



Montana Association of Conservation Districts

MONTANA ASSOCIATION of CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

We're growing Montana's future.

MACD SPECIAL BOARD CALL SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Suta at 7:35am and roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Suta (PRES)	William Bernard (1)	Bob Petermann (2)	Shirley Parrott (4)	Mike Hanson (6)
Jim Simpson (VP)	Dean Rogge (1)	Bob Breipohl (3)	Don Youngbauer (4)	Daryl Stutterheim (6)
Gary Giem (TREAS)	Tony Barone (2)	Steve Hedstrom (3)	Pete Woll (5)	
Jeff Wivholm (1)	Roddy Rost (2)	Judi Knapp (4)	Bill Naegeli (5)	

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Ryan – L/C CD, Dan McGowan, MACD ED

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Consideration of Conservation District dues (partial and non-payment) exception requests: Jefferson Valley CD, Lewis & Clark CD, Rosebud CD, & Valley CD.** Dan read each letter and the Section of the by-laws (Section 12 F.) that allows for the Board to receive letters from the CDs requesting an exception to partial or non-payment of dues in order to maintain their voting rights.

Dan indicated that the Flathead Letter had been approved previously. Mark Suta: approved letters last year with regard to by-laws; wonder if starting a precedent; feel we received good letters and should be accepted. Dan indicated Jefferson Valley CD administrator relayed on a phone call with Ann McCauley that the reason they only pay partial dues is because of a funding issue. Steve Hedstrom suggested that the motion be geared toward approving their ability to vote as if they were a member in good standing. Jeff Wivholm: would they be able to run for the Board? Jeff suggested that we first accept the letter and then vote on the letter. Mark Suta: this just gives them voting privileges. Steve Hedstrom said just want to grant them the right to vote and that we not set a motion to allow not paying dues. William Bernard agreed; allowed to happen last year on by-laws and said we wouldn't let it happen again. Mark Suta indicated the provision was in the by-laws. Jefferson could submit another letter before convention with a valid reason. Dan agreed to:

1. Send an email to all of those submitting requests relaying the Board's decision
2. Send an email to all partial and non-paying members relaying the Board will consider an exception for them to retain good standing for the purpose of voting at the convention; good time to ask for dues payments.

3. Send a copy of the Valley grievance letter to all Board members; the Board will reply back to Dan with their thoughts; Dan will craft a response to Valley; response will be reviewed by the Board before being mailed to Valley CD.

Jefferson Letter

- Motion to Approve: Jim Simpson motioned to reject the Jefferson Valley CD request because there was no reason given in the letter to validate the exception request.
- Seconded: Jeff Wivholm
- Discussion: Jim Simpson recommended votes should be done individually. The group agreed.
- VOTE: Mark – Abstain, Jim – Y, Gary – Y, Jeff – Y, William – Y, Roddy – Y, Bob – Y, Steve – Y, Shirley – Y, Pete – Y, Mike – N. 9Y, 1N, & 1Abstain - Motion Carries.
- Gary Giem suggested we send them a letter explaining why they did not get approval. Dan will communicate with the District.

Lewis & Clark Letter

- Motion to Approve: Jeff Wivholm motioned to accept the letter and grant membership in good standing with a one-time exception of assistance for the strategic planning in lieu of dues payment.
- Seconded: Steve Hedstrom
- Discussion: Gary Giem asked the question about last year's dues not being paid. Dan indicated the request is for this year. Jim Simpson indicated the \$5,000 came this calendar year; not in writing, but had a discussion regarding this very question and those rejoining are they liable for past dues not paid. Gary Giem indicated this would have to be a one-time thing. Roddy Rost asked what percentage the \$5,000 was of full dues; Jeff Ryan indicated full dues were 7 - \$8,000.
- VOTE: Mark – Y, Jim – Y, Gary – Y, Jeff – Y, William – Y, Roddy – Y, Bob – Y, Steve – Y, Shirley – Y, Pete – Y, Mike – Y. 11 Y Motion carries.

Rosebud Letter

- Motion to Approve: Mike Hanson motioned to accept the Rosebud request and grant the exception.
- Seconded: William Bernard
- Discussion: Gary Giem indicated that Rosebud kicks in money for the Sage Grouse initiative; wondered how much input from the board. Jim Simpson indicated this type of letter had been received from Rosebud before; this type of letter will not be used to grant a variance in the future; believe all their concerns have been addressed.
- VOTE Mark – Y, Jim – Y, Gary – N, Jeff – N, William – Y, Roddy – N, Bob – Y, Steve – N, Shirley – N, Pete – N, Mike – Y. 5 Y, 6N Motion Defeated

Valley email

- Motion to Approve: Gary Giem motioned to deny the request.
- Seconded: Shirley Parrott
- Discussion: William and 2 others made several visits and Valley would send a letter expressing their interest to pay, but we did not receive a motion.
- VOTE Mark – Y, Jim – Y, Gary – Y, Jeff – Y, William – Y, Roddy – Y, Bob – N, Steve – Y, Shirley – Y, Pete – Y, Mike – Y. 10 Y, 1N Motion Passed

PARTNER COMMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 8, 2018 - 7:30AM

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING: Jeff Wivholm

SECONDED: Shirley Parrott

Motion Passed

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:37 am