

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
January 3, 2007~6 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

Supervisor's present: Doug McRae, Steve Lackman, Jim Rogers, Dave Davenport, Don Youngbauer and Wendy Warren

Others present: Laurie Kelley, Rocky Schwagler, Nicole McClain, YRCDC Coordinator

Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2006 board meeting and Don seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Steve made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Jim seconded. The motion carried.

Administrator's Report: There were no questions.

Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be held on February 21 at 7 pm.

Loans: The group discussed the Pavex corporation loan application. The financials were all in order, however there was a concern over water rights. The DNRC website reports that the water right on the place is not for irrigation purposes. Wendy made a motion to approve the loan pending proof of adequate water right for irrigation on the acres specified. Dave seconded the motion and it carried. Laurie will send a letter to Pavex asking for their water right information.

Don made the following motion: "For any conservation practice that requires a water right, the applicant shall submit, with the application, documentation of said water right." Steve seconded the motion and the motion carried. Laurie will revise the loan guidelines, item #28.

Ken and Nancy Pratt were granted a one year deferment on their loan payments.

310's:

Application #06-12 Pavex Corporation: Fish Wildlife and Parks approved the 310 application after a site visit was completed. The board, having made the motion at the last meeting, voted to approve the application.

Reserved Water Use Application:

Application RW-Rs-021 YL: The application is being reviewed by DNRC.

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Annual Plan:

- ◆ **December:**
 - No items
- ◆ **January**
 - **Promote the development of new irrigated land:** Wendy will write an article for the newsletter alerting the public to the sizeable amount of water available for allocation through the district. The information is on the website and will also be available at the fair.
 - **Support the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council:** Don attends all meetings and is currently chair of the board.
 - **Inform producers of the availability of no-interest loans:** the information is available at the office, on the website and in the newsletter. Laurie will take the information to the Rosebud Watershed Group meetings as well.
 - **Educate the public about AFO/CAFO rules and regulations:** the resolution passed overwhelmingly and is in MACD's hands now.
 - **Continue work on conservation plans for land use ordinance:** this process is ongoing.
 - **Continue monitoring the water within Rosebud Conservation District:** Laurie will make sure the spring samples are taken and tested.
 - **Promote educational programs on such practices as no-till and minimum till:** ongoing.
 - **Provide technical and organizational support to the Rosebud Watershed Group and encourage other groups to form:** ongoing.
 - **Administer the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (310 Law):** this information will continue to be available at the office, on the website and in the newsletter. This is ongoing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The next meeting will feature the premier of the watershed documentary. The coordinator is working on a Watershed Planning Assistance grant to cover coordination costs. The current one, which is supposed to end in March, will be extended due to Larry's reassignment.

Coal Bed Methane Protection Act: The guidelines have been submitted to DNRC for their approval.

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YRCDC:

Don: A \$300,000 grant was submitted to EPA. The grant is to finish the mapping. The group is trying to put together a coalition with the Missouri River group. They are interested in working together on the Pallid Sturgeon issue. YRCDC is sponsoring a clean up project along the river. It will focus on the fishing access sites. This will generate some good publicity and name recognition for the group. The Missouri River Council will do the same thing. YRCDC will be approaching North Dakota and Wyoming in hopes of collaborating with them.

Nicole: The group submitted a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant to do a demonstration project on salt cedar and Russian olive control. The group is also continuing work on the avian study; flood plain and channel migration mapping, and hydrology, riparian and cultural studies are underway.

310 Workshop: The workshop will be held in the spring.

Watershed Symposium: Don and Laurie attended the event which was held in Great Falls. Don told the group that the most impressive aspect of the symposium was the way it was structured. The presentations were followed by networking sessions. It gave everyone a chance to get together and talk.

Conservation Achievement Award/Annual Banquet: Rocky and Laurie will finish working on the PowerPoint presentation. The banquet will be held at 5:30 on March 4. Prime rib will be served for \$15 a plate.

2007 Area IV Meeting: Laurie suggested having the area meeting at the Jersey Lilly in Ingomar if the facility is available. It could be an informal event with a theme like "Blue Jeans and Boots required". Don made a motion to hold the 2007 area IV meeting in Ingomar, Wendy seconded it and the motion carried. Laurie and the new Outreach and Education Coordinator will work out the details and keep the board updated.

Details to be determined include:

1. Food—beef sandwiches with the beans and sheepherders h'orderves?
2. Training session—Sage Grouse?
3. Overnight accommodations—are they available or will attendees need to stay in Forsyth?
4. Transportation—bus or car pool from Forsyth?

NACD: A dues check for \$500.00 was sent.

Reports:

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Technician: Larry has been hired as a soil technician for NRCS.

NRCS: Rocky asked the board if they would like to pursue Conservation Days this year. It is important to start early because good presenters are difficult to come by later on. If so, the event would be held May 7-11 at Colstrip, Lame Deer and Forsyth. The board agreed to have Laurie contact the schools to see if they are interested. Wendy volunteered to help with one day of it.

Rocky reported that they are finishing up EQIP contracts now. The same amount of money will be available as last year. They are applying for a Conservation Initiative Grant in Treasure County. It is for a buried drip system that will be installed at Greg Lackman's. It looks like it will cost around \$1,200 an acre. The system can also be used to apply chemicals but can only be used on level ground. The lifetime of the system is around 20 years, longer if well maintained. In areas it has been used before, it has increased crop yield by 20%. They are also looking at putting together a SARE grant on Don's place.

NEW BUSINESS

Technician: The group talked about hiring another technician. It was decided to redefine the position, making the person responsible for outreach and education. It will also be part-time. Laurie will develop a job description and advertise the position. Interviews will be held as soon as possible so that the position can be filled in time to help with the annual banquet which is in March.

Agriculture in Montana Schools: Steve made a motion to pay \$100 dues to the organization. Jim seconded the motion and it carried.

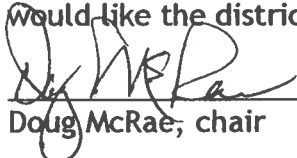
Supervisor Training Needs Survey: The group filled out the survey and it will be sent to DNRC.

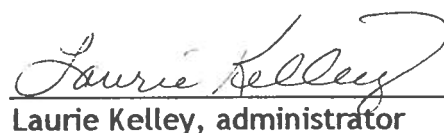
Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Review and revise Annual Plan at March meeting if time allows
- NRCS MOU at March Meeting
- Warren Kellogg will be at the February meeting

Open Mike Board Members:

Don: We should work on a feasibility study on CBM. MSU is interested. He would like the district to sponsor the study.


Doug McRae, chair


Laurie Kelley, administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2007~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

Supervisors present: Doug McRae, Jim Rogers, Dave Davenport, Wendy Warren, Steve Lackman, Dennis Kenney and Don Youngbauer

Others present: Warren Kellogg, David Martin, David Pratt, Bobbi Vannattan, Laurie Kelley and Rocky Schwagler

Meeting Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting and Steve seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Wendy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Dave seconded. The motion carried.

Administrator's Report: There were no questions.

Meeting Schedule: The next board meeting will be held on March 28.

Warren Kellogg—YRCDC Update: Warren Kellogg, YRCDC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) chair updated the group on activities being carried out by the council. Nicole McClain has been hired to coordinate the council's efforts. Despite lack of funding from the USACE, the group has been working on 12 different technical studies.

In 2006 the group worked with Danielle Jones, MSU-Bozeman, on an avian study. Birds are used as an indicator species of wildlife habitat and riparian condition. Cultural interviews were done by Susan Gilbertz, MSU-Billings. Various user groups were asked how they felt about the river. Groups included Ag, recreation, local government, and small tract owners. Aerial photographs from the 1930's 1950's, 1976, 1995, 2001 and 2005 have been gathered and geomorphology (stream dynamics) studies have traced the stream bank lines for 1950, 1976 and 1995. Floodplain delineation has been completed for the counties of Stillwater, Yellowstone and Dawson. The council has also been working on riparian methodology in Sweet Grass County.

In 2007 the group plans to continue the avian study and continue floodplain delineation and channel migration zone mapping. This work will be GIS based. Hydrology/hydraulic work will be continued if money is available from USACE. NRCS will conduct full scale field and GIS work on riparian areas along the river.

In order for the riparian field work to be conducted, landowners will need to be contacted. Warren provided a list of talking points and the contact list for landowners. The group went through the list and picked people they would call. Laurie will send out letters to the landowners giving them an overview of the study and telling them that they will be contacted by a board member.

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Dennis Kenney— Bob and Pat Mereness
Dick Thompson
Scott and Kathy Giesick

Don Youngbauer— Harold Sorenson
G & J Hay
Raymond Clark
Beverly Delmeire (Prince)
Jim and Thelma Beyl
Emma Weight (Craig)

Wendy Warren— Kevin and Joann Brewer
Art Schiffer
Hathaway Farms (Ken Heinle)
Bill and Cheryl Schwartzkoph

Steve Lackman— Jack and Kristen Crocker
Larry and Sandra McKenzie

The board agreed to talk to their contacts and have the information back to Laurie by March 9. Laurie will forward the information to Warren.

David Martin—Fair Update: Dave Martin, DNRC, spoke to the group about the upcoming Rosebud-Treasure County Fair. He suggested targeting the information to young and old alike. It would be possible to tie the trailer information in to the watershed groups; the Rosebud Watershed Group or the Yellowstone River CDC. It would also be possible to tie it in to the ground water model, showing how surface water filters into an aquifer.

David Pratt—NRCS/NACD Update: David Pratt, NRCS, talked about the National Association of Conservation District's national convention. He said the group was well informed and articulate. The two main issues discussed were the Farm Bill and the concept of Green Payments.

David said that the Farm Bill looks at three main areas; working lands, EQIP and CSP. WHIP would be done away with or rolled into the EQIP program. CRP would be the cornerstone and there would be an emphasis put on easements for working lands. Most of the farm groups represented voiced their approval of the bill.

According to David, technical assistance at the local level was a high priority.

David suggested the district look into Conservation Initiative Grants (CIG) for funding new technology. The grants require a 50-50 match, up to \$75,000. Little Beaverhead Conservation District bought a no-till drill using a CIG. It might be possible to use the grant money for salt cedar or irrigation projects.

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There are two parts to the grant; national and local phases. An announcement will be coming out soon. The money can't be used for research, only for proven technology.

Loans: There have been no new loan applications.

310's:

#07-01 Forsyth Country Club: The application was for renewal of a ten-year maintenance permit on the Yellowstone River. Steve made a motion to declare it a project and approve it. Don seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#07-02 Darrel Luther: The application was for a bridge over Rosebud Creek. Steve made a motion to declare it a project and approve it. Jim seconded the motion and it carried.

#07-03 Prince, Inc: The application was to clean out an old channel to a pump site. The application was for a 10 year maintenance permit. Steve made a motion to declare it a project and approve it. Don seconded the motion and it carried.

Reserved Water:

Application RW Rs-021 YL: Bottrell Family Investments: DNRC has approved the application and it will be presented for a vote at the March 28, 2007 meeting.

Application RW-Rs-008 YL: Felix Rangel: Felix Rangel's application to transfer water rights to his daughter and son-in-law was reviewed. Dave made a motion to allow the transfer and Wendy seconded. The motion carried. Doug signed the transfer and Wendy witnessed. The application will be forwarded to DNRC.

Annual Plan:

- February:
 - No items
- March:
 - No items

OLD BUSINESS:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The group is planning a Know Your Watershed Workshop with Montana Watercourse.

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310 Workshop: The workshop will be held on March 27 at the Forsyth Country Club. DNRC is putting together the agenda. Bobbi and Laurie will take care of the logistics.

Conservation Achievement Awards/Annual Banquet: The banquet will be held March 4 at 5:30 pm in Hysham. The following supervisors and their wives will attend: Jim Rogers, Steve Lackman, Doug McRae, Dave Davenport and Dennis Kenney.

2007 Area IV Meeting: Laurie and Bobbi are looking into insurance for the outing.

Reports:

Education & Outreach Coordinator: Conservation Days will be held May 8 to 10th. So far Colstrip, Forsyth, Hysham, and Ashland Public Schools have agreed to attend. Bobbi reported that she was still working with Lame Deer and St. Labre. McRae's agreed to allow the workshop to be held on their place and the permit for Crazy Head Springs has been sent in. Coles haven't confirmed yet. Rocky will be working with her in the near future to update the list of items to be covered.

NRCS: Rocky handed out copies of the Montana Grazing Land Conservation Initiative Proposal. Rosebud Conservation District is co-sponsoring the project. It consists of collecting and analyzing data about forage and quality, rate of gain, and rate of return/acre, input cost and labor costs. This will provide a complete economic analysis of a planting done on six irrigated pastures. The District will retain anything that is bought with grant money.

Rocky handed out an information sheet on Russian Olives. The tree will be removed from the species list in the Montana Field Office Technical Guide and will no longer be used for shelterbelts and windbreaks.

Rocky also handed out information on the Eastern Montana Biomass Task Force and encouraged everyone to consider becoming involved in this effort.

NEW BUSINESS:

Intern: The board discussed whether or not there is enough work to keep an intern busy for the summer. Dave made a motion to hire an intern for the summer and Steve seconded it. The motion carried. Wendy made a motion to offer Christine Corbin the position at \$8.50 an hour and Steve seconded it. The motion carried. If she doesn't take the position, her hours will be offered to Bobbi.

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MACD Dues: MACD has requested that we pay \$4,314.97 in dues this year. Jim voiced the opinion that he felt that we shouldn't pay anything other than the \$25.00 earmarked for the Bridger Plant Materials Center because MACD dropped the ball so badly on the CBMPA guidelines. He doesn't feel they are meeting the needs of the district in other ways as well. Don told the group about MACD's efforts in Helena and how they had carried the ordinances to the legislature for them. Steve made a motion to pay \$3,500. Don seconded the motion. After much discussion, Dave amended the motion to pay \$3,000. Wendy seconded the motion. More discussion followed. Dave voiced his concern that MACD didn't reimburse Don for travel. Don said he didn't turn in his voucher. It was suggested that the board withhold their dues and deduct any travel pay that isn't reimbursed by MACD. The motion carried.

Montana Salinity Control Association: Dave made a motion to vote for Bill Uffelman for area director. Don seconded the motion and it carried.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Revise and review Annual Plan
- Review NRCS M.O.U.
- CIG proposal ideas

Wendy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm, Jim seconded and the motion carried.

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING AGENDA
March 28-7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

Supervisors present:

Others present:

Meeting Minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

Administrator's Report:

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting date is April 25, does this work for everyone?

Loans: There are no new loan applications.

310's: There were no new 310 applications.

7:10 pm:

Reserved Water:

Application RW-Rs-021 YL: Bottrell Family Investments: Duane Claypool will present the application for its final vote.

Annual Plan:

- March:
 - No specific items
- April:
 - Distribute Annual Status Report to users (Laurie Kelley)
 - Through on-going communications with the Irrigation District Boards determine if canal seepage continues to cause saline problems (Jim Rogers, Steve Lackman)
 - If saline is a problem, cooperate with boards to resolve the problems (Jim Rogers, Steve Lackman)
 - Feature newsletter, newspaper and website articles explaining the benefits of new technology and/or feature articles on producers implementing innovative practices. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley) April newsletter will feature an article on the Annual Banquet including information on the Steiger operation. The website already has this information.
 - Promote conducting actual TMDL studies on the district's waterways. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley)
 - Use newsletter, newspaper, radio, website and organize tours of project areas as a means to update and inform the public of water

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March 28~7 pm
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quality issues. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley) The Know Your Watershed Tour will feature a water monitoring stop.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The next meeting will be held April 3 at Ashley's on Rosebud Creek. Keith Kerbel will talk to the group about water rights. A committee was formed to plan the upcoming Know Your Watershed Tour. It will be held on the Saturday of Colstrip Days (June 23). There will be a booth at the park and a poker run in the afternoon. There will be five poker run spots. Different subjects will be covered at each stop. The topics will be; definition of a watershed, weeds, history of the area, water monitoring and the PPL ponds.

YRCDC: Don will have a report.

310 Workshop: Bobbi will have a report.

2007 Area IV Meeting: The Jersey Lilly has been reserved. According to Laurie Zeller, we will be able to get insurance through our current provider at a minimal cost for any outings we do during the event.

Intern: Christine Corbin turned down the job offer. She has found employment in North Dakota that better fits her needs. Bobbi will work extra hours when necessary.

Review and Revise Annual Plan: The plan is in your packets.

Review NRCS M.O.U.: The agreement is in your packets.

Open Mike Board Members:

Public Comment:

Adjourn:

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING AGENDA
May 2~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

7:00 pm:

Supervisors present:

Others present:

Meeting Minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

Administrator's Report:

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting date is June 26, does this work for everyone or would you rather have it in late May or early June since that is a long time between meetings?

Loans: Alan Mereness submitted an application to borrow \$50,000 for a center pivot. He is offering a second mortgage on 133 acres of irrigated cropland. The tract is isolated but has a road and water. It has been surveyed. The proposed completion date for the project is fall of 2007. The total value of the land is \$239,400. The amount owed on the first lien is \$300,000 but that is what is owed on the entire property, not just the piece he is offering to secure the loan. He also wants you to know that the entire property will be paid off in 5 years.

310's: There were no new 310 applications.

7:30 pm:

Reserved Water:

Application RW-Rs-021 YL: Bottrell Family Investments: The application was approved via phone vote.

Annual Plan:

- March:
 - No specific items
- April:
 - Distribute Annual Status Report to users (Laurie Kelley)
 - Through on-going communications with the Irrigation District Boards determine if canal seepage continues to cause saline problems (Jim Rogers, Steve Lackman)
 - If saline is a problem, cooperate with boards to resolve the problems (Jim Rogers, Steve Lackman)

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May 2-7 pm
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- Feature newsletter, newspaper and website articles explaining the benefits of new technology and/or feature articles on producers implementing innovative practices. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley) April newsletter will feature an article on the
- Annual Banquet including information on the Steiger operation. The website already has this information.
- Promote conducting actual TMDL studies on the district's waterways. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley)
- Use newsletter, newspaper, radio, website and organize tours of project areas as a means to update and inform the public of water quality issues. (RCD Board, Laurie Kelley) The Know Your Watershed Tour will feature a water monitoring stop.

OLD BUSINESS:

8:00 pm:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The next meeting will be held at a date to be determined at Ashley's on Rosebud Creek. Keith Kerbel will talk to the group about water rights. A committee was formed to plan the upcoming Know Your Watershed Tour. It will be held on the Saturday of Colstrip Days (June 23). There will be a booth at the park and a poker run in the afternoon. There will be five poker run spots. Different subjects will be covered at each stop. The topics will be; definition of a watershed, weeds, history of the area, water monitoring and the PPL ponds.

YRCDC: Don will have a report.

310 Workshop: Bobbi and Doug will have reports.

2007 Area IV Meeting: The Jersey Lilly has been reserved. According to Laurie Zeller, we will be able to get insurance through our current provider at a minimal cost for any outings we do during the event.

Intern: Christine Corbin turned down the job offer. She has found employment in North Dakota that better fits her needs. Bobbi will work extra hours when necessary.

8:30 pm:

Review and Revise Annual Plan: The plan is in your packets.

Review NRCS M.O.U.: The agreement is in your packets.

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May 2~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

9:00 pm:

NEW BUSINESS:

MACD Newsletter: MACD would like your opinion as to whether or not you feel the MACD Newsletter is a worthwhile endeavor.

Don's Trip to Washington DC: Don will have a report.

Open Mike Board Members:

Public Comment:

9:30 pm:

Adjourn:

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
June 6~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

7:00 pm:

Supervisors present: Jim Rogers, Doug McRae, Dave Davenport, Don Young and Steve Lackman attended the meeting.

Others present: Dennis Kenney, Laurie Kelley and Bobbi Vannattan were in attendance.

Meeting Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Dave made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Don seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Administrator's Report: There were no questions.

Outreach & Education Coordinator's Report: Conservation Days went splendidly. 115 students, 10 teachers, 4 parents and 10 instructors attended the event. Plans are already underway for next year's event.

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting will be held on August 8th.

Loans: There were no new loan applications

310's: There were no new 310 applications, but 3 are in the works. Dennis and Don will be on call for the emergency BN 310, and if any other emergency 310's are submitted, the administrator will contact board members to do site visits.

Annual Plan Items:

- July: Host an irrigation tour every other year. This is not our year.
- July: Sponsor a fair booth. The booth is currently being planned.
- August: There are no annual plan items for August.

7:30 pm:

FVH Collins Co (Prince) Reserved Water: the application has been sent to DNRC. Dennis Kenney reported that Prince has submitted more information to DNRC. DNRC personnel are helping Bonnie with the application. They are going back into their water reservations to see if they can move some of the old water reservations into the new pivots. The application should be completed by September.

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OLD BUSINESS:

8:00 pm:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The Know Your Watershed Poker Run will be held during Colstrip Days. Please plan to attend.

YRCDC: Don said that a resolution was passed by the council to control Russian olive and salt cedar. The resolution encourages cities and counties to set aside special management zones along the Yellowstone River to encourage control or eradication of Russian olives. This sets up a pattern for where the council will go in the future. Conservation Districts and extension agencies are going to be asked to stop encouraging the planting of the trees and to no longer sell them. The council wants to make people aware of the problem and then encourage them to participate in stopping their spread. Removal of the two species from Howery Island's 280 acres cost BLM approximately \$500,000. The council doesn't want to make the sportsmen mad, so they will bring in someone to talk to them about substituting another shrub or tree for the two invasive species. Someone from the Bridger Plant Materials Center will be at the next meeting to talk to them about potential substitutions. The group also discussed a resolution for the intake project.

2007 Area IV Meeting: The meeting will be held October 4. Preparations continue.

8:30 pm:

Range Days Scholarships: Forsyth has agreed to accept three scholarships to Range Days. We are still waiting to hear back from Rosebud and Colstrip is not going to attend. If none of the others accept the scholarships, they will all go to Forsyth.

NRCS Report: No one from NRCS was able to attend the meeting.

9:00 pm:

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Budget: The FY 2008 budget was reviewed and adjustments were made. Jim Rogers made a motion to approve the budget as amended and Don Youngbauer seconded the motion. The motion carried. Laurie will send it to the commissioners. The annual budget is attached.

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Jim made a motion to move the balance of the county account to the debit account before the end of the fiscal year. Don seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The board asked for a once a year report showing how much money has been collected in no-interest loan account administrative fees. Laurie will see that they receive this prior to the annual budget meeting every year.

Range Tour: It was proposed that we conduct a Range Tour this year. Dave suggested having a series of meetings during the winter to jump start the range committee. We might be able to move the meetings around to Colstrip, Birney, Angela, etc and get people interested. Tony Malmberg was suggested as a speaker. The group discussed scheduling an event, sending invitations and coming up with creative ideas to get them in the door. This issue was tabled until the next meeting.

Performance Evaluations: It was suggested that the employees come up with a new evaluation form to more adequately reflect what needs to be assessed. Steve suggested that we write a paragraph or two about what we think our strong or weak points are and turn them in before we are evaluated next year. That could also help us determine what training is needed to increase productivity within the office.

It was moved by Jim to give Laurie a \$2.00 raise starting on her hire date June 1 and then a 3% COLA on July 1. Don seconded and the motion carried.

Bobbi agreed to work full time. Her new duties will include working for Rocky a few hours a month. But NOT over 20 hours per month. Technical work for the watershed will be added if grant money becomes available. Jim suggested that Bobbi put together a list of items that she will be working on in the coming year. Jim made a motion to raise her rate to \$10.00 an hour Don seconded it. Her raise will take effect on July 1.

Open Mike Board Members: The Rosebud Creek monitoring station is not being monitor at this time due to lack of funding. Doug suggested that we find some funds, whether through a grant or budget allocation, to keep the station functioning until money can be appropriated from the legislation. Laurie will contact Tom Pick, John Wheaton, DNRC, and USGS (to determine the cost of running the station) and find out if money is available to keep it running for the year.

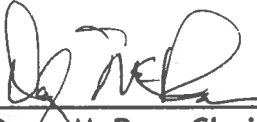
The board members suggested asking the public what they are interested in as far as trainings or workshop are concerned. Laurie will write an article for the newsletter and Bobbi will make postcards to hand out at fair.

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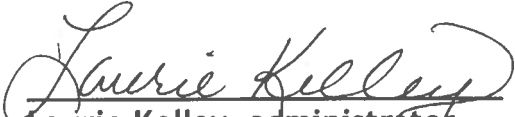
Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Future agenda items: There were no agenda items suggested.

11:10 pm: Adjourn



Doug McRae, Chair



Laurie Kelley, administrator

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING AGENDA
August 8~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

7:00 pm:

Supervisors present:

Others present:

Meeting Minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

Administrator's Report:

Outreach & Education Coordinator's Report:

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting date is September 26, will that work for everyone?

Loans: Art Schiffer submitted a loan application for \$50,000, for irrigation improvements. He is offering a first mortgage on 148 acres. The total value of the land offered is \$266,400. The application is in your packet.

310's: Mike Balensky submitted an emergency 310 application and BNSF submitted an application. They are in your packets.

Annual Plan Items:

- July: Sponsor a fair booth. The booth was extremely well attended. There were over 450 contest entrants and the booth took 1st Place!
- August: There are no annual plan items for August.
- September: There are no annual plan items for September.

FVH Collins Co (Prince) Reserved Water: the application has been sent to DNRC and should be finalized by September.

OLD BUSINESS:

8:00 pm:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The Know Your Watershed Poker run was held during Colstrip Days. Although not a lot of people drove the route, the booth at the park was very well attended. The 50/50 Raffle netted the group \$126.00.

YRCDC: Don will have a report.

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING AGENDA
August 8~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

2007 Area IV Meeting: The meeting has been rescheduled for September 27. Preparations continue. We would like to have full board participation. **PLEASE** plan to attend!

Range Tour (Tabled from 6-6-07 meeting): It was proposed that we conduct a Range Tour this year. Dave suggested having a series of meetings during the winter to jump start the range committee. We might be able to move the meetings around to Colstrip, Birney, Angela, etc and get people interested. Tony Malmberg was suggested as a speaker. The group discussed scheduling an event, sending invitations and coming up with creative ideas to get them in the door.

8:30 pm:

NRCS Report:

9:00 pm:

NEW BUSINESS:

Workshops: This edition of the newsletter asks for suggestions for workshops for this fiscal year.

Newsletter: We would like to have a supervisor write an article for every edition of the newsletter. Who would like to volunteer to write a short commentary for the October edition?

Rosebud Creek Monitoring Stations: Laurie contacted Wayne R. Berkas Montana Data Section Chief, U.S. Geological Survey who said that both streamgaging stations on Rosebud Creek (06295250 - Rosebud Creek near Colstrip and 06296003 - Rosebud Creek at Mouth, near Rosebud) were funded by the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. BIA reduced their support to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe for water-related activities and the tribe had to discontinue those two stations.

USGS would be happy to restart these two stations. They could either start the stations as soon as practical on August 1 or the beginning of the water year (WY) on October 1. The cost to operate each station in WY 2007 is \$14,000 and the cost from August 1 through September 30 is \$1,170. The cost to operate each site in WY 2008 is \$14,600.

There is a program in the USGS that allows us to provide as much as 50 percent of the cost to State, county, and local agencies. The USGS can share cost with the Rosebud County Conservation District. Unfortunately, the money in the program this year has been obligated. Next year (WY 2008), there is money

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available and they can provide 50 percent of the cost. Thus, the cost to operate each gage would be \$14,600 with \$7,300 coming from the Rosebud Conservation District and \$7,300 coming from the USGS. If RCD wanted to cooperate on both gages, the total cost would be \$29,200, with \$14,600 coming from the Rosebud Conservation District and \$14,600 coming from the USGS.

Elections: As requested by the chairman, an election of officers will be held.

Open Mike Board Members:

Public Comment:

Future agenda items:

10:00 pm: Adjourn

