

# ROSEBUD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 1200  
FORSYTH, MONTANA 59327  
406-346-7479

## MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2005 MEETING

**Members Present:** Wendy Warren, Doug McRae, Jim Rogers, Dave Davenport

**Others Present:** Rocky Schwagler, Larry Fox, Laurie Kelley, Kendall Van Dyke, Tom Acey, Art Hayes

Dave Davenport called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the conservation office. Don Youngbauer and Steve Lackman were absent.

**MINUTES:** Doug McRae made the motion to accept the December 8, 2004 regular meeting minutes. Jim Rogers seconded the motion and it passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dave Davenport said that the money for administration fees on the no-interest loans need to be removed from the loan account and put into the district account. The administrator was unaware that it needed to be put there and will do so immediately. The administration fee for the Rosebud 319 grant was discussed. The board discussed putting it in the district account. Wendy made the motion to deposit it in district account and Jim seconded. Motion passed. Jim Rogers moved to accept the treasurer's report with corrections, Doug McRae seconded and the motion passed.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:** The next meeting will be held February 23, 2005.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** No questions were asked.

### LOANS:

**Greg Lackman:** Still waiting on activity

### 310:

### OLD BUSINESS:

**LAND USE ORDINANCE:** Jim Rogers made a motion for a final vote on the land use ordinance. Doug McRae seconded the motion. Motion passed, resolution was signed. Laurie will send copies to DNRC, DEQ and the Rosebud County Clerk and Recorder.

**ROSEBUD WATERSHED:** The by-laws that had been drawn up by the Steering Committee, Watty Taylor, Doug McRae, Jewel Davenport and Allen Clubfoot, were discussed and approved at the January 12, 2005 meeting.

**INTERNS:** The NRCS Capacity Funds Grant for 2005 was discussed.

**COAL BED METHANE PROTECTION ACT:** Laurie updated the board on the emails she sent out to Powder River, Big Horn, Prairie and Custer concerning Steve Schmitz's (DNRC) proposed meeting to discuss regulations for emergency damage funding. The only responding CD so far has been Custer. Carol Watts, Custer CD Administrator, said her board will discuss it at their next meeting.

**NRCS REPORT:** Rocky reported on EQIP allocations. The board recommendations were 'tweaked' so that only 35% went to irrigation, an extra 5% was put into dryland crop. Rocky said that a screening tool has been approved for ranking. Range applications will receive 70 points, some from prescribed grazing, irrigated applications will receive 85 points, some from irrigation management. Applications are being wrapped up. According to Rocky, it was one of the busiest falls on record. Rocky also reported that the Conservation Security Program is in effect in Custer County. It is an entitlement program based on past practices. In order for payment to be made, documentation must be kept. If it's done correctly, there can be a good payoff.

**TECHNICIAN REPORT:** Larry gave the board a soil sample update. He also gave a verbal report to the board about the grazing seminar he attended in North Dakota.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**FAIR:** The board approved the administrator's idea for fair. It will be a water theme; how important it is to protect our water, watershed group formation and growth and responsible CBM development. The Rolling Rivers Trailer has been requested as well as a display from Agroforestry.

**CBM FAIR:** The board decided not to have a booth at the CBM Fair in Gillette

**EASTERN PLAINS R & D:** The board discussed continuing sponsorship. Jim motioned to continue paying the \$100.00 sponsorship fee, Doug seconded the motion and it passed. Doug is interested in being a voting representative, Laurie will check on what that entails.

**NACD:** The board discussed paying the NACD quota payment of \$500.00. Jim made a motion to pay it, Wendy seconded and the motion carried.

**COMMUNITY SYSTEMS WORKSHOP:** The board discussed Laurie going to the workshop in Bozeman April 4-7. Cost is \$700.00 to attend and travel expenses. Jim made a motion to pay half and approach the watershed group for the other half. Wendy seconded and the motion passed.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Tabled until next meeting. Laurie will see if she can find notary to attend the meeting. Wendy, Dave and Jim need to be sworn.

**ANNUAL PLAN OF OPERATIONS:** The plan was reviewed at the meeting and approved. The board discussed the long range plan, and it was decided to go over it at the next meeting.

**CMB WORKSHOP:** The board discussed advertising for the upcoming CBM Workshop. Jim made a motion to spend \$250.00 on advertising. Wendy seconded the motion and it passed. The board suggested that the administrator contact Jerry Lunde, Dave Schmitz and Corey Swenson for ideas on where/how to advertise.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ART HAYES-TONGUE RIVER WATER USERS:** Art came to the board asking for assistance finding money for monitoring devices to be used along the Tongue River. According to the 1914 decree, The landowner meeting in Miles City was discussed. Art Hayes brought up the need to have a landowner only meeting where shareholders could get together and discuss watershed issues. The board agreed and suggested that Rosebud, Tongue and Powder CD's get together as a group and invite their interested landowners. Art said he would put the wheels in motion and get back to Laurie.

**BECKY RUSDAL:** Doug McRae suggested that \$500.00 be donated to the Becky Rusdal Medical Fund. Becky, former RCD technician, has been inundated with medical bills as a result of a tumor on her pituitary gland. The tumor, the largest ever seen in Billings, couldn't all be removed surgically so Becky had to travel to Boulder CO for very high tech, high cost radiation treatments. Jim Rogers made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the fund, Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**CARTERSVILLE IRRIGATION:** YRCDC has asked that the RCD find out how the Cartersville Irrigators feel about putting in a fish by-pass at the dam in Forsyth. A portion of the Fisheries Scope of Work in the Yellowstone River Cumulative Effects Study includes studying the issues associated with the barriers to fish migration on the Yellowstone River. Recognizing that previous work has been done to look at fish passage options for the Cartersville Dam, this dam was included within the Fisheries Scope of Work as a candidate for more detailed research. The board discussed the issue and concluded that if they approached the irrigators about putting in a by-pass, there had to be something in it for the irrigators as well. The dam is in need of work, as is the ditch. There are grants available for work on the dam and ditch and if the irrigators approve, the administrator will look into getting funding for the work. Tom Acey volunteered to discuss it with the irrigators and get a feel for how best it would be to approach them on the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10.55 p.m.

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Dave Davenport, Chairman

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Laurie Kelley, administrator