

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

August 1, 2013

7:00 PM

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

7:00 pm: Meeting called to order by Doug McRae, RCD Chair @7:04 pm.

Board Members Present:

Doug McRae, Dennis Kenney, Bonnie Prince, Steve Lackman

Board Members Absent:

Alan Mereness, Dave Davenport, Don Youngbauer

Others Present:

Bobbi Vannattan, Melissa Ashley, Rocky Schwagler, Ben Davis

Guests:

Shonny Spang-Gion-Northern Cheyenne

Stark Ickes-Treasure County CD

Bruce Wagge-Sage Grouse

Chris Pilesky

Treasure Report:

Treasure Report will be available at the meeting. In 2005 or 2006 the Conservation District agreed to receive protested taxes from Pugent Sound, with the knowledge that when the cases were settled we may have to return the funds. The case has been settled and several thousand dollars has to be returned. The county has deducted the taxes from our 2013 fiscal year and we are now approximately \$5k negative in our regular account. Deveny is going to contact Bonnie to explain to her as well. Our budget may be slightly affected, however we have cut our budget significantly over the past few years and we are good on funds.

8:00 pm:

- Steve made a motion to continue to accept protested taxes, and that the county can deduct the deficit in our account from our next tax or entitlement receipt,
- Dennis second,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

Steve made a motion to approve the treasure report,

Bonnie second the motion,

All in favor and the motion passed.

Meeting Minutes:

The draft minutes from the July 1, 2013 meeting are in your packet.

- Dennis made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting,
- Bonnie second,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

Expense Vouchers:

Keep Bobbi informed of your travel.

Adminstrator Report:

It has been a very busy busy month, fair went well, the Forestry grant has been billed and the quarterly report submitted. The Newsletter came together very well and is up on the website and has been received in the mail.

Bobbi is planning to take vacation the week of August 5th.

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Outreach & Education:

Rosebud Treasure County Fair, July 18-21st. We rocked it☺

Meeting Schedule:

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5th, 2013.

Loans:

ROM's:

310- Permit Applications:

Violation on Rosebud Creek, a site visit will be conducted prior to the meeting and Caleb Bollman, FWP will attend the meeting.

Reserved Water:

New Business:

- Drill Out of County-or purchase 2nd Drill
 - Steve Lackman made a motion to allow Ken Mackley to use the drill on the contingency that Rosebud County Producers would have precedence and that out of county rate will be \$9/acre,
 - Bonnie second the motion,
 - All in favor and the motion passed.
- Starke Ickes
 - -Producer who would use the drill in treasure are big acre producers and are more interested in a larger drill.
 - Treasure has contemplated purchasing a drill to use within treasure county, however are concerned they would not have the use to make the payments.
 - Other options are to work with Rosebud to keep the drill busy or to purchase a drill with the assistance of Rosebud County.
 - Treasure CD meets the next Tuesday.
- Shonny Spang-
 - Are doing wetlands work on the reservation and are now starting work outside of the reservation
 - It is with the Natural Heritage Program, they are verifying that the wetland areas exist and working towards preserving culturally significant plants within the wetlands. They have mapped all of the the Northern Cheyenne wetlands in the the last 3 years and are now looking at Rosebud Creek off of the Reservations. It consist of 16 quads
 - They would map the wetlands and then turn the information inot the State wetland database.
 - All information collected is confidential
 - Looking for landowners that would let them come on to their property and look at the wetland conditions and was hoping the cd could help with that.
 - The board suggested that the landownership map books could be of assistance.

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- Bruce Wagge-
 - Fences not anti fence-
 - Looking for feathers on fence or a lot on the ground indicates a strike
 - When marking fence approximately 6-14% should be marked, the tags can be purchased at Home Depo or a lot of cd's have some on hand.
 - Surveys indicate that they see more strikes in Montana
 - Doug suggested that if they could get sportsmans groups involved that they could help get some of these fences marked around leks.
 - Steve commented that it might be of some benefit to get the highway department on board and the state started putting up wildlife friendly fences that landowners might follow suit.
- UPOM-United Property Owners of Montana- Skyler Watt has contacted the district and encourages Rosebud Cd to do the same as McCone County CD and pass a Bison Ordinance. He has asked the board review and contact him with questions. A copy is in your packets.
- Resolutions-
 - People advocating the preservation of species, should also be in charge of the preservation of that species prey. Ex. Wolf moose.
 - Forest/Land Management-prevent catastrophes before they happen.
 - Doug submitted a draft of a resolution.
 - 310 violations- shouldn't the contractor who is doing the project also be held accountable for violations of the 310 law?
- Dave Dennis and Melissa and Don attended all or part of the YRCDC River Boat tour.
- There has been more interest in attending the Grassfed Beef tour in Bismarck on the 20th -22nd.
- Steve made a motion to pay \$100 towards registration for the next 25 rosebud county producers who attend the workshop on top of the two producers already approved \$100 percent coverage for attending,
- Dennis seconded the motion,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

Governors Range Tour- we will have one more meeting before the tour, DNRC is working on the posters and processing the grant application.

Visit with Heidi and talk to her about the Russian olive at Lackmans!

Soil Health Initiative:

The packets for the 2013 are available for signups.

No-Till Drill:

Cover for the Drill-should we purchase one- \$255 plus freight.

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Pressure gauge needs to be replaced Dave Klanke has put in an order for one.

- Steve made a motion to purchase a cover for the No-til Drill,
- Dennis second the motion,
- All in favor and the motion passed.

Newsletter:

Next Newsletter deadline is October

YRCDC: Don Youngbauer:

NRCS: Rocky Schwagler:

Ben Davis is the summer student trainee with the office. He has been very busy.

There are 2 CSP contract and 1 WRP in Rosebud.

It is time to start planning EQIP, there are lots of applications.

Range Committee: Dave Davenport

CBMPA: Doug McRae:

Southeast MT Fuels Reduction Grant: Chris Pilesky & Any Miller:

Chris will attend the meeting.

Looking for a way to demonstrate how to make some of these ideas for projects work managing the burn areas. Looking for a property as demonstration and would like to use one of the supervisors who were affected by the fires to apply for a forest recovery and fuels reduction project.

Fox Lumber would help get rid of what there is, Tom Fox has a portable type saw mill to use on site.

Board Bio's

Please bring yours to the meeting if you have not done so ☺

Intern:

Melissa will be heading back to school before our next meeting. She has done an excellent job setting up the website and scanning files. She will be spending a lot more time in the field during the last couple of weeks.

Ten Minute Training:

None

Next meeting Agenda:

NO Till Drill- purchase a second one-purchase one with Treasure-help treasure get the acres to make payments if they bought one.

Open Mike Board Members:

Public Comments:

ADJOURN: Motion by Doug @9:50PM

9:00 pm: