

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
November 28~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

7:00 pm:

Supervisors present: Doug, Jim, Dave, Dennis Kenney, Steve, and Don Youngbauer were present. Wendy Warren was absent.

Others present: Laurie Kelley, Bobbi Vannattan, Rocky Schwagler and Roger Perkins were present.

Guest Speaker: DNRC Water Adjudication Specialist: Keith Kerbel was unable to attend the meeting. He will be at the next meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report: Jim made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Don seconded it. The motion carried.

Administrator's Report: Laurie presented a verbal report

Outreach & Education Coordinator's Report: Bobbi handed out reports.

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting will be held on January 23, 2008, unless something important comes up that needs to be addressed.

Loans: The Mereness loan application was previously discussed. It was agreed per a phone vote that the loan would be approved pending First Bank Subordinating to the district. The district received the subordination form from the bank in the mail.

310's: 07-09: Sheffield Ranch: As requested at the 10-10-07 meeting, Roger Perkins, Aquoneering, was here to discuss the project. After discussion and review, Jim made a motion to approve the permit with the stipulation that the weirs be inspected by an engineer. Dave seconded and the motion carried.

07-06: Riget/See: This application is for a vehicle access on the Tongue River. Doug: need more detail in the application. Dave felt that it was going to cause sedimentation problems that would only get worse over time. Dave made a motion to deny the application and Jim seconded it. The motion carried. Dave and Jim will visit the applicant to view the situation and the district will make available to them potential designs for the crossing.

07-07: Larry Rau: This application is for stabilization of an eroding side channel of the Yellowstone River. FWP has commented on the project and requested that the guidelines they sent with their approval letter be added to the 310 permit. Steve reported on the project. The bank is starting to undercut and slough in. Downstream is an artesian well and he wants to take

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
November 28~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

the bank from the well to the bend and slope it and fill it in with cement. Jim made a motion to approve the permit as long as he follows the DEQ regulations pertaining to concrete. Don seconded the motion. Laurie will send a letter to Mr. Rau stating that he will need to follow the guidelines and send him a copy of the guidelines

07-08: Egan Ranch Inc: This application is for a bridge over Rosebud Creek. FWP has already signed off on it. Dave made a motion to approve Egan's bridge, Steve seconded. The motion carried.

Annual Plan Items:

- November: There are no annual plan items for November.

FVH Collins Co (Prince) Reserved Water: the application has been sent to DNRC. We are still waiting for word from them as to whether or not it has been approved. They are waiting for info.

OLD BUSINESS:

8:00 pm:

Rosebud Watershed Group: The next meeting will be held on December 11 in Lame Deer. Laurie spoke on the water panel at the Northern Plains Resource Annual meeting.

YRCDC: The WRDA Water Resource Development Act is going to be used to get funding for the Intake project. The Missouri River gets \$55 million a year to regulate the water. It was confined to the Missouri, but now it can be used for the tributaries. The Intake Dam (50,000 acres) will be done with this money and what is good about it is that the sportsmen, irrigators, government entities, etc. will have had input into the process. Don feels that this is just the first of many projects that will be done on the Yellowstone. The YRCDC needs to get everyone involved so that solutions can be found that work for all of the interested parties. Aerial photography has been done for the river.

Annual Convention: Don, Laurie and Bobbi attended. Don reported on the activities. One of the sessions was on small acreage. The gal is so thorough and is so well organized that it really worked. He also told the board about the prescribed easement in Stillwater County. People were backing their boats across private land. The landowners didn't want to deny access to the river but they wanted to stop the degradation of the river. The district worked with the landowners, the sportsmen and FWP and kept the fishing access active.

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
November 28~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

The MACD budget came up \$15,000 short so they assigned each board member a number of districts that they will need to encourage to pay their full dues. This will effect the legislative session because MACD lobbies for the DNRC, which is who gives us most of our grant money.

Range Tour (Tabled from 10-10-07 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. Dave and Doug will organize a range committee meeting that will be held December 10th at 7 pm in the USDA building.

9:15 pm:

NRCS Report: EOIP needs to be settled before the end of December to get it in under the old regulations. There was a special initiative signup for strip tillage but no one from Rosebud CD signed up. Several signed up in Treasure County. The initiative was for row cropping. The tillage machine bares only about 8 to 10 inches, there is standing stubble between and in the spring you go in and plant.

10:00 pm:

NEW BUSINESS:

Small Acreage Workshop: Laurie will go to the county and other parties to see if there is any interest. If so, she will put together a plan with costs and speakers and look for grant funds. Jennifer Mohler of Bozeman was suggested as a potential speaker. Her phone number is 406-388-5668.

Annual Banquet: The board decided to hold the annual banquet on February 24. The group discussed possible options for location and theme and Steve made a motion to let Laurie decide where to hold it, what kind of entertainment and what kind of food to have. Don seconded the motion and it carried. Kellen Moen was voted outstanding conservationist for 2007 for his wildlife habitat improvements. The group suggested approaching the drama department at Forsyth or Colstrip for entertainment.

Open Mike Board Members: John Tubbs talked about water marketing at the Northern Plains meeting; it has happened in other states, like New Mexico and Colorado. Adjudication is a use it or lose it proposition, if we don't use it, it goes down river. With water marketing, there would be an opportunity to sell

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
November 28~7 pm
USDA Service Center, 270 S. Prospect, Forsyth, MT 59327

it. Keith Kerbel will attend the next meeting to discuss water adjudication and marketing.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Future agenda items: There were no future agenda items suggested.

11:04 pm: *Meeting adjourned.*