

**DEER LODGE VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Regular meeting November 12, 2019**  
**6:30 PM - USDA Building**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Janke. Supervisors present were John Hollenback, Dwight Crawford, Jim Lee, Don Despain, Joleen Meshnik and Troy McQueary. Associate Supervisor present was Reece Price. Also present were Caleb Uerling, Josh Schrecengost, Carl Hamming and Susie Johnson.

It was moved by Dwight Crawford, seconded by Jim Lee and motion carried to approve the minutes of the

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

Treasurer Dwight Crawford reported \$1,531.01 in the district checking account and \$1,239.02 in the district range days account.

District Administrator Susie Johnson provided written financial reports. The balance in Petty Cash is \$159.54 and \$34,193.37 in County Funds.

**CLAIMS TO BE PAID:**

People's Bank of Deer Lodge (4 <sup>th</sup> payment No-till drill)	<u>\$3,995.92</u>
Total	\$3,995.92

It was moved by Dwight Crawford, seconded by Jim Lee and motion carried to pay this claim.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. WRC was reported by John Hollenback. A lot is getting done on McQueary's project. Planning has started on Burnt Hollow Ranch, Racetrack and Dempsey.
2. Computer was discussed. Susie received a list from NRCS on what computers the district can order. Susie also contacted DNRC and they will pay a portion of the computer cost. Susie will keep the district informed on the cost and what computer will be purchased.
3. Livestock Seminar was discussed. Chairman Jeff Janke signed the Bar J Wrangler contract. Bar J Wranglers will perform at the Rialto, Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The ticket cost will stay at \$20. Jim Lee will reserve 5 rooms at the Travel Lodge. The Livestock Seminar will be Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> with registration starting at 12:00. Members of the FFA will talk about their experience with the Envirothon Competition. NRCS District Conservationist for the Deer Lodge Office Josh Schrecengost will introduce himself and talk about the NRCS new program Focus Conservation. Amy Chadwick, Great West Engineering will give a presentation on Beaver Mimicry. Reece Price will present the Economics of putting up your own hay versus custom haying. Reece will also show drone footage of his haying equipment. Cooper Hibbard will talk about Late calving & Intensive Grazing in Montana and Cole Mannix, Communicating the Value of Ranching to the Public. Troy will MC the afternoon session.
4. Focus Conservation was discussed by Josh Schrecengost, NRCS. NRCS is changing the way it allocated its EQIP funds. Tom Watson the State Conservationist started Montana Focus Conservation. This program concentrates on a specific resource area

and specific resource concerns. This is all based on a Long-Range Plan that is being put together by the area NRCS staff giving an over view of Counties including Powell County, Deer Lodge County and Silver Bow County. Targeted Implementation Plan (TIP) is then put together and this is what is submitted to get funded. A local working group needs to be put together to discuss the long-range plan and prioritize projects. This must be landowner driven ideas.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Annual Planning meeting Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 pm. was noted.
2. Dwight Crawford brought up to the board that he signed up for the MACD Convention but because of health issues he can not attend. Susie will see if the board can get a refund on registration.

**SB310:**

1. Jim Berg maintenance permit expired 2017. (looked again and expires 8/23/2020) Will send Jim a letter in 2020.
2. Complaint – Elliston. The office received a 310 complaint from DEQ by an Anonymous person. The potential violation was on Dog Creek near Elliston. The Complainant states that last summer, Kelly Clark poured concrete on the bank of Dog creek while working on the bridge that goes over Dog Creek. Caleb Uerling, FW&P, Pat Saffel, FW&P and Jeff Janke, DLVCD Supervisor did a site visit. Kelly Clark will need to apply for a 310 permit to make modifications to the recommendations that were made.
3. Potential 310 Tin Cup Joe complaint. Jim Lee and Troy McQueary went on this inspection. A neighbor of Terry Whites was concerned that he was losing a lot of property when Tin cup Joe floods out of its bank. Terry also has problems with beaver and Cottonwoods. Jim informed the neighbor that Terry should come into the office and get a 310 application to be able to do some work on the creek.
4. Seth Beck's 310 permit was brought up. Seth's permit was for a culvert and that was installed but there is now a bridge above the culvert. Susie will look up the recommendation on the permit and send them out to the board for review.

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. Carl Hamming gave an update on the new trail system that Powell County is putting in.

**NEXT MEETING IS: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 6:30 pm., in the USDA Building.**

Submitted by Susie Johnson

Date: November 20, 2019