

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
WATER QUALITY PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Helena, MT 59601
316 N. Park, Room 226
January 25, 2011

Members Present

Gary Ingman *departed 7:05 p.m.*
Chris Deveny
Chris Anderson
Spencer Shropshire
Eric Woodland
Stan Frasier

Staff

Jim Wilbur
Kathy Moore
James Swierc
Jennifer McBroom
Jolene Loomis
Melanie Reynolds
Scott Winfield

Members Absent

John Rundquist
Mike Murray
Kammy Johnson

Guests Present

Gary Ingman called the 169th meeting of the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) Board of Directors to order at 5:32 p.m. A quorum was established.

MINUTES

Gary Ingman asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from October 26, 2010. Chris Deveny moved to accept the minutes as written. Stan Frasier seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Gary Ingman asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from December 7, 2010. Gary noted that the first paragraph of the State of the Basin Report on page 6 of the board packet needs to be reworded. Stan Frasier moved to accept the minutes as amended. Gary Ingman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

Scott Winfield, Finance Director, presented the cash flow statement and comparison to budget memo for the WQPD on page 12 of the board packet. As of December 31 2010, we are 50% through the year, beginning cash is \$71,855; total revenues received are \$177,571 or 59% amount budgeted; total expenditures are \$145,868 or 48% amount budgeted; revenues are over expenditures by \$31,703; ending cash balance is \$103,558.

SEPTIC MAINTENANCE REGULATION UPDATE

Chris Deveny recused herself from any discussion regarding the Septic Maintenance Program. Kathy Moore, Division Administrator, gave an update on the progress of the Onsite Wastewater Septic Maintenance Regulation and the three components of the Onsite Wastewater Treatment systems on

pages 14 & 15 of the board packet. Kathy noted that the public comment period for the Septic Maintenance Program opened on December 4, 2010 and officially closed on January 14, 2011. A public hearing regarding the program was held on January 11, 2011. To date there have been over 30 public meetings held and extensive outreach provided to the public. Staff has compiled and responded to public comment and has placed the responses on the Health Department's webpage. Kathy noted an article written in the Independent Record on January 23, 2011 regarding the program and how it can help protect water quality in the long run. Also noted was the online data base that will be used to track the septic systems and inform staff when a septic system is due for pumping and inspection. The next step in the program is a meeting of the Board of Health on January 27, 2011 to adopt, amend, or table the program. If the program is adopted, staff will immediately begin developing administrative procedures.

PROPOSED BOARD RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SEPTIC MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Stan Frasier motioned for the Board to write a letter of support (See Attachment "A") for the adoption of the current proposed regulations for the operation and maintenance of septic systems under consideration by the Board of Health. Spencer Shropshire seconded the motion. Chris Deveny recused herself from voting. The Board requested that staff shorten and reword the first paragraph of the support letter. Stan Frasier seconded the amendment to the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Stan Frasier encouraged staff to use the Conservation District newsletter as a source of outreach for the Septic Maintenance Program. Gary Ingman requested that staff also incorporate monitoring data in their outreach to the public.

STATE OF THE BASIN REPORT UPDATE

Kathy Moore presented a summary of the State of the Basin committee meeting held on December 22, 2010 and the proposed outline for the State of the Basin report (See Attachment "B"). The Board agreed that the outline was a great start to building a report. They did request that staff continue the use of the brochure that they have started that explains the WQPD. The Board also recommends that the name of the report be changed for example "State of the Water Quality Report". The next step for the report will be to expand on the outline and to have continued committee meetings. Gary Ingman stated that he would review drafts and/or assist with writing some of the report.

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Jim Wilbur, Community Outreach/Watershed Coordinator, presented the Water Quality Protection Strategic Plan for 2009-2014 on pages-25-36 of the board packet for Board review and update. Jim highlighted the progress that staff has made regarding the strategic plan goals and objectives. Kathy noted that part of the strategic plan was to have annual and quarterly reviews. Kathy suggested a more in-depth review of the strategic plan during the March 22 board meeting.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MBMG Public Meeting: James Swierc presented his study of the Helena Public Groundwater Project to the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) on December 16, 2010 at the University of Montana Helena Student Union at 7:00 p.m. Around 50-60 people attended the meeting. Chris Deveny requested that staff have a public sign in sheet to use as an interested party for future events.

Channel Migration Zone Study: Jim Wilbur stated that the consultants for the Channel Migration Zone Study presented their report to the County Commissioners on January 20, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

and to the Lake Helena Watershed group at their meeting on January 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the MACo Building conference room. Over 30 people attended the evening meeting.

Upper Tenmile Controlled Groundwater Area: Kathy Moore and staff met with Mike Bishop, with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), along with consultants from the CDM to discuss the Upper Tenmile Superfund site. The EPA is looking at potentially implementing a controlled groundwater area in the Superfund site because of groundwater contamination due to arsenic and other metals from the mining that has occurred in that area. The EPA would like to use a controlled groundwater area as part of their institutional controls (ICs).

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Jim noted that Jim Foster with the Helena Valley Irrigation District will be happy to give the Board a winter tour of their facility. Jim suggested that the tour be part of the scheduled February board meeting or could be set up outside of a meeting. Jim will provide the Board with a set of dates for February to decide from.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Gary Ingman, chair