

ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327
406-346-7479

MINUTES OF MAY 25, 2005 MEETING

Members Present: Jim Rogers, Doug McRae, Dave Davenport, Steve Lackman. Wendy Warren and Don Youngbauer were absent.

Others Present: Laurie Kelley, Larry Fox, Rocky Schwagler.

Minutes: Motion to approve the April 20, 2005 regular meeting minutes was made by Doug McRae and seconded by Jim Rogers. Motion was approved. Doug McRae made a motion to approve the April 27, 2005 special meeting minutes. Jim Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting will be held on June 22, 2005.

Administrator's Report: There were no questions asked.

Loans: No new activity to report.

310: No new applications to review.

OLD BUSINESS:

YID: The board discussed continuing their efforts to help the YID with their salinity problem. Laurie will continue putting together the information for Montana Salinity Control and send it to them for analysis.

ROSEBUD WATERSHED: The board discussed current watershed events.

TRACK FILLER: The board discussed the postcard surveys. The lack of response was disheartening, but the board determined that there was enough interest to warrant purchasing a filler of some type and the group was quite interested in the brochure brought in by Harold Sorenson. The Oteco filler was determined to be inadequate for the district's needs, so after a thorough discussion of the merits and detriments of the Rut Hog and the Levelmaster, it was decided to physically inspect the two machines. Steve will go to Sorenson's and look at the one he has. He already looked at the Rut Hog in Miles City and other members will try to get to Miles City to see it as well. A motion was made by Jim Rogers to allocate \$6,000 for a filler and trailer. The motion was seconded by Doug McRae and it passed. The board will decide which filler to buy at the next board meeting.

HACH PROBE: The probe should arrive the week of June 1.

INTERNS: Rocky gave the board an update on intern activity. He said that it was a little early to be out in the field because the plants weren't developed enough to

identify. The weather hasn't cooperated either. Laurie is keeping them busy when they aren't able to be out in the field.

CBM TEST FIELD MEETING: The board reviewed the report. There were no questions.

NRCS REPORT: Rocky reported that he had been working on EQIP. The staff has been designing pipelines and trying to stay ahead of Rod Lee. Many of the plans require high density plastic which only has to be trenched to 3 feet and can be drained for the most part, so it doesn't freeze. Grant Peterson has been in Baker for 3 weeks doing range assessments.

TECHNICIAN REPORT: There were no questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSERVATION PLOT: The plan submitted by district employees for a conservation plot was discussed. Becky Rusdal has volunteered to let the District use her lot across from the office for the plot, which would contain buffalo grass and other native plants. It would also be possible to incorporate bat and bird houses produced by the 4-H club or FFA. The plot would be used to showcase conservation practices on a small scale. There would be very little cost involved and district employees would be doing the work. Doug McRae made a motion to approve the conservation plot, Jim Rogers seconded it and the motion passed.

BRIDGER PLANT MATERIAL CENTER TOUR: The board discussed sending the administrator, technician and interns to the June 30th tour. It was agreed that they should attend the tour. Jim, Steve and Dave would also like to attend. Doug may go, if time allows. Laurie will contact Don and Wendy to see if they would like to go as well. Laurie will look into asking the range committee to attend and rent a bus for the trip. If cost is prohibitive, members will carpool.

TONGUE RIVER WATERSHED GROUP: Jim Rogers made a motion to continue assisting the Tongue River group until their by-laws are in place and a board is determined. Steve seconded and the motion carried.

SPRING BOARD MEETING: The administrator told the board that she would rather not attend the meeting as her schedule is too full right now. None of the other board members could get away to attend.

4-H FAIR AWARDS: The district had been asked to sponsor fair awards as they had done in the past. The total cost would be \$120.00. Doug McRae made a motion to sponsor the awards, Jim Rogers seconded and the motion passed.

GPS: Rocky told the board that the district should buy their own GPS. The cost will be between \$300 and \$400. With all of the activity going on now, it would be very helpful to have another in the office. Steve Lackman made a motion to purchase a GPS unit, Doug McRae seconded the motion and it carried. The group discussed holding or attending a training workshop. Larry Fox and Laurie Kelley will look into it.

OPEN MIKE: Jim Rogers told the group that the rules for the Coal Bed Methane Protection Act need to be developed. He asked Laurie to send copies of the Land Use

Ordinance to Tom Richmond, Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation, Keith Kerbel, Montana Water Rights Bureau and David Opper, DEQ, along with a letter inviting interaction between our respective agencies.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 pm.

David Davenport, chair

Laurie Kelley, administrator