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## REGULAR MEETING September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Chairman Roy Neal called the regular district meeting to order at 7:35 pm at the USDA building in Hardin. Additional supervisors present were Steve Schanaman, Dan Kern, and Phillip Miller. Also present were Maria Hopkins, District Administrator, and Andrea Berry with MSU Extension.

Following discussion Dan K. motioned, seconded by Steve, to dispense with the reading of the August 1st, 2019 meeting minutes and approve the minutes as mailed. Motion carried – unanimous.

Maria presented the treasurer's report. The checking account has \$35,734.98; the county account as of 8/31/2019 has \$17,682.37. The following bills were presented:

MT Dept Revenue	\$125.00	August 2019 State Withholding
Maria Hopkins	\$890.09	Mileage and Expense Reimbursement
Cincinnati Insurance Company	\$70.00	Liability Insurance Premium
SWCDM	\$29.00	Microsoft Office Download
SWCDM	\$50.00	QuickBooks Download
Gabe Brown	\$508.00	Dirt to Soil Books
Stillwater CD	\$238.47	Financial Review
Payroll	\$6,927.88	August 2019 Wage
USPS	\$110.00	Stamps
Big Horn Fly and Tackle Shop	\$124.50	Flies for Area IV Meeting

Following discussion, Dan K. motioned, seconded by Steve, to approve the report and pay the bills presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

The district changed its fiscal year from calendar to July to June to match other districts and the state. Fiscal year 2019 was closed as a short year. Maria presented the Annual Financial Report. Steve motioned, seconded by Phillip, to approve the financial report. Motion carried – unanimous.

Stillwater CD district administrator completed a financial review on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The review went very well. In addition, Sharon helped set up QuickBooks for the district. No action taken.

Big Horn County is still completing their budget, so the Weed Management budget is not available. Discussion tabled until the budget is ready for review.

Supervisors are invited to a Ventenata in Big Horn County meeting on September 20th at the MSU Extension office. The meeting will go over funding options and discuss what has worked in Sheridan County, WY and what Big Horn County should do moving forward. No action taken.

The watercraft inspection station has been running very smoothly. To date, 778 boats have been checked, seven of which were high risk watercrafts and one boat was from fouled water in Wisconsin. A camera has been purchased for the station and will be installed during the upcoming week. No action taken.

The Big Horn Conservation District will host this year's MACD Area IV meeting. The meeting will be September 16th. The Big Horn County Historical Museum's program room is reserved for the day. The Methodist ladies will be making French dips with ice cream and homemade chocolate sauce for dessert. Carter Miklovich with Sioux Pass Livestock and Grain has generously donated the roasts for the lunch. Flies have been purchased from Big Horn Fly and Tackle to give to attendants of the meeting. Roy, Steve, Phillip, and Dan K will all try to attend the meeting. No action taken.

The district needs Wildlife Ramps. Roy will contact Ty Neal with Lodge Grass FFA about getting some built. Tabled until next meeting.

MACD has changed the due structure to a flat 6.5% rate. The BHCD's dues will increase \$127.83. In addition, it was noted that districts that have not paid dues will be allowed to write a letter explaining why. These letters will be reviewed, and the district will have voting power convention. BHCD has paid their dues in full and do not need to complete the letter. Hiring for the MACD director position has continued. No action taken.

There was no new Conversation Compliance Plans to present. No action taken.

MACD Convection will be held November 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> in Kalispell, MT. Steve, Dan K, Phillip, and Maria would like to attend. Steve motioned, seconded by Phillip, to call the hotel and reserve four rooms. Motion carried – unanimous.

The district has received a \$514.49 grant for the purchase of a laptop. The funds will be added to the 2020 Administrative Grant. Dan K. motioned, seconded by Steve, to sign the grant agreement. Motion carried –unanimous.

Additional grant funds are available for the district to cover administrative expenses. The district is requesting funds to increase administrator hours. Steve motioned, seconded by Phillip, to sign the grant application. Motion carried – unanimous.

Maria passed out the latest Big Horn River Alliance research update. Jim Chalmers would be happy to present the final report to the board at an upcoming meeting. We will invite him to the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for a quick 10-15-minute presentation of the project. No action taken.

310 Application, 2019-07 was reviewed. The applicant wants to repair the Big Horn River riverbank at Section 25, T65, R35E. The river is 10 feet away from their center pivot. Phillip motioned, seconded by Dan K., to approve the application as a project. Motion carried – unanimous.

The district received a request from the State of Montana Surplus Property Program to updated Signers List. Dan K motioned, seconded by Phillip, to add Roy and Maria as signers. Motion carried –unanimous.

Maria reviewed the field office report. No action taken.

As there was no response to a call for public comment and no further business to come before the meeting the chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria A. Hopkins  
District Administrator

APPROVED:



