one is planning on attending.

PRODUCTION GROUP/WORKSHOP: A newly formed production group, closely related to the Rosebud County Range Committee, is requesting the District sponsor a DNRC Riparian Grant to help finance a workshop. The workshop will feature Tony Malmberg, owner of Ranchers Management Consulting Company from Wyoming, as guest speaker. Tony will discuss how resource management and economics are related. Bob Nansel moved, seconded by Dave, to sponsor a Riparian grant for the group, with the details to be worked out as more information is provided. The motion carried. The Board agreed to help provide refreshments to the group.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS: Prior to the meeting, information was provided to the Board on the following workshops: Forest Practices Workshops, Streamside Management Zone and Rules, and Riparian Assessment Training.

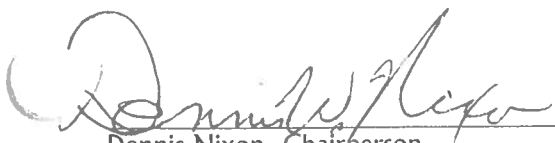
OTHER BUSINESS: SUPERVISOR RESIGNATION: A letter of resignation was submitted by Caprice Gregory. Dave moved to accept the resignation; Robert seconded and the motion carried. Bob Nansel moved to accept Caprice's offer to serve as an associate member. Dave seconded and the motion carried. Diane will send a letter to Caprice to thank you her for past years of service and to accept her offer to help as an associate supervisor.

SUPERVISOR APPOINTMENT: The Board appointed Doug McRae to fill the remaining portion of the vacated supervisor position, until January 1, 1999. Dave volunteered to contact Doug McRae to see if he is willing to serve.

ELECTION: Diane will contact Geri Custer, Election Administrator, to ensure the district elections are official.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Ag in MT Schools, Eastern Plains RC&D, and 1998 Plan of Operation. Newsletters: DNRC, MACD, Custer County CD, Pondera County CD, Liberty County CD, Ag in the Classroom, District Leader, No-Till Farmer, Watershed Focus, Journal of Soil & Water Conservation, Conservogram.

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


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD COUNTY INFORMATION DISTRICT

APRIL, 1998, T J RER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Balance Brought Forward:		\$ 24,255.20	\$ 4,029.28	\$ 333,467.88	\$ 26.83
4263 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP06 (443.87)	\$ 741.60			
4264 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP06 (573.25)	\$ 847.20			
4265 Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (116.00)	\$ -			
4266 Diane Stephenson	Reimburse/Chair	\$ 99.99			
4267 Layton Salsbery	Travel/Billings, Irr. Symp	\$ 106.37			
4268 State Comp Fund	FY '98, 4th pmt	\$ 33.75			
4269 IRS	Depst/PP06 (342.64)	\$ 100.32			
4270 Unemployment Insuranc	1st qtr	\$ 50.05			
4271 Diane Stephenson	Travel/310 mtg Helena	\$ 128.10			
4272 1st Nat'l Bank/Marquis	Cons Achv Award	\$ 55.09			
4273 Cellular One	Mobile Phone	\$ 86.96			
4274 Boss, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 31.90			
4275 U.S. West	Phone Service	\$ 46.62			
4276 Rosebud County Press	DEQ mtg ad	\$ 20.00			
4277 Independent Enterprise	DEQ mtg ad	\$ 36.00			
4278 Rosebud County Plan	Medical (665.00)	\$ 370.00			
4279 MCI	Long Distance Service	\$ 21.46			
4280 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP07 (157.24)	\$ 365.98			
4281 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP07 (573.25)	\$ 847.20			
4282 Diane Stephenson	Travel/RDGP mtg Cols	\$ 22.05	\$ 30.00		3.99
841 Carolyn's Embroidery	Jacket			\$	
PC Jack's IGA	RDGP mtg			\$	3.99
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 4,010.64	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$
INCOME DURING MONTH:					
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 21.74			
County Budget	Reimb/DRNC, 310 mtg	\$ 93.10			
District/CRP Account	Interest		\$ 6.69		
Loan Account	Pmt/Walter			\$ 1,280.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Youngbauer			\$ 1,350.00	
Loan Account	Interest			\$ 1,793.47	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 158.32	\$ 6.69	\$ 4,423.47	\$ -
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 20,402.88	\$ 4,005.97	\$ 337,891.35	\$ 22.84

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairperson; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairperson; Dave Davenport; Doug McRae; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch.

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

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

MINUTES: Dave Davenport moved to approve the April 22, 1998, regular meeting minutes as distributed; Layton Salsbery seconded and the motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 24, 1998, at 7:00 p.m..

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved, seconded by Layton, to accept the Treasurer's Report as distributed. 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 7:10 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken:

JOE HOFER: Layton moved to approve, pending favorable needs and feasibility determination, Joe Hofer's loan request for \$5000 to install approximately one mile of stockwater pipeline and tanks on land that will be coming out of CRP this fall. Dave seconded and the motion carried. A letter will be mailed to Joe with instructions on how to proceed with the loan.

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

LOAN PROCEDURE: If a loan applicant has received loan approval, the bills associated with the project must be made out to and paid by that individual. If not, documentation must be provided to show that the applicant reimbursed the person who's name appears on the bill.

STEVE SHELLEY: The Board was informed that Farm Credit Services in Bismarck, North Dakota, requested a payoff statement regarding Steve Shelley's loan.

310: DON BAILEY, BRIDGE, ROSEBUD CREEK, 98-02: The proposed project is to install a bridge with steel pilings to support either a concrete or modular steel bridge or with steel stringers to support either a wood or concrete deck. The bridge is 20' across the creek and 24' long, with 10 - 12' wings on both ends. Dave moved, seconded by Doug, the activity is a 310 project. The motion carried. Vic Riggs, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, requested an on-site inspection. The team will meet at Don Bailey's on June 2nd at 3:00 p.m.

SORENSEN FARMS, IRRIGATION SITE, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 98-03: The proposed activity is to slope the streambank and/or dig a hole for irrigation purposes. Dave moved the activity is a 310 project; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. The application will be forwarded to FW&P. If an inspection is requested, it will be conducted on June 2nd.

310 COMMITTEE MEETING: Diane reported on the May 19 Committee meeting in Helena. The draft joint application form was reviewed and changed. The next draft will be sent to all districts and other agency field representatives for comments. At the next committee meeting, scheduled for July 15 in Helena, the group will incorporate comments received on the draft and discuss an implementation plan. Plans are to introduce the new application form in a few locations to work out the bugs before utilizing it throughout the state. The committee also discussed producing a play again at the convention. Diane was given approval to attend the next meeting.

INTERAGENCY MEETING REPORT: The Interagency 404 meeting was held in Helena on May 20. Items discussed were: the Wetlands Council will request RDGP grant funds to complete the wetlands inventory; problems and/or concerns with the Corps Of Engineers' nationwide #23 and #37 permits, which mainly deal with Montana Department of Transportation permits and emergency watershed project permits; cumulative effects on the upper Yellowstone River and the likelihood the study will continue down river; services offered through the Montana Natural Heritage Program; the joint stream permitting application; the 404 permit; and COE criteria for reviewing 404 applications.

OLD BUSINESS:

BUDGET MEETING: An update on the May 13, 1998, special budget meeting was given. Layton moved to submit a fiscal year 1999 budget of \$79,200, with \$8,000 designated to the loan program. Bob seconded and the motion carried. According to Layton, Clerk & Recorder Geri Custer understands the Board does not want the general operating budget to be reduced in order to supplement the loan program.

RDGP GRANT: The RDGP grant agreement is complete, as well as the agreement with the Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology. Project commencement date is May 11, 1998, and completion date is March 31, 2000. Diane met with Deeda Richard, DNRC-RDB, on May 20 to review grant administration. To better track the grant funds through the County Treasurer, a "subfund" will be set up, which will provide a report separate from regular county funds.

TMDL MEETING: The committee, consisting of Dave, Bob, and Diane, reported on the tentative plans for the TMDL meeting, which will be conducted on June 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the Colstrip Community Center. Invited speakers are: Tom Pick, NRCS/DEQ, to explain TMDLs, the impaired streams list, how to get off the list, how to get help to fix any problems, the benefits and drawbacks of being on the list, what needs to be included in the assessment to address different impairments; John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, to explain the 319 grant project and to listen to what the groups want assessed; and, Luther Waterland, MACD Vice President, to explain what Carter CD did to get their streams off the list. An invitation, agenda, and an explanation of previous activities, will be sent to individuals on Armells and Rosebud Creeks; Dave and Bob will provide Diane with names. DEQ still has not notified us whether or not the 319 grant proposal has been funded.

FAIR BOOTH: The following activities/displays for the booth were mentioned: plant id contest, display of conservation achievement award winners for both Rosebud and Treasure counties, a life-size drawing of a leafy spurge plant, coloring/information books for grades K-3, some unknown game/contest/activity for the kids. A "Backyard Conservation" theme may be used. Diane was given permission to purchase a customized banner for the booth.

CONSERVATION DAYS: Diane reported on the three conservation day sessions conducted on May 5 - 7 with 175 5th and 6th grade students participating. The Northern Cheyenne Tribe would not allow the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to conduct the wildlife session on the reservation. Instead, three people from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service conducted the session, which, unfortunately, featured live prairie dogs in cages. Thank you letters

were received from most of the students and schools. A questionnaire distributed to the teachers revealed positive comments on the sessions. Dave suggested inviting Dull Knife College ag students to attend next year's session.

NORTHERN PLAINS REGIONAL MEETING: Diane was given approval to attend the Northern Plains Regional Meeting in Medora, North Dakota, on June 15 – 16.

PRODUCTION GROUP WORKSHOP: The DNRC riparian grant agreement for \$1000 has been approved. Total estimated cost of the June 8 workshop is \$1720. Advertising will begin as soon as the agreement is received. Doug agreed to be the go-between with KICK radio station and Tony Malmberg for publicity.

NEWSLETTER: Diane requested a newsletter committee be set up to help determine timely articles for publication. Instead, the following article assignments were given:
Dave – Pit Impoundment Project; Doug – Tony Malmberg Workshop; Bob – TMDL Assessments; Robert – Stream Barbs; Jack – Weeds; Dennis – District Origination; NRCS – Northern Cheyenne GP Project.
Dennis volunteered to notify the supervisors not present of their assignments. Articles are due at the next meeting.

OATH OF OFFICE: Doug McRae's notarized oath of office has been sent to the County Clerk & Recorder.

MAY ANNUAL PLAN:

1. Maintain accurate records of water reservation and distribute Water Users Annual Status Report to users: Annual Status Reports will be sent to users in September.
2. Coordinate the annual Conservation Day with area schools and agencies: See above.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy distributed a list of activities for the previous months.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP: 1999 Priority Area requests are due to the state office by June 17. NRCS is looking for new "concepts" to the EQIP ranking sheet – new criteria for ranking consideration.
CRP: The Board reviewed and signed new CRP contracts. Rocky reported a few producers have inquired whether CRP will be opened to grazing due to dry conditions.

NEW BUSINESS:

AUDIT: Since an audit was conducted last year and one most likely will be conducted next year, it was decided to forego an audit this year.

MACDEO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Diane was given approval to travel to Miles City for the June 11th MACDEO Executive Committee.

MACD: The new MACD by-laws and strategic plan were mailed to supervisors. The following committee assignments have been accepted:

DISTRICT OPERATIONS:	Dennis Nixon
EDUCATION:	Dave Davenport
WATER RESOURCES:	Robert Heinle, Jack Knobloch
SOIL RESOURCE & LAND USE:	Bob Nansel

Diane will continue to serve on the 310 Law Committee.

DEQ/WATER PROTECTION BUREAU: Rosebud Conservation District was invited to participate on a task force relating to subdivision issues. The task force would decide which issues could be solved through policy development, rule writing, or legislation. No supervisors were able to attend the June 4 meeting in Helena; Dave suggested Diane attend and report on the

outcome. Diane stated subdivision law is beyond her level of expertise and is not comfortable participating on the task force. Layton suggested contacting Joan Stahl, County Commissioner and County Planning Board, to see if the county was invited to the meeting.

DNRC WATER USER APPLICATION: Rosebud County applied for a water user's permit for two well located at the Forsyth Cemetery.

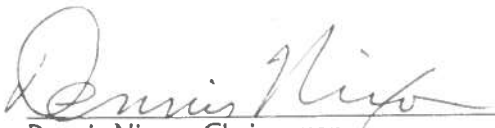
MACD AREA IV MEETING: Rosebud Conservation District is hosting the Area IV meeting in early October. Letters should be sent in June or July reminding the Districts to be thinking of resolutions. The Board was asked what they would like to do for the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Doug agreed to serve on the Personnel Committee.

EMPLOYEE EVALUATION: In September, 1997, Diane requested to have her evaluation conducted at the same time as Wendy. The Board agrees it would save time to conduct both evaluations at the same time. Therefore, Diane will mail evaluation forms to the Board members, the Board will complete them and return to Dennis for compilation. Dennis will meet, individually, with Wendy and Diane prior to the next meeting; the Board will review the evaluation forms during a closed session following the June meeting. Diane also asked Dennis for her final evaluation from September, 1997.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Ag in MT Schools. Newsletters: DNRC (enclosed), MACD (enclosed), MSCA, McCone CD, Conservogram (April & May), District Leader, Water Lines, Tuesday Letter, The Steward, Journal of Soil & Water Conservation, Watershed Focus.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m. A closed session was conducted to compile the Supervisors' individual evaluation forms for Wendy's performance review.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MAY, 1998, T. JURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 20,402.88	\$ 4,005.97	\$ 337,891.35	\$ 22.84
4283	Wendy Warren	\$ 130.20			
4284	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4285	Diane Stephenson	\$ 847.20			
4286	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 87.00			
4287	IRS	\$ 129.70			
4288	Champion Supply Co.	\$ 132.30			
4289	FedEx	\$ 26.70			
4290	Diane Stephenson	\$ 24.00			
4291	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 370.00			
4292	Trading Post	\$ 38.28			
4293	Celluar One	\$ 136.29			
4294	Clark Hardware	\$ 16.85			
4295	MCI	\$ 16.13			
4296	Boss, Inc.	\$ 270.53			
4297	U.S. West	\$ 41.96			
4298	Town Pump	\$ 7.14			
4299	Trading Post	\$ 38.28			
4300	Town Pump	\$ 7.14			
4301	Town Pump	\$ 17.91			
4302	Wendy Warren	\$ 287.37			
4303	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4304	Diane Stephenson	\$ 847.20			
4305	Diane Stephenson	\$ -			
4306	VOID				
4307	Wendy Warren	\$ 593.28			
4308	Wendy Warren	\$ 11.56			
4309	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4310	Wendy Warren	\$ -			
4311	Diane Stephenson	\$ 847.20			
4312	Diane Stephenson	\$ 129.38			
4313	Yellowstone CD	\$ 70.56			
4314	Lincoln-Oakes Nurseries	\$ 82.70			
4315	P&R Surge Systems	\$ 37.65			
4316	Rosebud Co. Insurance	\$ 105.00			
4317	Peterson Typewriter	\$ 150.00			
4318	IRS	\$ 279.60			
	Travel/Great Falls				
	Flex/Medical (92.00)				
	Wages/PP08 (573.25)				
	Postage				
	Depst/PP07,08(453.40)				
	Display Board				
	Freight/Soil Survey				
	Travel/RDGP tour				
	Medical (665.00)				
	Cons Day/Pop				
	Mobile Phone				
	Cons Day/Supplies				
	Phone Service				
	Supplies/Fair Booth				
	Phone Service				
	Cons Day/Ice				
	Cons Day/Pop				
	Cons Day/Ice				
	Cons Day/Pop				
	Wages/PP09 (133.73)				
	Flex/Dep Care (48.00)				
	Wages/PP09 (573.25)				
	Flex/Medical (116.00)				
	VOID				
	Wages/PP10 (374.04)				
	Adjust PP09 (10.15)				
	Flex/Medical (28.00)				
	Flex/Dep Care (122.65)				
	Wages/PP10 (573.25)				
	Travel/310 mtg, GF				
	Travel/310, 1/2 GF				
	Trees				
	Battery, charger				
	Bond				
	Maintenance				
	Depst/PP09,10(784.20)				

COI		DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
Scott Giesick	Loan			
Jacks IGA	Mtg exp		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 6.17
U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 4.79
Jacks IGA	Budget Mtg exp			\$ 3.99
U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 1.70
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 5,779.11	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 16.65
INCOME DURING MONTH:				
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	21.74		
County Budget	Phone/Stephenon	21.74		
County Budget	Reimb/FexEx Freight	26.70		
County Budget	Reimb/Warren,insurance	115.00		
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	71.07		
County Budget	Tree Sales	95.20		
District Account	Flag Sale	\$ 5.00		
District Account	Interest	\$ 6.54		
Loan Account	Giesick/Admin fee		\$ 360.00	
Loan Account	Interest		\$ 1,759.73	
Petty Cash	Flag Sale			\$ 5.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 351.45	\$ 2,119.73	\$ 5.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 14,975.22	\$ 4,017.51	\$ 11.19

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ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 24, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairperson; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairperson; Dave Davenport; Jack Knobloch; Doug McRae; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Robert Heinle.

Others Present: Eldon Rice, Fair Manager; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room. A quorum was present.

MINUTES: Dave Davenport moved to approve the May 27, 1998, minutes as distributed. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 22, 1998, at 7:00 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved, seconded by Jack Knobloch, to accept the Treasurer's Report as distributed. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Was distributed at the meeting. Discussion took place regarding the June 4 Subdivision Task Force meeting in Helena. Diane explained she did not attend the meeting due to workload and time restrictions. Bonnie Lovelace, DEQ, volunteered to keep all interested parties informed of the Task Force activities and proceedings.

LOAN PROGRAM: JACK PAYER: Board members were surveyed by phone on June 3 regarding Jack Payer's request for \$3000 for installation of an irrigation pipeline. Jack was under the assumption that the loan was previously approved. Five Board members contacted approved the loan.

LOAN PROGRAM INTEREST: Dave moved to use the loan program account interest, totaling \$24,025 from May, 1997 through April, 1998, for additional loans. Doug McRae seconded and the motion carried.

310: DON BAILEY, BRIDGE, ROSEBUD CREEK, 98-02: The team inspection was conducted on June 3; all members recommend approval of the bridge as proposed. Dave moved to approve the project and waive the 15 day waiting period. Layton seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded.

SORENSEN FARMS, IRRIGATION SITE MAINTENANCE, YELLOWSTONE RIVER, 98-03: Vic Riggs, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, did not request an inspection as the activity is minor; he recommends approval. Bob moved to approve the proposed 10 year maintenance permit as proposed. Doug seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed and will be forwarded to the applicant and Vic.

JOINT APPLICATION FORM: The form was distributed prior to the meeting. No changes were proposed.

OLD BUSINESS:

TMDL/WATERSHED PROJECT: A meeting for landowners on Rosebud and Armells Creeks was held in Colstrip on June 10, with Bob Nansel facilitating. The purpose of the meeting was ask the landowners to direct the TMDL assessment project. Tom Pick, DEQ, discussed the federal Clean Water Act, the impaired streams list, assessment criteria, and TMDL plan development. Luther Waterland, Supervisor and landowner, discussed Carter County

Conservation District's assessment which resulted in removing a listed stream. John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, briefly talked about the planned assessment project on Rosebud Creek and East Fork of Armells Creek. The group was divided to determine how each watershed group wanted to proceed. John asked for locations along the creek for monitoring sites and received some for Rosebud Creek. Armells Creek landowners wanted more time to consider the project. Also, after consulting with Bob Nansel and landowners, additional grant funds were applied for to include the West Fork of Armells Creek in the assessment project. John Wheaton submitted the pre-proposal to DEQ by the June 22 deadline. The total request, \$16,500, is based proportionally to the additional miles of creek and those in the 319 grant. The Board agreed it was beneficial to include West Fork in the assessment. An update on the project and the additional funds will be sent to both groups.

FAIR BOOTH: Eldon Rice, Fair Manager, attended the meeting to discuss the Fair Board's decision to move the district's booth to a different building, located under the grandstands and far from the exhibits. Dennis Nixon and Diane looked at the space offered and recommended staying in the exhibit hall, since space is still available. The Board agreed. A committee was formed to revise the plant id contest; members are Judi Knapp, Treasure County CD; Bob Nansel; Rocky Schwagler; and Diane. Dennis Nixon volunteered to work with Diane to get the new booth ready for the contest, games and photo display.

NORTHERN PLAINS REGIONAL MEETING: Diane reported on the meeting held in Medora, North Dakota on June 7 – 10. A workshop on TMDLs highlighted how Wyoming and Montana are handling the issue in different manners. Wyoming has intervened in a law suit to require EPA to base the impaired streams list on scientific data rather than on "windshield" observations. They are also working to change the rules and regulations through legislation. Diane will contact Bobbie Frank, Wyoming Executive Vice President, for more information.

RIPARIAN WORKSHOP: The June 8 workshop in Colstrip with Tony Malmberg was well attended. The grant report has been submitted to DNRC, and totals \$1000. Out of pocket expenses were \$156.32.

NEWSLETTER: Articles were received from most of the Supervisors. Two printing quotes were distributed, for 1350 copies. Since the quotes were nearly the same, the Board will allow Diane to chose the printer.

MACDEO EXECUTIVE MEETING: Diane reported on the June 11 MACDEO meeting in Miles City. The next planned training session is for financial management, specifically, computerized bookkeeping. Either Quick Books or Quicken will most likely be offered. Jack moved to approve travel for Diane to attend the training sessions, preferably on Quick Books. Doug seconded and the motion carried.

SUBDIVISION TASK FORCE MEETING: Diane informed the Board by memo that she did not attend the Helena meeting, however, the county sanitarian, Brian Schoof, did attend. No responses were received to the question of inviting Brian to the June Board meeting to report on the Task Force. He will be asked to attend the July meeting.

MACD AREA IV MEETING: The area meeting format will be revised to get more Supervisors interested and attending. MACD provide information on the new format to the area hosts by July 15. Diane will contact Wanda at the Forsyth Country Club to reserve October 1st for the meeting.

LAN/WAN & PHONE SYSTEM: Diane stated the new phone system is installed and bugs are being worked out. Calls made to 356-7626 and 7333 can be transferred between agencies and personnel. The District phone number is still the same, 356-7479, and is a fax line as well.

JUNE ANNUAL PLAN: Diane asked for direction on inviting guests to Board meetings when they are identified in the APO. The Board would like to discuss the issue at a meeting before extending an invitation, in order to define what issues need to be discussed.

1. Invite the Weed Coordinator to attend a regular District meeting: The coordinator, Vince Thomas, will be asked to the August meeting.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities for the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: SAND CREEK: Rocky reported that Danny Burgett, Team Leader, visited the area and provided direction on how to proceed with the watershed project. Vegetative rather than structural practices were suggested, and possible funding sources were discussed.

EQUIP: Ten EQUIP sign-ups were received for FY 1999.

CRP: Rosebud County has been approved for grazing CRP, with a payment reduction of 25%. CRP plans and contracts were reviewed by the Board and signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

INSURANCE PREMIUMS: The County Commissions have raised the insurance premiums \$40 per month per employee beginning in August. The employer and the employee will split the increase.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING: Was scheduled for July 8 at 8:00 p.m. in Colstrip.

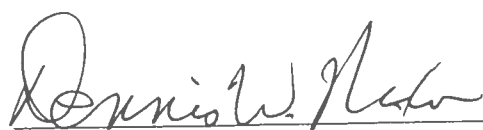
EASTERN PLAINS RC&D: The Board took no action on Eastern Plains RC&D's request for \$50 contribution.

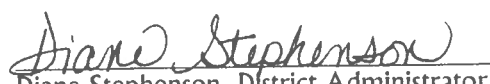
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS: In an effort to coordinate their permitting process, the Corps is asking the district to hand out 404 applications to all 310 applicants, or send the Corps a copy of the 310 applications, or send a copy of the minutes if 310 business is conducted, listing the applicant's name, address, and phone number. Following discussion, it was decided to continue with the current method of notifying the COE of 310 permits issued.

SOCIAL SECURITY ASSESSMENT: The State of Montana requested an authorized person sign a release and request to waive interest form in order for the State to waive assessing additional interest on delinquent social security contributions for part-time employees during 1984 - 1986. The signature must be notarized; Dennis Nixon will sign the form before a notary.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD (annual plan & special meeting), Eastern Plains RC&D. Newsletters: DNRC-CDB (enclosed), MACD, Garfield County CD, Lower Musselshell CD, Missoula CD, Custer County CD, Pondera County CD, Ag in Montana Schools, Forestry Notes, District Leader, Conservation Voices, Land & Water, Montana Riparian & Wetland Review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. Employee evaluations were conducted during a closed session beginning at 9:55 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, District Administrator

JUNE, 1998, TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 14,975.22	\$ 4,017.51	\$ 328,011.08	\$ 11.19
4319	Diane Stephenson	\$ 370.00			
4320	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 101.00			
4321	NACD	\$ 48.00			
4322	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 16.00			
4323	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 685.98			
4324	Wendy Warren	\$ 847.20			
4325	Diane Stephenson	\$ 113.73			
4326	Celluar One	\$ 143.00			
4327	Selbys	\$ 150.00			
4328	Don Pontius Const.	\$ 8.74			
4329	MCI	\$ 199.00			
4330	Boss, Inc.	\$ 23.11			
4331	Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 42.97			
4332	U.S. West	\$ 19.50			
4333	Hysnam Echo	\$ 50.00			
4334	Diane Stephenson	\$ 74.30			
4335	Jacks IGA	\$ 856.80			
4336	Tony Malmberg	\$ 22.14			
4337	Jacks IGA	\$ 125.37			
4338	Luther Waterland	\$ 52.50			
4339	Miles City Star	\$ 20.00			
4340	Rosebud County Press	\$ 36.00			
4341	Independent Enterprise	\$ 120.00			
4342	KIKC	\$ 741.60			
4343	Wendy Warren	\$ 1,043.12			
4344	Wendy Warren	\$ 368.50			
4345	Diane Stephenson	\$ 64.00			
4346	Diane Stephenson	\$ 103.92			
4347	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 42.05			
4348	Diane Stephenson				6.00
4349	Dennis Nixon				3,000.00
130	Clerk & Recprder				19,200.00
131	Jack Payer				
132	Kim Nile				

Jack's IGA		May mtg exp			\$	6.17
U.S. Postmaster	Postage/Rip Wksp				\$	3.52
Reeds Hardware	Extension Cord				\$	3.84
Clerk & Recorder	Mortg Rel/Lackman				\$	6.00
	June mtg exp				\$	5.37
Jack's IGA						24.90
TOTAL EXPENSES:						
INCOME DURING MONTH:						
County Budget	Phone/Stephenon	\$	21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$	21.74			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$	21.74			
District/CRP Account	Interest	\$		6.27		
Loan Account	Pmt/Quinlan	\$			800.00	
Loan Account	Admin/Payer	\$			90.00	
Loan Account	Admin/Nile	\$			576.00	
Loan Account	Interest	\$			1,947.66	
Loan Account	Pmt/Patterson	\$			2,650.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Lackman	\$			2,560.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Schiffer Ranch	\$			2,598.00	
Loan Account	Pmt/Giesisk	\$			1,100.00	
Petty Cash	County Budget	\$	65.22	\$	6.27	\$
TOTAL INCOME:		\$	8,551.91	\$	4,023.78	\$
Balance Carried Forward:						36.29

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE JULY 22, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Nixon, Chairperson; Layton Salsbery, Vice-Chairperson; Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Jack Knobloch; Doug McRae; Bob Nansel.

Others Present: Jim Larsen, loan applicant; John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology; Danny Burgett, NRCS Team Leader, Billings; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

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

MINUTES: Dave Davenport moved to approve the June 24, 1998, minutes as distributed. Layton Salsbery seconded and the motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 26, 1998, at 7:00 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Layton moved to approve both the End of Fiscal Year 1998 and the July Treasurer's Reports as distributed. Jack Knobloch seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: No questions were asked regarding the report, mailed out previously.

GRANT PROPOSALS: **COAL GRANT:** John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, discussed the upcoming Coal Grant proposal deadline. Initially the proposed idea was to conduct groundwater studies in the MontCo area near Ashland. The theory being that with declining coal areas to mine, MontCo would be the next logical place to mine and now would be the time to begin groundwater studies. It was decided that MontCo mining is uncertain and our efforts should be directed elsewhere. Layton moved to sponsor a Coal Grant to expand the current RDGP Pit Impoundment project, if we can secure support from DEQ. Dave seconded the motion carried. The Board and John felt that without the support of DEQ the proposal would not be funded, based on previous experience.

319 GRANT: Layton moved to apply for a 319 grant to conduct a TMDL assessment on a portion of the Tongue River, as it is on the impaired streams list. Dave seconded and the motion carried.

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 8:00 p.m. to discuss a loan application; the following action was taken:

LARSEN LAND & LIVESTOCK, INC., JIM LARSEN: Jack moved to approve Jim Larsen's loan request for \$7000 to install 1 ½ miles of stockwater pipeline and a tank. Doug McRae seconded and the motion carried. The project is funded under a LTA.

The meeting was open to the public at 8:10 p.m.

310 COMMITTEE MEETING: Diane reported on the July 15th 310 Committee meeting in Helena. The Board agreed to participate in the "test area" for the new 310 joint application form, beginning September 1. Following an initial trial period, any necessary revisions will be made to the form. The form will be made available to all conservation districts, most likely January 1, 2000. Jack moved, seconded by Layton, to approve travel for Diane to attend the next 310 committee meeting in Helena on September 17. The committee will meet with Land & Water to review the guidelines for the stream project handbook, and the issue of the endangered species list and 310 projects will be discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

SUBDIVISION TASK FORCE MEETING: Brian Schoof, County Sanitarian, was unable to attend the meeting; he will be invited to the August meeting. Information on the first Task Force meeting from Bonnie Lovelace, DEQ, was mailed to the Board earlier, as well as information on the June 23rd meeting in Helena.

319 GRANT/TMDL PROJECT: Layton moved to accept the 319 grant agreement, signed by Dennis Nixon on June 29 to conduct an assessment on Rosebud and East Fork of Armells Creeks. Dave seconded and the motion carried. Diane will attend a meeting in Billings on August 11 regarding administration and financial recordkeeping of the grant.

319 GRANT/WEST FORK ARMELLS CREEK: Tom Pick, DEQ/NRCS, notified the District by phone that the grant request to include West Fork of Armells Creek in the assessment project was approved for \$15,000. No official notice has been received.

NRCS ASSISTANCE: Danny Burgett, Team Leader, volunteered to gather resource data on Rosebud and Armells Creeks, in anticipation of completing a TMDL plan. Most of the data would be collected remotely, through the Internet and other sources. The Board accepted Danny's offer and encouraged Danny and John to work together on the project to reduce duplication of work.

FAIR BOOTH: The Fair Committee, consisting of Bob Nansel, Judi Knapp, Treasure County CD Supervisor, Rocky Schwagler, and Diane, met on July 1 to revise the plant id contest. There will be two levels of competition – amateur and master. Study guides will be available at the booth, which will provide the answers to the contest. Those in the amateur competition with at least 10 correct answers, out of 20, will receive an instant prize. Those who wish to advance to the next level will answer 100 questions. The top five will receive a cash prize. Robert moved to award prizes as follows: 1st, \$25; 2nd, \$20; 3rd, \$15; 4th, \$10; and 5th, \$5. Layton seconded and the motion carried. The ring toss game questions will be updated and a photo display will be made featuring the 1997 Conservation Achievement Award winners, Kim and Nancy Nile. Board members signed up for booth duty with the understanding that if no one was available the booth would be closed.

NEWSLETTER: The newsletter was published on schedule, with 1344 copies mailed. The mailing list will be expanded before the next edition goes out to include more landowners in the Lane Deer area. Diane received some favorable comments on the newsletter and thanked the Supervisors who submitted articles; it made the newsletter worth reading.

MACD AREA MEETING: MACD forwarded information on suggested Area meeting format changes, which was distributed to the Board. Meeting topics and agenda items were briefly discussed. A North Dakota soil scientist was suggested as a guest speaker. Diane suggested getting ideas from the other districts in the area. Travel approval was given for Diane to attend an Administrator's meeting in early August in Billings. A letter had been sent to the other districts regarding the October 1 meeting and asked that resolutions be submitted, ASAP.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The committee, consisting of Dennis, Layton, Doug, and Diane, met in Colstrip on July 8 to discuss PERS and to make a recommendation to the Board. Immediately prior to this regular meeting, Diane was informed by PERD that the employer is not required to participate in PERS, if they so choose, contradicting information provided by PERD earlier. Based on this information, the Personnel Committee did not make a recommendation to the Board and will meet again on July 29 at 8:00 p.m. in Colstrip to discuss retirement plan options for district employees. Layton moved, seconded by Bob Nansel, to approve a 2.3% cost of living increase effective July 1. Motion carried.

JULY ANNUAL PLAN:

1. Monitor the use of the weed sprayer, donated to the Weed District: Vince Thomas, Weed Coordinator, will be invited to the August meeting; this item will be discussed then.
2. Select the Conservation Achievement award winner to be honored at the annual banquet: No suggestions were forthcoming; the issue was tabled until the August meeting.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities for the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: EQIP: Rocky reported one EQIP project, J. M. Nansel Company, was funded during the recent signup period. Some projects were over funded at the state level and adjustments will be made which will provide funding for additional projects.

CRP: Two CRP contracts, for 1000 and 80 acres, were reviewed and signed by the Board.

NRCS SPECIFICATIONS: Rocky informed the Board that some contractors believe NRCS is "over designing" stockwater pipelines.

NEW BUSINESS:

DEQ, MONITORING & DATA MANAGEMENT: After reviewing a letter requesting data less than 10 years old for water bodies on the impaired streams list, the Board directed Diane to notify DEQ that no data was available.

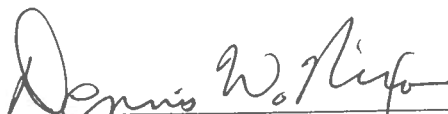
MONITORING FOR SUCCESS WORKSHOPS: In order to schedule Monitoring For Success Workshops with Jeff Mosley, State Extension Range Specialist, Krista Lee-Campbell, DNRC, asked that requests be submitted as soon as possible. The Board decided to submit a request for a workshop to be held in May or June, 1999.

GROUNDWATER RULE REVISIONS: Information was available on proposed revisions to the groundwater rules and WQB-7. A public hearing will be held in Billings on August 3 and written comments may be submitted until September 15. No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS: PERSONNEL: Dave moved to increase Wendy Warren's wages to \$10.59 per hour, effective April 1, 1998. Layton seconded and the motion carried.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD. Newsletters: MACDEO, MACD, Valley County CD, Cascade County CD, Dawson County CD, Lewis & Clark CD, District Leader, Forestry Notes, Watershed News, Fertilizer Facts (MT Extension Service), Conservogram, NACD Annual Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. A closed meeting was conducted to finalize Diane's annual evaluation.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

UNCLERD CONCLUSION DURING
END OF FISCAL YEAR, 1998, TREASURER'S REPORT

	COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
4350 Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 8,551.91	\$ 4,023.78	\$ 318,126.74	\$ 36.29
Dennis Nixon	Mileage/FY '98			
4351 Layton Salsbery	Mileage/FY '98			
4352 Dave Davenport	Mileage/FY '98			
4353 Caprice Gregory	Mileage/FY '98			
4354 Robert Heinle	Mileage/FY '98			
4355 Jack Knobloch	Mileage/FY '98			
4356 Bob Nansel	Mileage/FY '98			
4357 Doug McRae	Mileage/FY '98			
4358 VOID	VOID			
4359 IRS	Depst/PP11,12 (432.61)			
4360 State Comp Insurance	FY '99, 1st qtr			
4361 Unemployment Insuranc	2nd qtr			
4362 Rosebud/Treasure Fair	Booth Rental			
4363 Forsyth Hardware	Cons. Day			
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 1,455.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
INCOME DURING MONTH:				
County Budget	Phone/Nixon			
Loan Account	Pmt/Spannagel			
District Account	Interest			
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 43.48	\$ 6.28	\$ 1,100.00	\$ -
Balance Carried Forward:	\$ 7,139.71	\$ 4,030.06	\$ 319,226.74	\$ 36.29

INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JULY, 1998, TREASURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 71,200.00	\$ 4,030.06	\$ 319,226.74	\$ 36.29
4364	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP13 (497.83)			
4365	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP 13 (587.33)			
4366	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (116.00)			
4367	Rosebud County Plan	Medical (665.00)			
4368	Diane Stephenson	Petty Cash			
4369	Cellular One	Mobile Phone			
4370	U.S. West	Phone Service			
4371	Boss, Inc.	Supplies			
4372	U.S. Postmaster	Bulk Permit/Newsletter			
4373	MCI	Long Distance Service			
4374	P & R Surge Systems	Surge Repair			
4375	FedEx	Freight/Surge			
4376	Wendy Warren	Wages/PP14 (497.83)			
4377	Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP14 (679.16)			
4378	Diane Stephenson	Flex/Medical (116.00)			
4379	Dennis Nixon	Mileage/Pers Comm			
4380	Layton Salsbery	Mileage/Pers Comm			
4381	Bob Nansel	Mileage/Fair Comm			
4382	Doug McRae	Mileage/Pers Comm			
4383	Diane Stephenson	Mileage/310, Pers Com			
4384	IRS	Depst/PP13,14(785.14)			
4385	NACD	Fair Info			
133	Leroy Mickell	Loan			
PC	U.S. Postmaster	Bulk Permit			
PC	Jack's IGA	Mtg Exp			
	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 4,918.45	\$ -	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 9.88
					\$ 4.00
					\$ 5.88

INCOME DURING MONTH:							
County Budget	State of MT/Rip Grant	\$	1,000.00				
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$	21.74				
County Budget	Phone/Warren	\$	22.42				
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$	21.74				
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$	21.74				
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Mickell				\$	177.00	
Loan Account	May Interest				\$	1,007.50	
Loan Account	June Interest				\$	2,000.18	
District Account	Flag Sale	\$		5.00			
District Account	Flag Sale	\$		10.00			
Petty Cash	County Budget						\$ 11.29
TOTAL INCOME:		\$	1,087.64	\$	15.00	\$	3,184.68
Balance Carried Forward:		\$	67,369.19	\$	4,045.06	\$	316,511.42
							\$ 37.70

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 1998, MEETING

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

Members Not Present: Layton Salsbery, Vice-Chairperson.

Others Present: Fred Wacker, loan applicant; Dick Ferguson, 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 Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room. A quorum was present.

MINUTES: Dave Davenport moved to accept the July 22, 1998, minutes as distributed. Robert Heinle seconded and the motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 28, 1998, at 7:00 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave moved to approve the August Treasurer's report with the following correction: \$7,427.24 credited to the RDGP project, rather than the 319 project. Doug McRae seconded the motion, and it carried.

LOAN PROGRAM: The meeting was closed to the public at 7:20 p.m. to discuss two loan applications; the following action was taken:

FRED WACKER: Dave moved to approve Fred Wacker's loan application for \$35,000 to install approximately 8 miles of pipeline and 7 tanks. Robert seconded and the motion carried.

DICK FERGUSON: The loan application, to rock riprap bank on the Yellowstone River and to install a pump site, was tabled until Dick is able to get a design and cost estimates from an engineer. Diane will provide a list of engineers familiar with bank stabilization projects for Dick to contact.

The meeting was open to the public at 8:10 p.m.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Diane reported since mailing the Administrator's report, the Department of Commerce report has been completed and additional work has been done on the upcoming Area IV meeting. The board had no questions.

310: AT&T CORP., FIBER OPTIC CABLE INSTALLATION, ROSEBUD CREEK, 98-04: The proposed project is to install fiber optic cable under Rosebud Creek by using a boring machine, with little ground-disturbing. Brad Schmitz, Regional Fisheries Manager, Miles City, did not request an on-site inspection and recommended approval of the project. Jack Knobloch moved to deem the activity a project and to approve the project. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Form 273 was signed by the Board members present and will be forwarded to Land Services, agent for AT&T Corp., and FW&P.

JOINT APPLICATION FORM: Members were reminded that use of the joint application form began on September 1, 1998.

U.S. FISH, WILDLIFE SERVICES VS. CORPS OF ENGINEERS: A copy of a news article printed in the Billings Gazette was distributed to the Board. The U.S. Fish, Wildlife Service has demanded a moratorium be placed on all but emergency 404 permits issued by the Corps of Engineers.

LOAN PROGRAM: The county will levy the maximum mill amount eligible to the District, which should generate approximately \$20,000 more than is necessary for the general operating budget. These funds will be used for loans. Five loan applicants have not completed their project within one year from the date of approval or a year has past since the last activity on their project. According to the guidelines, the funds may be reallocated to other applicants if not progress is made to complete the project within a year. Diane will contact Anchor Island Land & Cattle Company, Bob Johnson; Steve Seleg; Steve Shelley; Greenleaf Land & Livestock, Doug McRae; and Don Youngbauer to find out if they intend to proceed with their project.

OLD BUSINESS:

SUBDIVISION TASK FORCE MEETING: Brian Schoof, county sanitarian, offered to write a summary of the issues before the task force. Information received from Bonnie Lovelace, DEQ, was distributed prior to the meeting. The issues being discussed by the task force deal more with city-type subdivisions, not rural-type subdivisions, as was originally thought.

319 GRANT: INSURANCE: Diane met with Joe Schuster, Clarke Insurance, on August 21 to review Montana Association of Counties (MACo) insurance coverage. Copies of the insurance coverage were distributed to the Board and briefly reviewed. Dave moved to purchase the insurance coverage at the quoted price of \$895 per year. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Joe will be asked to attend the October meeting to review the policy.

DEQ ASSESSMENT: The board discussed DEQ's involvement in the assessment on Rosebud and Armells Creeks, the impacts of DEQ's involvement on the project, and the possibility of the landowners being reluctant to allow DEQ, and thus the District, access to the creek. It was decided to meet with both Tom Pick, DEQ liaison, and Pat Newby, DEQ monitoring specialist, on October 1 following the MACD Area IV meeting, to discuss and resolve this issue.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES: Diane reviewed how administrative costs will be billed to the 319 grant and new timekeeping sheets were developed to help keep track of time relating to different programs.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT: Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology has offered to purchase ArcView for the District to use to keep track of the 319 grant project. The District computer will have to be upgraded and a color printer will be needed to print maps. Diane reported MBMG will print out larger maps on their plotter, but we should consider purchasing a plotter in the near future. Dave recommended purchasing the plotter now rather than waiting a year or two. Jack moved to allocate \$2000 for the purchase a plotter, 32 ram, and if there are enough funds, a color printer. Doug seconded and the motion carried.

WEST FORK OF ARMELLS CREEK GRANT: There is no official word yet from DEQ on these grant funds.

COAL GRANT: After discussing our proposed project with members of the Coal Board, John Wheaton, MBMG, presumed we would not receive additional funding for the Pit Impoundment project. The proposal was not submitted.

TONGUE RIVER 319 GRANT: The 319 pre-proposal to conduct an assessment on a portion of the Tongue River was submitted to DEQ on August 28. The project mainly consists of compiling existing data and, where necessary, set up a few monitoring sites. The grant request totals \$63,660. Following this initial submittal stage, revisions can be made to the proposal. Jack asked for a copy of the proposal.

FAIR BOOTH: Efforts to revise the range plant id contest resulted in seventeen people taking the "amateur" contest and twenty-four taking the "master" contest, throughout the three day fair.

Checks were mailed to the following winners:

- 1st place, \$25 – Dave McNaney, Hysham
- 2nd place, \$20 – JoAnna Kotar, Hysham
- 3rd place, \$15 – Becky Miller, Colstrip
- 4th place, \$10 – Bill Allison, Miles City
- 5th place, \$5 – Clint McRae, Forsyth

Thank you notes were received from recipients of the food awards that the District sponsored, and the Extension Office mailed photos of the award winners.

MACD AREA IV MEETING: Diane reported on plans for the Area IV meeting to be held on Thursday, October 1, 1998, at the Forsyth Country Club. Copies of the 1997 minutes were provided to the districts, along with information on the invited speakers, registration forms and the availability of display space. Registration fees were set at \$15.00 per person in order to cover travel expenses of the speakers. Diane asked about using funds from the Area Treasury for speaker expenses but found that under the current rules it would not be allowed. Bob Nansel agreed to propose this change to the Area Treasury during the Area business meeting. The following people will be attending the meeting: Dennis, Dave, Bob Nansel, Jack, Robert Heinle, Doug, Rocky, Wendy, and Diane. Diane will locate a door prize item for the MACD convention from Area IV, a responsibility of the Area meeting host. Following discussion on the MACD by-laws which allow one vote per district for the Area director, Bob Nansel was chosen as the voting representative.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Upon the Personnel Committee's recommendation, Dennis Nixon presented information to the Board on a SIMPLE IRA plan for District employee retirement. Under this plan the employee may defer up to \$6000 per year into the plan, with the employer contributing under one of three options, i.e., matching contribution, up to 3% of the employee's compensation; reduced contribution, but not below 1% of the employees compensation and not for more than 2 years during a 5-year period; or a contribution of 2% of the employee's compensation. Questions were asked about how the program would be funded, where these funds would come from. Doug moved to adopt a SIMPLE IRA for district employee retirement and to contribute to the plan as required by law. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Following discussion, Dave moved the 1998 conservation achievement award be presented to Hein Cattle Company, Bernard and Scott Hein, owners. Doug seconded and the motion carried.

MONITORING FOR SUCCESS WORKSHOP: Will be scheduled in early May, 1999.

GROUNDWATER RULE REVISION: Due to a lack of time, no discussion took place.

QUICK BOOKS TRAINING: Diane will attend a two-day Quick Books training session on September 24 and 25 in Billings.

AUGUST ANNUAL PLAN:

1. Maintain accurate records of water reservations and distribute Water User Annual Status report to users: The report forms will be mailed to the users ASAP.
2. Sponsor a fair booth with conservation education-related activities: Completed, see above.

3. Continue to provide funding for scholarships to students interested in attending range and youth camps: Completed, information was mailed to the Vo-Ag instructors in May; no students attended.
4. Monitor the use of the weed sprayer donated to the weed district/Invite the Weed Coordinator to attend a regular District meeting: Vince Thomas, Weed Coordinator, was invited to the meeting, but did not attend.

SEPTEMBER ANNUAL PLAN:

1. Conduct employee evaluations in anniversary dates and review employee job descriptions as defined in the District Personnel Policy: The evaluation process began in May. Wendy Warren's evaluation has been completed, however the final form has not been received for the official file. Diane Stephenson's evaluation has not been completed.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities and projects she worked on the previous month.

NRCS REPORT: NATIONAL WORKLOAD ANALYSIS: Discussion was tabled until the October meeting.

CRP: Rocky presented three modifications and four new CRP contracts for the Board's review. Plans and contracts for Mike Amadon, Gerald Hirsch, Judy Candee, Helland Brothers, Tri-Can Ag, Highlander Farms, and Duane Martens were passed for signature.

EQIP: Jack moved to approve an EQIP plan and contract for J.M. Nansel Ranch; Robert seconded and the motion carried.

RANGELAND/PRODUCTION GROUP: Rocky invited the Board to the next Production Group's meeting to be held at the Doug McRae ranch. Doug will provide details from his meeting with consultant Tony Malmberg.

NEW BUSINESS:

RC&D: No action was taken on Coordinator Dallas Johannsen's request for input on the idea of separating Eastern Plains RC&D area into two different areas.

GRANTS: The following grant information was received: Montana Community Foundation Grants, Montana Growth Through Agriculture Program, Wetland Grants.

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT: Guide books were available.

MONTANA VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING PROJECT: Montana Watercourse is offering to train volunteers in basic water quality concepts and monitoring methods. No action was taken, however, the course will be kept in mind for future projects.

PEAKS TO PRAIRIES CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS: No action was taken on MACD's \$700 scholarships to attend the Conference in Rapid City on September 27 - 30.

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

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER: It was agreed to publish the next newsletter as soon as possible. Diane will notify the Board members of the deadline and provide a list of article assignments.

OTHER BUSINESS: CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you note was received from John and Dianna Bailey for sponsoring them to the Livestock For Profit Seminar in Bismarck in January.

USDA OUTREACH PROGRAM: Jack attended the USDA Outreach program at Crow Agency and asked if the District would reimburse him for the mileage. Dennis moved to pay Jack's mileage and time; Dave seconded and the motion carried.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD (July & August), Yellowstone CD, Ag in Montana Schools. Newsletters: McCone CD, Forestry Notes, District Leader (July & August), Watershed Focus, CTIC, Land and Water, Montana GLCI, Ag Research, Montana Soil and Water Conservation Society, Tuesday Letter, Conservogram, Soil and Water Conservation Journal, Watershed News.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 1998 ASURER'S REPORT

ASURER'S REPORT

	COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GRANT
	\$ 67,369.19	\$ 4,045.06	\$ 316,511.42	\$ 37.70	\$ -
Balance Brought Forward:	Fair Supplies				
4386 M.L. Schuman	Wage4/1-PP14(461.23)				
4387 Wendy Warren	FY '98 Comp Ins				
4388 State Fund	319 Grant				
4389 FedEx	319/Postage				
4390 U.S. Postmaster	Mobile Phone				
4391 Cellular One	Wages/PP15 (669.65)				
4392 Wendy Warren	Wages/COLA (22.35)				
4393 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP15 (608.90)				
4394 Diane Stephenson	VOID				
4395 VOID	Wages/COLA (25.51)				
4396 Diane Stephenson	Travel/Personnel Comm				
4397 Diane Stephenson	Fair Photos				
4398 Lone Wolf Photo	Fair Banner				
4399 Precision Sign Design	Supplies				
4400 Forsyth Hardware	Long Distance Service				
4401 MCI	Phone Service				
4402 U.S. West	Supplies,Newsletter				
4403 Boss, Inc	Medical (705.00)				
4404 Rosebud County Plan	Medical (40.00)				
4405 Rosebud County Plan	Name Badge				
4406 MACDEO	Fair/1st				
4407 Dave McNaney	Fair/2nd				
4408 JoAnn Kotar	Fair/3rd				
4409 Becky Miller	Fair/4th				
4410 Bill Allison	Fair/5th				
4411 Clint McRae	Travel/319, Admin mtg				
4412 Diane Stephenson	Wages/PP16 (580.59)				
4413 Wendy Warren	Wages/PP16 (578.71)				
4414 Diane Stephenson	VOID				
4415 VOID	Dpst/PP15,16(1005.12)				
4416 IRS	RDGP Grant				
4417 Montana Tech	Flex/Medical (116.00)				
4418 Diane Stephenson	Stamps				
4419 U.S. Postmaster	4-H Awards				
4420 Rose-Treas 4-H Council	Pers. Comm. mtg				
4421 Dennis Nixon	Pers. Comm. mtg				
4422 Layton Salsbery	Pers. Comm. mtg				
4423 Doug McRae					
	\$ 175.46				
	\$ 573.51				
	\$ 83.36				
	\$ 15.50				
	\$ 16.96				
	\$ 165.36				
	\$ 866.40				
	\$ 24.96				
	\$ 866.40				
	\$ 28.38				
	\$ 27.05				
	\$ 49.00				
	\$ 127.40				
	\$ 14.07				
	\$ 8.36				
	\$ 43.47				
	\$ 589.82				
	\$ 390.00				
	\$ 20.00				
	\$ 10.00				
	\$ 25.00				
	\$ 20.00				
	\$ 15.00				
	\$ 10.00				
	\$ 5.00				
	\$ 122.25				
	\$ 866.40				
	\$ 866.40				
	\$ 292.06				
	\$ -				
	\$ 87.00				
	\$ 100.00				
	\$ 16.30				
	\$ 32.05				
	\$ 16.30				
	\$ 7,427.24				

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	COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GRANT
4424 Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40				
4425 Diane Stephenson	\$ 866.40				
4426 Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 11.36				
4427 Independent Enterprise	\$ 12.00				
4428 MACD	\$ 10.00				
4429 U.S. West	\$ 42.49				
4430 Boss, Inc	\$ 63.80				
4431 Cellular One	\$ 229.27				
4432 Centsable Accounting	\$ 208.00				
4433 Rosebud County Plan	\$ 410.00				
4434 MCI	\$ 13.99				
4435 Clark Hardware	\$ 7.80				
842 Wear Guard		\$ 118.83			
PC V-Store				\$ 1.99	
PC Forsyth Hardware				\$ 6.95	
PC Jacks IGA				\$ 6.33	
PC V-Store				\$ 2.45	
PC Jacks IGA				\$ 5.48	
PC Jacks IGA				\$ 6.83	
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 9,310.73	\$ 118.83	\$ -	\$ 30.03	\$ 7,427.24
INCOME DURING MONTH:					
County Budget	\$ 48.51				
County Budget	\$ 21.74				
County Budget	\$ 21.76				
County Budget	\$ 21.76				
County Budget	\$ 37.90				
County Budget	\$ 62.18				
County Budget	\$ 21.76				
RDGP Grant					\$ 7,427.24
District Account		\$ 6.50			
District Account		\$ 6.53			
Loan Account			\$ 9,440.00		
Loan Account			\$ 2,170.00		
Loan Account			\$ 190.00		
Loan Account			\$ 3,500.00		
Loan Account			\$ 250.00		
Loan Account			\$ 3,200.00		
Loan Account			\$ 250.00		
Loan Account			\$ 80.00		
Petty Cash				\$ 2.50	
Petty Cash				\$ 5.00	

Continue from page 2	COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GP
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 235,611	\$ 13.03	\$ 19,080.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 7,421.24
Balance Carried Forward:	\$ 58,294.07	\$ 3,939.26	\$ 335,591.42	\$ 15.17	\$ -

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 1998, REGULAR MEETING

Member present: Dennis Nixon, Chairperson; Layton Salsbery, Vice Chairperson; Jack Knobloch; Bob Nansel.

Members Not Present: Dave Davenport; Robert Heinle; Doug McRae.

Others Present: Vince Thomas, Rosebud County Weed Coordinator; Joe Schuster, Clarke Insurance; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room. A quorum was present.

MINUTES: Layton Salsbery moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Due to the upcoming holidays the regular meetings were rescheduled to Wednesday, December 9, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. and Wednesday, January 20, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. both in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Layton moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Dennis seconded and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: No questions were asked regarding the report that was mailed out earlier.

WEED COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Vince Thomas, Rosebud County Weed Coordinator, reported on the use of the weed sprayer the District purchased a few years ago and general activities. The county spends a great deal of their time and funds to control knapweed in the Milwaukee railroad right-of-way. Loan-out weed sprayers, purchased through a Weed Trust Fund grant, have been successful. The weed district cooperated with BLM to map weed infestation in Rosebud county, with students doing the helicopter mapping and using GIS units. Work is continuing in the Birney area to control leafy spurge, in the Rosebud area to control poisonous hemlock, and in northern Rosebud County to control Canadian thistle on CRP. Vince handed out caps to the members present and thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss noxious weed activities and programs.

319 GRANT, INSURANCE: Joe Schuster, Clarke Insurance agent, reviewed the District's MACo insurance policy. The coverage includes property, crime, liability, vehicle, and errors and omissions, with a \$500 deductible. A valuable benefit of the policy is legal representation, if necessary. There were no questions. The Board thanked Mr. Schuster for attending the meeting.

LOAN PROGRAM: Letters were sent to the following applicants who have not completed their projects within the one-year time frame:
Anchor Island, \$35,000, will be installing fence and intends to proceed with the project.
Steve Seleg, \$12,200, will be completing land leveling next spring and intends to proceed with the project.
Steve Shelley, \$27,800, the balance has been paid off and the mortgage released.
Greenleaf Land & Livestock, \$4,600, does not intend to use the balance.
Don Youngbauer, \$6,100, intends to use the funds, but not for the original purpose.
Don may have to re-apply for the funds.

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:10 p.m. to discuss one loan application and one request for increased funding. The following action was taken:

ROBER (MIKE) AMADON: Due to conflicting information on the application, a current appraisal will be required before the Board takes action on the application. A letter will be sent to Mr. Amadon regarding the Board's decision.

LARSEN LAND & LIVESTOCK COMPANY: Layton moved to approve Jim Larsen's request for an increase of \$2000 to cover additional expenses installing a stockwater pipeline. Jack seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was open to the public at 8:25 p.m.

310: FELTON ANGUS RANCH, MAURICE FELTON, BRIDGE, TONGUE RIVER, 97-06: Layton moved to approve Mr. Felton's request to extend the 310 permit for one year to install a bridge on the Tongue River. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. A letter will be sent to Mr. Felton and copies to the Corps of Engineers and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

AT&T, FIBER OPTIC CABLE INSTALLATION, ROSEBUD CREEK, 98-04: Jack moved to approve a change of location for the project from the Burlington Northern right-of-way to the Montana Department of Transportation right-of-way. Layton seconded and the motion carried. AT&T, the Corps and FW&P will be notified of the Board's decision.

NON-PROJECT: The Board was notified that Montana Power Company submitted an application for an emergency project on the East Fork Armells Creek. MPC was notified that neither Armells Creek nor its tributaries are designated 310 streams and do not require a 310 permit.

310 COMMITTEE: Diane reported on the last Committee meeting held in Helena. A draft 310 manual was distributed to Jack, Robert and Dave for review. Also discussed during the meeting was the joint application form and gathering comments from those using it in the test areas, the proposed moratorium on issuing 404 permits, the Endangered Species Act and USFWS' implication that private individuals are under the same jurisdiction and review as federal agencies, proposed MACD legislative action to secure \$150,000/year for 310 administration, and finally, conducting a session at the convention regarding the joint application and the 310 manual.

OLD BUSINESS:

319 GRANT, DEQ INVOLVEMENT: Jack, Dave Davenport, Bob Nansel, and Diane met with Pat Newby, DEQ, Tom Pick, NRCS, Danny Burgett, NRCS, and John Wheaton, MBMG, following the MACD Area IV meeting to clarify DEQ's involvement in the Rosebud and Armells Creeks assessments. Since John, Pat, and Tom intend to inspect designated sites, Diane contacted the landowners for access permission. The Board instructed Diane to contact the landowners again prior to the tour to verify they are aware that DEQ will be conducting a portion of the assessment. No final decision was made to hold another meeting by spring with the landowners to inform them of DEQ's involvement.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE & EQUIPMENT: At the last regular meeting, \$2000 was allocated for the purchase of a plotter, computer upgrade, and, if feasible, a color printer. The lowest quoted price for a plotter and stand is \$2388; the computer upgrade is \$50. Dennis moved to allocated an additional \$438 for the purchase of the equipment and software. There was no second; Dennis withdrew his motion. Discussion took place on how both employees would have to share one computer and potential problems that would arise, as well as lost productivity. Wendy was instructed to gather quotes for a computer for her, and investigate the cost of networking the two systems together, as well as software needs, and report at the December meeting.

WEST FORK ARMELLS CREEK 319 GRANT: According to Tom Pick, NRCS/DEQ, the project will be directed by the plan of work and not by the items outlined in the grant contract.

Dennis moved to accept the 319 grant contract; Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Dennis signed both copies of the agreement, which will be forwarded to DEQ. Under this agreement, \$3750 will be advanced to cover expenses, rather than submitting a requisition for reimbursement.

TONGUE RIVER 319 GRANT: John Wheaton, MBMG, presented our proposal to the review committee on September 23. Comments from the committee stated there was not enough coordination with other groups, i.e., the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, adjacent counties, and BLM; the focus of the project should be on BMP implementation not BMP development (even though the Rosebud/Armells Creeks and West Fork Armells Creek 319 grant agreements specify BMP implementation); the Tongue River Railroad should be used for information, data collection and funding the project; concerns over "groundwater" verses "surface water"; and coordination with DEQ. A proposal modification was not submitted to DEQ by the October 23 deadline.

SUBDIVISION TASK FORCE: Members do not want to continue getting copies of the task force meeting information.

MACD AREA IV MEETING: Changes to the Area Treasury to include speaker expenses were not brought up at the Area meeting since only eleven Board members attended the Business meeting. Diane will purchase a door prize for the convention from Area IV and deliver to Kalispell. Expenses and proceeds from the Area meeting will nearly balance; Rosebud Conservation District will make up the difference. The following information was handed out at the meeting, and mailed to members unable to attend: TMDL Implementation paper to DEQ staff, a watershed proposal, and "CD Natural Resource Management Through Watershed Approach" paper. The final two papers are the basis of a resolution presented at the area meeting, which will be voted upon at the convention. The resolution states all CDs will adopt the "Approach" paper and will support the watershed proposal, which asks for annual appropriations of \$630,000 from the state to carry out watershed planning. Based on the information, the Board supports the resolution, however, they will leave the final decision up to district representative Bob Nansel. Finally, the DNRC report was mailed to the Board and Bob Nansel was re-elected as Area Director for a two-year term.

MACD CONVENTION: Bob Nansel and Diane will attend the meeting in Kalispell on November 11 – 13.

MACD RESOLUTION: A resolution submitted by Roosevelt CD proposes converting a water reservation to the individual after it has been perfected, which is contrary to a decision the Yellowstone River Basin CD Water Reservation Council made in 1992. Rosebud Conservation District opposes the resolution if the same criteria were applied to the Yellowstone River. As requested, Will Clark, Council Chair, will be notified of the decision.

RETIREMENT PLAN: Both district employees enrolled in the SIMPLE IRA plan, effective October 1. Since the Board did not provide input on the amount the employer would contribute for the year, Diane choose the minimum amount possible. The Board must designate their contribution for 1999 prior to January 1st, the next enrollment period. All of the available options were presented; however, a decision was tabled until the December meeting.

CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Butch and Scott Hein, of Hein Cattle Company, were notified they were selected for the award prior to taking slides of their place. Diane reminded the Board this decision must be made earlier in the year to get decent slides for the presentation.

MONITORING FOR SUCCESS: According to Dan Hanson, a Monitoring for Success workshop will be held on his place near Ingomar in June; Rosebud Conservation District is sponsoring a session in May, 1999. Since the sessions are supposed to be sponsored by a conservation district, Diane is trying to clarify the issue with Krista Lee-Campbell, DNRC-CDB, and report on the outcome.

QUICKBOOKS: The software is not yet loaded on Diane's computer. A computer backup system is vital prior to utilizing this accounting system.

NEWSLETTER: The newsletter was published and mailed. Since Dave Davenport was the only Board member to submit an article, he was congratulated. No plans were made for the next issue.

WATER RESERVATIONS: Water Users Status Reports were mailed and are to be returned by October 30.

EMPLOYEE EVALUATION: Dennis was unable to make the meeting with Diane to finalize her evaluation; it was re-scheduled to Friday, October 30.

OCTOBER ANNUAL PLAN: Nothing was scheduled for October.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities and projects she worked on since the last meeting.

NRCS REPORT: COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT: Copies of the draft Cooperative Agreement with USDA/NRCS were distributed to members present; other members will receive a copy by mail. Danny Burgett, NRCS Team Leader, will attend the next meeting to review the agreement.

EQIP: Layton moved to approve a modification to J.M. Nansel EQIP contract; Jack seconded and the motion carried.

WHIP: Layton moved to approve a WHIP contract and conservation plan for Bryon Bennett. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

CRP: Sign-up for CRP 18 will be from October 25 through November 11.

EQIP: The EQIP program will now be on a continuous sign-up.

PERSONNEL: Terry Johnson, Tribal Liaison in Lane Deer, has accepted a position in Oregon. The vacated position will be advertised and filled.

NEW BUSINESS:

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D: Layton moved not to contribute \$50 to the RC&D budget. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER MEETING: Bob and Diane reported on the October 27, 1998, meeting, held in Billings consisting of conservation districts along the Yellowstone River. The group gathered to discuss the cumulative effects study being proposed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. James Klessens, Beartooth RC&D, facilitated the meeting sponsored by Yellowstone CD. According to Shirley Gammon, NRCS State Conservationist, congress passed a bill which designates cooperation from the Army Corps of Engineers, USFWS, NRCS and USGS in conducting an assessment of the Yellowstone River and the cumulative effects of streambank protection and development projects. The bill states these agencies will gather local input, however, there was only speculation on the role the districts would or should have in the study. James asked each district to respond to him with a commitment to be involved in the process. Based on the information provided and uncertainties of the ramifications of being involved, the Board is unwilling to make a commitment to the project. However, they would like to be kept apprised of the situation. James will be notified of this decision.

EPA DRAFT UNIFIED NATION STRATEGY FOR ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS: Copies of the draft were handed out to the members. Comments must be submitted by January 19, 1999.

MACD & DNRC NEWSLETTERS: Copies were mailed previously.

OTHER BUSINESS: ADMINISTRATOR'S MEETING: Diane was given permission to attend the November 17 Administrators meeting in Billings.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD, Eastern Plains RC&D.
Newsletters: Custer County CD, Pondera County CD, Lower Musselshell CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Garfield County CD, DEQ, Forestry Notes, Land & Water, The Steward, Conservogram, GLCI News, Watershed Focus, Montana GLCI, District Leader, Ag in the Classroom, CTI Partners, Ag in MT Schools.

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

Dennis Nixon, Chairperson



Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

OCTOBER, 1998, TRE. ER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GRANT
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 58,294.07	\$ 3,939.26	\$ 335,591.42	\$ 15.17	\$ -
4436	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40				
4437	Diane Stephenson	\$ 923.26				
4438	IRS	\$ 235.29				
4439	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 64.00				
4440	Jack Knobloch	\$ 96.62				
4441	Wendy Warren	\$ 6.00				
4442	Diane Stephenson	\$ 288.15				\$ 14,224.64
4443	Montana Tech					
4444	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40				
4445	Diane Stephenson	\$ 1,020.72				
4446	MACo/JPIA	\$ 709.00				
4447	Diane Stephenson	\$ 119.10				
4448	Diane Stephenson	\$ 33.27				
4449	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 410.00				
4450	MCI	\$ 13.64				
4451	U.S. West	\$ 42.44				
4452	Boss, Inc	\$ 42.75				
4453	Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 17.99				
4454	Independent Enterprise	\$ 18.00				
4455	Cellular One	\$ 187.78				
4456	IRS	\$ 127.62				
4457	State Fund	\$ 53.32				
4458	Unemployment Insur	\$ 57.82				
4459	Diane Stephenson	\$ -				
4460	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40				
4461	Diane Stephenson	\$ 866.40				
4462	MACD	\$ 130.00				
4463	Montana Tech					\$ 5,551.19
4464	Diane Stephenson	\$ 50.00				
4465	Big Sky Airline	\$ 254.00				
4466	Wendy Warren	\$ 827.63				
4467	Diane Stephenson	\$ 866.40				
4468	Diane Stephenson	\$ 62.70				
134	Hein Cattle Company			\$ 3,400.00		
135	Rosebud Clerk&Recdr			\$ 6.00		
843	Diane Stephenson		\$ 100.00			
844	Forsyth Country Club		\$ 450.00			
845	Bobbie Frank/WACD		\$ 189.00			

continue from page 1

846
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COUNTY		DISTRICT/CRP	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GP
Mike Eil/NDHD	Area mtg	\$ 163.00			
Trading Post	Supplies			\$ 1.15	
U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 2.77	
Range Phone	NRCS Copies			\$ 15.50	
U.S. Postmaster	Postage			\$ 9.00	
Jack's IGA	Oct mtg exp			\$ 8.19	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 10,123.10	\$ 3,406.00	\$ 36.61	\$ 19,775.83
INCOME DURING MONTH:					
County Budget	Reimb/Treasure CD	\$ 266.32			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.76			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 87.61			
County Budget	Phone/Warren	\$ 75.80			
County Budget	Phone/Stephenson	\$ 21.76			
County Budget	Phone/Kenney	\$ 21.76			
County Budget	Phone/Nixon	\$ 44.10			
County Budget	Reimb/NRCS	\$ 57.00			
County Budget	Phone/Warren	\$ 61.53			
County Budget	Phone/Nansel	\$ 50.99			
RDGP Grant	State of MT				\$ 14,758.58
RDGP Grant	State of MT				\$ 5,712.51
District Account	Interest	\$ 6.11			
District Account	Area mtg	\$ 520.00			
District Account	Area mtg	\$ 105.00			
District Account	Check #846 Void	\$ 163.00			
Loan Account	Pmt/Greenleaf		\$ 3,040.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Hathaway Ranch		\$ 2,250.00		
Loan Account	Admin Fee/Hein Cattle		\$ 102.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Shelley		\$ 7,200.00		
Loan Account	July Interest		\$ 575.80		
Loan Account	Pmt/Rolston		\$ 550.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Payer		\$ 210.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Hofer		\$ 2,300.00		
Loan Account	Pmt/Nile		\$ 1,270.00		
Petty Cash	County Budget			\$ 50.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 708.63	\$ 17,497.80	\$ 50.00	\$ 20,471.09
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 48,879.60	\$ 349,683.22	\$ 28.56	\$ 695.26

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 9, 1998, MEETING

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

Members Not Present: Doug McRae.

Others Present: Dallas Johannsen, Eastern Plains RC&D, Sidney; Danny Burgett, NRCS Team Leader, Billings; Rocky Schwagler, NRCS DC; Wendy Warren, District Technician; Diane Stephenson, District Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by Chairperson Dennis Nixon in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room. A quorum was present.

MINUTES: Layton Salsbery moved, seconded by Robert Heinle, to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

MEETING SCHEDULE: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. in the Forsyth USDA Conference Room.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dave Davenport moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Layton seconded, and the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The report was mailed earlier to Board members. Meanwhile, the District phone quit working and will be returned for a refund, and Diane's computer monitor died. She is using her own from home until the replacement from Gateway is received.

EASTERN PLAINS RC&D, DALLAS JOHANNSEN: An opportunity to better serve the Eastern Plains RC&D area by dividing it in two is being considered. Start-up funds totaling \$100,000 would be requested through the state legislature. The RC&D has historically encountered problems in getting projects started. The project focus would be in value-added agriculture. RC&D members have been asked for input on the idea; no final decision has been made. Dallas reported on a medical transcriptions training project sponsored by the RC&D. Transcriptions Limited, a Williston, North Dakota, company, provides the training and hires the graduates to complete medical transcriptions through computer networking with North Dakota hospitals. The company intends to hire 400 to 500 people throughout Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota. Other projects Eastern Plains RC&D is working on are a rural pipeline for homes in northeastern Montana, the dry hydrant program, and a affordable housing that provides financing to eligible applicants.

The meeting was closed to the public at 2:50 p.m. to discuss loan program business and one application. The following action was taken:

REG HOFF: Dave moved to approve Reg Hoff's request to change the payment due date from October to late January. Jack seconded and the motion carried. Reg will be notified of the decision.

BOYD SHAVER: Layton moved to approve Boyd and Marion Shaver's request for a year payment deferral on three notes; Dave seconded and the motion carried. The deferral is for one year from the note due dates, September 7, October 11, and November 26, respectively. Boyd and Marion will be notified of the Board's decision.

GENERAL BUSINESS: The Board discussed how to handle a subordination request. Since no official request for subordination has been made by the borrower, no decision was made. If the issue comes up prior to the next meeting, Diane will contact the members by phone with details.

TONGUE RIVER FARMS: Action on the application was tabled until needs and feasibility has been completed. Mr. Yoder will be notified of the decision and informed that a survey must be completed prior to the Board taking any action.

ROGER (MIKE) AMADON: Following the Board's decision that an appraisal be completed before making a decision on the application, Mike withdrew the request.

The meeting was open to the public at 3:10 p.m.

310: BIA/NORTHERN CHEYENNE, STREAM CROSSING, CLUBFOOT CREEK, 98-06: Diane informed BIA that a 310 permit was not necessary on the proposed stream crossing project as Clubfoot Creek is not a designated 310 stream and the conservation district does not have jurisdiction on the reservation.

OLD BUSINESS:

ROSEBUD/EAST FORK ARMELLS CREEK 319 GRANT: The Board was informed that John Wheaton, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology, Pat Newby, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and Tom Pick, Natural Resources Conservation Service, conducted a tour of the stream and narrowed the possible monitoring sites to thirteen. Diane will contact Jason Whiteman, Northern Cheyenne Department of Natural Resources, to see if the Tribe is interested in assisting with the project or will allow access to sites on the reservation.

COMPUTER AND EQUIPMENT: Wendy stated the cost of the plotter and software equipment most likely will stay as previously reported, \$2380. Computer prices will probably decrease and a sufficient system will cost less than \$2000. Dennis Nixon moved to allocate \$4800 for a computer system, software, plotter and associated items, and upgrade for Diane's computer. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the need to purchase the items and their intended use. Concerns were expressed that NRCS personnel would be pulled from Rosebud County projects to work in other areas, due to decreased demands on their time, made possible by the use of the new computer/engineering equipment. Also discussed was the affect Colstrip's incorporation may have on the District's budget and funding. The expensive equipment may be useless if we are not able to continue current employment. Funding sources for the purchase was discussed. While 319 administrative grant funds will be available toward the end of the project, the total amount is not currently available. Loan program administrative funds could be utilized for the purchase. Following this, Bob Nansel seconded Dennis' motion. The motion carried.

WEST FORK ARMELLS CREEK 319 GRANT: An advance of \$3750 has been received from the State of Montana for the project.

MACD CONVENTION: Bob Nansel and Diane reported on the MACD Convention held in Kalispell. Bob reviewed the resolutions that were acted upon and reported on sessions he attended. Pearlle Reed, NRCS Chief and keynote speaker, stated that conservation districts and NRCS are not in the loop with President Clinton and Vice President Gore. Diane participated in the "R U in Jeopardy" contest and attended a portion of the Internet session and the GIS session. The MACD Area Administrators are interested in conducting an Internet session; Diane volunteered to look into it. The 1999 convention will be held in Billings; the area districts will help with the plans.

RETIREMENT PLAN: Three options were presented for the employers contribution for the upcoming year. Jack moved to contribute 2 percent of the employees compensation for the 1999 calendar year. Bob Nansel seconded and the motion carried. Employees must enroll in the plan by January 1, 1999.

CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Board agreed to present Butch and Scott Hein, Conservation Achievement Award recipients, each with a district jacket and to order a plaque. Treasure County CD set the banquet date for February 21. Invitations will be mailed out when more details are available from TCCD.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER STUDY: A meeting was held in Miles City in November, similar to the Billings session, regarding the proposed cumulative effects study on the Yellowstone River. It was decided another meeting was necessary and since Forsyth is a central location, to conduct the meeting here in mid-January. The Board instructed Diane to secure a location, schedule the appropriate date, and notify Board members of the details when available.

EPA DRAFT UNIFIED NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS: Dave and Robert read the EPA draft and voiced concerns with numerous items. Specifically, clarifying the definition of a feedlot, private consultants conducting monitoring, periodic unannounced inspections, intended use of a proposed check-off program, calibration of manure spreading, record-keeping requirements, covering stockpiled manure. Following discussion it was left up to Dave and Robert to draft a letter to EPA on behalf of the District. The deadline for comments is January 19, 1999. Robert suggested sending a copy of the EPA Draft to Steve Lackman, newly-elected board member.

NOVEMBER ANNUAL PLAN: Nothing was planned for November.

DECEMBER ANNUAL PLAN:

1. Of the remaining 85,965.4 acre foot per acre available, work to ensure one water reservation per year is developed: No reservations were developed in 1998.
2. Promote the 1978 priority date through the district newsletter: Not mentioned in the newsletter.
3. Submit Annual Reserved Water Report to DNRC by December 15th deadline: Will be done prior to the deadline.
4. Support the Yellowstone Basin Conservation District Reserved Water Council by attending meetings and presenting a unified presence in relation to reserved water allocations and authorizations: Opposed a MACD resolution to convert a reservation to an individual permit.
5. Support the Lower Yellowstone Conservation District Development Committee by attending meetings and providing input on possible projects: No activity.
6. Through on-going communications with the Irrigation District Boards determine if canal seepage contributes to saline problems: No direct communications done.
7. If canal seepage is identified as contributing to saline problems, with cooperation from the Irrigation District Boards, determine how best to resolve the problems: See above.
8. Feature newsletter and newspaper articles explaining the benefits of new technology and/or feature articles on producers implementing innovative practices: Done.
9. Inform producers of the availability of no-interest loans for such practices: Done.
10. Support or sponsor grant projects relating to impaired water quality, such as the Water Impoundment project and the ag runoff monitoring project: Done through the Rosebud & East Fork Armells Creeks 319 Grant and the West Armells Creek 319 Grant.
11. Coordinate educational programs on such practices as no-till and minimum till: No programs conducted.

12. Refuse to sign conservation plans under soil classification of 6 or greater: No plans were presented.
13. Organize and assist local work groups to identify resource concerns: Interest in the local work group has diminished; there are no immediate plans to continue the process.
14. Provide technical and organizational support to the Sand Creek Watershed group: Work is proceeding; not a high priority.
15. Review 310 applications/proposed projects to ensure the intent of the law is being met: Done.
16. Support efforts of 310 Committee to develop one application for stream permitting with other agencies: Done through active committee member.
17. Promote the District's no-interest loan program for range management practices: Done.
18. Provide information on the Grazing Land Initiative Conservation program: Information is available on the program, new demonstration projects are sought.
19. Continue to work with the Rosebud County Range Committee on projects: Worked with the Range Committee to sponsor a grazing management session with Tony Malmberg. The Committee will be approached regarding the upcoming Monitoring for Success Workshop in May or June.
20. Provide information to producers on range management techniques: Done through newsletter articles.
21. Ensure local work group addresses range management issues: See #13.
22. Attend annual weed district meeting and provide report to Board members on the projects, programs undertaken by the weed district: The weed coordinator attended the October District meeting and reported on weed district activities.
23. Assist, when possible, in funding projects which control the spread of noxious weeds: Not been approached by the weed district.
24. Support and cooperate in weed education efforts with other agencies: No education opportunities were made available.
25. Display photos of conservation practices installed that promote District programs: Displayed photos of the conservation achievement award winner at the county fair.
26. Sponsor project tours and workshops which define the District's objectives: Not done.
27. Support the MACD Employees Organization: Done.
28. Ensure that employees are aware of procedures outlined in the District Personnel Policy: Done.
29. Budget for workshops and special meetings for supervisors: Done.
30. Ensure District Technician receives training to meet and surpass the requirements of the position: Done.
31. Provide necessary training sessions for the Administrator, through alternative organizations: Done.
32. Work to establish an active associate supervisor program: Two retiring supervisors have agreed to serve as associate members, Caprice Gregory and Robert Heinle. Need to pursue other interests as well.
33. Develop mission statement for the District: Not done.
34. Periodically review programs and procedures: Done on a monthly basis.
35. On a rotating basis, review all Memorandums of Understanding and update when necessary (NRCS, FSA, BIA, Extension): New NRCS/USDA Cooperative Agreement will be reviewed (see below).

TECNHICIAN REPORT: Wendy provided a list of activities worked on during the previous period.

NRCS REPORT: COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT: Danny Burgett reviewed the draft Cooperative Agreement. Copies of a revised CA from Big Horn Conservation District were handed out. Dave moved to adopt the agreement as presented in the original document; Dennis Nixon seconded and the motion carried.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: A compliance plan for Wally Martenson for reviewed and approved.

CRP SIGN-UP: Interest in signing up for CRP has been minimal in Rosebud County. The sign-up period ends on December 11.

RANGE MONITORING HANDBOOK: Rocky approached the Board about providing Range Monitoring handbooks to EQIP participants at a nominal price. The Board questioned how much the handbooks would cost to assemble. Diane will look into prices and report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1999 ANNUAL PLAN: Since no interest was expressed in working on the 1999 annual plan, Diane will try to have a draft available for review at the January meeting.

NEWSLETTER: Copies of a letter from Mike Volesky, MACD, complimenting the district on the revived district newsletter were provided earlier. No definite date was set for publishing the next edition.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: A list of conservation district 1999 legislative issues from MACD was mailed to members earlier. The Board reviewed the list and supported the watershed proposal, limiting supervisor liability in 310 decision-making issues, DNRC-CARDD budget increases, Salinity and RC&D initiatives, Renewable Resource Development grant program increases. There were questions on the proposed changes to fund DNRC's budget from the general fund rather than from the RIT account, the Montana Agricultural Heritage Preservation Program, and diverting 319 funds to the TMDL program. Dave will contact Gerry Devlin regarding funding DNRC from the general fund, Bob Nansel provided information on the Heritage Preservation program, and Diane will contact MACD on the 319 funds.

CI - 75: Information on CI - 75 was provided. At this time it is uncertain how the law will affect the conservation district, as well as who can best answer questions.

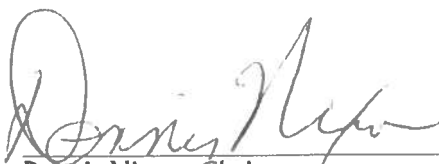
GRAZING LANDS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE: Applications for funding new demonstration projects are available through the District office. The 1998 activities report was reviewed.

NEWSLETTERS: The MACD newsletter was mailed out earlier; DNRC's was handed out at the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: WINTER GRAZING SEMINAR: Sweet Grass County Conservation District is hosting the 1999 Winter Grazing Seminar in Big Timber on January 27 - 28.

INFO RECEIVED: Minutes: Big Horn CD, Treasure County CD, Yellowstone CD. Newsletters: McCone CD, Dawson County CD, Custer County CD, Missoula CD, Ag in MT Schools, District Leader (Oct. & Nov.), Gulfwatch, Nat'l Wildlife Federation, Conservogram, Tuesday Letter, Waterlines, Forestry Notes (Oct. & Nov.)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.


Dennis Nixon, Chairperson


Diane Stephenson, Administrator

ROSEBUD CONSOLIDATION DISTRICT

DECEMBER, 1998, JURER'S REPORT

		COUNTY	DISTRICT	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GRANT	319/ARMELLS
	Balance Brought Forward:	\$ 48,879.60	\$ 3,831.37	\$ 349,683.22	\$ 28.56	\$ 695.26	\$ -
4469	MACD	\$ 130.00					
4470	VOID	\$ -					
4471	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 123.57					
4472	American Funds	\$ 95.08					
4473	Diane Stephenson	\$ -					
4474	U.S. West	\$ 42.45					
4475	VOID	\$ -					
4476	Boss, Inc.	\$ 505.10					
4477	Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 51.34					
4478	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 410.00					
4479	Cellular One	\$ 184.30					
4480	U.S. Postmaster	\$ 64.00					
4481	MCI	\$ 8.51					
4482	IRS	\$ 212.49					
4483	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40					
4484	Diane Stephenson	\$ 888.17					
4485	Bob Nansel	\$ 10.00					
4486	Diane Stephenson	\$ -					
4487	Diane Stephenson	\$ 156.60					
4488	Diane Stephenson	\$ 1,045.15					
4489	Diane Stephenson	\$ 86.01					
4490	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40					
4491	IRS	\$ 230.81				\$ 8,680.91	
4492	Montana Tech						
4493	Bob Nansel	\$ 640.92					
4494	Cellular One	\$ 56.39					
4495	Wendy Warren	\$ 866.40					
4496	Diane Stephenson	\$ 866.40					
4497	Diane Stephenson	\$ -					
4498	Rosebud County Plan	\$ 410.00					
4499	American Funds	\$ 75.08					
4500	U.S. West	\$ 42.45					
4501	Selby's	\$ 143.00					
4502	Yellowstone Pharmacy	\$ 5.99					
4503	Boss, Inc.	\$ 5.79					
4504	Ag in MT Schools	\$ 100.00					
136	Larsen Land & Live			\$ 9,000.00			
137	James Hecker			\$ 2,300.00			

Continued from page 1		COUNTY	DISTRICT	LOAN ACCOUNT	P.C.	RDGP GRANT	319/ARMF
138	Comitex			\$ 41.38			
139	Clerk & Recorder			\$ 6.00			
847	Shy Ann's		\$ 26.40				
848	Carolyn's Embroidery		\$ 70.00				
PC	U.S. Postmaster				\$ 4.90		
PC	U.S. Postmaster				\$ 9.00		
PC	Trading Post				\$ 10.24		
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 9,188.80	\$ 96.40	\$ 11,347.38	\$ 24.14	\$ 8,680.91	\$ -
INCOME DURING MONTH:							
	County Budget	\$ 44.10					
	County Budget	\$ 21.76					
	County Budget	\$ 23.95					
	County Budget	\$ 62.07					
	County Budget	\$ 54.16					
	RDGP Grant					\$ 8,870.55	\$ 3,750.00
	319/Armells						
	District Account		\$ 45.00				
	District Account		\$ 30.00				
	District Account		\$ 6.52				
	District Account		\$ 45.00				
	Loan Account			\$ 4,602.81			
	Loan Account			\$ 300.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 620.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 2,350.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 270.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 900.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 760.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 69.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 2,660.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 200.00			
	Loan Account			\$ 370.00			
	Petty Cash				\$ 0.60		
TOTAL INCOME:		\$ 206.04	\$ 126.52	\$ 13,101.81	\$ 0.60	\$ 8,870.55	\$ 3,750.00
Balance Carried Forward:		\$ 39,896.84	\$ 3,861.49	\$ 351,437.65	\$ 5.02	\$ 884.90	\$ 3,750.00