



**Mile High
Conservation
District**

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Jack Kambich, Chair

Doug Butori, Vice-Chair
John Moodry, Treasurer
Pete Dallaserra, Supervisor

Don Ueland, Supervisor
Cam Balentine, Supervisor
Kellee Anderson, Supervisor

August 3, 2017

Dear Conservation Leaders:

The Mile High Conservation District will be hosting the MACD Area VI meeting this year. It will be held on September 27th at the Civic Center Annex in Butte, MT. Registration will begin at 8:30 AM and the meeting will begin at 9:00 AM.

To access the Annex portion of the Civic Center please drive to the back portion of the Civic Center. There are several doors that you can access the meeting location from.

All written district reports must be submitted to the District by Monday, September 25th so that they may be copied prior to the meeting. Please bring extra copies of any materials prepared after this date, as we will not have access to a copy machine. Also, pre-registration forms are due on September 22nd. All equipment needed for presentations i.e. overhead machine, power point, etc. need to be brought by those needing the equipment.

The Mile High Conservation District is looking forward to hosting the Area VI meeting. We hope that all of the supervisors and administrators in Area VI can attend.

Sincerely,

John Moodry

John Moodry, Secretary/Treasurer
Mile High Conservation District

TENTATIVE AGENDA

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

AREA VI MEETING – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

CIVIC CENTER ANNEX – BUTTE, MT

- 8:30 AM REGISTRATION – coffee and cinnamon rolls/pastries
- 9:00 AM WELCOME – introductions – call meeting to order – John Moodry
- 9:15 AM BUSINESS MEETING
Approve Minutes from 2016
Approve Treasurer’s Report
Election of Area Director
2018 Area Meeting Location
Resolutions
Other Business
Longevity Awards
- 10:30 AM BREAK
- 10:45 AM Agency Reports – DNRC/MACD/NRCS/MACDEO/Salinity Control
- 12:00 PM ADJOURN MEETING
- 12:15 PM LUNCH (PASTIES AND GRAVY FROM NANCY’S PASTIES)
- 1:00 PM TOUR OF OUR LADY OF THE ROCKIES

AREA VI MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION \$12.00 PER PERSON

**IF ATTENDING OUR LADY OF THE ROCKIES TOUR AN ADDITIONAL
\$16.00 NEEDS TO BE ADDED TO THE REGISTRATION**

NAME OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT _____

NAME OF ORGANIZATION _____

CONTACT PERSON _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

NAMES OF PERSONS ATTENDING

TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING _____ @\$12.00 = _____
TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING TOUR _____ @\$16.00= _____

**COST OF REGISTRATION INCLUDES: COFFEE AND ROLLS AND LUNCH
(LUNCH WILL BE PASTIES AND GRAVY FROM NANCY'S PASTIES)**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MILE HIGH CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PLEASE RETURN PRE-REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

AREA VI Meeting

September 28, 2016

Ennis, MT

Madison Conservation District

Minutes recorded by Kris Hugulet, Mile High Conservation District

Welcome and opening of the meeting was completed by Janet Endecott

Business Meeting:

Janet Endicott called the business meeting to order:

Minutes from the 2015 meeting were reviewed. It was noted that a supervisor name was spelled wrong in the minutes. The change was noted and a motion was made by Gerry Keogh to approve the minutes was heard and seconded by Steve Granzow. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasure's Report:

The treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed. It was noted that no changes were made to the report. A motion by John Anderson to accept the report was heard and seconded by Steve Granzow. The motion passed unanimously.

Elections:

Jeff Ryan was nominated for Area Director. John Anderson asked for nominations to be closed. John Moodry seconded the motion and nominations were closed. Jeff was appointed as Director by acclamation.

Resolutions:

Elena updated the group on the voting format for the resolutions. Each district will have one representative voting on behalf of the resolutions.
Elena handed out the ballots.

Industrial Hemp

WHEREAS, hemp has been cultivated for thousands of years and is useful for many things including cover crops, food, food oil, fiber, paper, diesel fuel, plastics and building materials and

WHEREAS, hemp requires little fertilizer or pesticide to grow effectively and could offer farmers an alternative crop if they chose to use it; and

WHEREAS, hemp cultivation is legal in (Montana, S. B. in 2001) but is prohibited by the Drug Enforcement Agency (D.E.A.);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) request the Montana Legislature pass a resolution requesting the D.E.A. reclassify hemp and stop interfering with production and transportation of hemp.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MACD request that the Montana Congressional Delegation work to change the rules of the D.E.A. regarding hemp production so that hemp may be grown by U.S. farmers instead of being imported.

Lewis & Clark CD

Chris Evans went through the Hemp resolution and the need for the resolution.

John Anderson made a motion to accept this resolution for discussion. Steve Granzow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Several items were discussed regarding this resolution:

- Can marijuana be differentiated with other cover crop plants?
- Are we dealing with interstate commerce issues?
- What are other states doing?
- What do you want MACD to do?
- What products are made with hemp in Montana?

After discussion a motion was made by John Anderson to modify the resolution to strike the first Now, THEREFORE, portion of the resolution. Carl Malesich seconded the motion and the motion carried. After the modification was made, John Anderson made a motion to approve the resolution. Steve Granzow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Local Work Group Defined Priorities and Funding -2016

WHEREAS, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS):

- allocates funding on an area basis
- promotes targeting funding which takes resources away from the general fund pool
- promotes the Local Work Group as being an important tool in planning, yet limits funding one defined priority resource concern per county
- requires Resource Management System (RMS) level planning **and** contracting within the RMS funding pool; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Conservation Districts is to assist landowners with **all** their natural resource concerns-not limited to one concern in an entire county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) work with the NRCS to allow more than one priority resource concern for NRCS funding in each county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MACD support the change from RMS fund pools to simply "land use" fund pools for ranking so that participants of all means can equally access financial assistance from USDA programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MACD work with Montana's Senators and Representatives to obtain more federal funding for natural resource concerns in the State of Montana.

Chris Evans went through the Local Workgroup resolution.

Discussion occurred about having more flexibility with landowners/cooperators that do not fit the NRCS priority projects.

Darryll made a motion to accept discussion regarding this resolution. Steve Granzow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Several items were discussed regarding this resolution:

- allowing for more flexibility with landowners/cooperators that do not fit NRCS priority projects;
- NRCS concerns regarding funding received vs funding requested;
- local workgroup input on priorities funded first;
- increased funding needs/staff available

After discussion John Anderson made a motion to vote on the resolution. Steve Granzow seconded the motion and the resolution was put to vote. The resolution failed to pass.

Longevity Awards:

Beaverhead Conservation District: Byron Martinell, Carl Malesech

Broadwater Conservation District: Gary Flynn, Jim Beck, Herb Agrabright

Gallatin Conservation District: Loren Blanksma

Jefferson Valley Conservation District: John Heide, Mark Gornick

Meagher Conservation District: Tyson Hill, David Wendt, Richard Indreland, Wayne Buckingham

Mile High Conservation District: Jack Kambich, John Moodry, Kris Hugulet

Park Conservation District: Jerry O'Hair

Auction Items:

Discussion occurred about what Area VI wants to do for an auction item. It was noted that the Madison CD will decide and let the other area reps know.

Other Business:

2017 Meeting Location:

The location for the 2017 Area VI meeting will be in Butte with the Mile High Conservation District hosting.

Agency Reports:

MACD:

Elena went over the changes that were made for the bi-laws. (See attached report for more details.)

SWCD (get off sheet) Elena went over the differences with the two organizations.

Elena went over the services that are provided, their policy and what success they have had.

The terms for the boards are now staggered. Area VI is a three year term. The floor was opened up for nominations.

John Anderson was nominated.

Nominations closed and John Anderson was appointed by acclamation.

The president's updated was reviewed. (See attached report for more details.)

Elena talked about the convention and resolutions.

Jeff Tiberi talked about the legislative session and the issues that are facing them with lobbying for what the districts across the state are wanting.

DNRC:

Karl discussed the CARRD staff changes and introduced the staff that was in attendance.

Funding through this legislative session is going to be something that we are going to need CD's to assist on with the legislature.

Get information from worksheet.

NRCS:

Keri discussed conservation planning, programs, Missouri River Headwaters Drought Initiative and the Sage Grouse Initiative. (See attached report for more details.)

DEQ:

John Kennedy

The department is reorganizing and moving everyone into the same division. Jason Garbor is the replacement for Jeff Ryan. Linda Saul and Joe Meek recently retired. 319 was very competitive this year and some projects were asked to scale back projects and/or do them in phases. Pesticide application over water has been approved.

FW&P:

Bruce Rich reviewed the stream laws and 124 permitting, invasive aquatic species and the watercraft inspection program.

MRCDC:

Rachel Frost talked about their upcoming interactive facilitation and meeting management, "Herding Cats Effectively. (See attached brochure for additional information.) A copy of their annual report was handed out. A brief presentation informed everyone of who their members are, pointing out that they have secured \$410,000 to fund two full-time technicians for three years to aid landowners in establishing monitoring. They currently have committees for: Montana Saltcedar Team, CMR CWG Sage Grouse, CMR NWR Community Working Group, Montana Rangelands Partnership; and Ranching for Rivers.

Montana Bison Association:

Aaron Paulson distributed a letter addressing concerns regarding an ordinance for "The protection of soil and water from wild, free roaming or domestic bison grazing in Fergus Conservation District." (See attached letter and ordinance.)

A brief discussion occurred about the documents handed out.

Aaron thanked the group for their time.

At this time, last call for business items was called for by Janet. There being no further business, Janet called for a motion to close the business meeting. Gerry Keogh made the motion for the business meeting to adjourn. John Moodry seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Hugulet, District Administrator
Mile High Conservation District