

Montana Association of Conservation Districts
Employees Organization



ANNUAL FALL MEETING

NOVEMBER 17, 2004

Winchester Room at Cavanaugh's Outlaw Inn
Kalispell, Montana

The meeting was held in Kalispell at Cavanaugh's Outlaw Inn on Wednesday, November 17, 2004 in the Winchester Room. President Julie Goss called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m. and had everyone introduce themselves.

In attendance was Kit Sutherland, Bitterroot RC & D as facilitator for the meeting as needed. Ray Beck and Buzz Mattelin also popped in.

AREA I Pat Johnson, Valley County CD, Glasgow (Area Representative, Sec/Treas)
Lyn Guenther, Roosevelt CD, Culbertson (Area Representative)
Stan French, Daniels CD, Scobey

AREA II Julie Goss, Richland County CD, Sidney (Chairman)
Renee Nelson, Wibaux CD, Wibaux (Area Representative)

AREA III Pat Anderson, Phillips CD, Malta
Teresa Wilhelms, Judith Basin CD, Stanford (Area Representative)
Gloria Mason, Glacier CD, Cut Bank (Area Representative)
Shonny Nordlund, Fergus CD, Lewistown
Shannon Patterson, Hill County CD, Havre
Sonia Silvan, Big Sandy & Chouteau CD, Big Sandy
Chi McCuin, Pondera CD, Conrad

AREA IV Barbara Berry, Stillwater CD, Columbus, (Area Representative)
Penny Landon, Carbon CD, Joliet (Area Representative)
Laurie Kelley, Rosebud CD, Forsyth
Stephanie Fox, Treasure CD, Hysham

AREA V Jean Dunn, Green Mountain CD, Trout Creek, (Area Representative)
Patsy Meredith, Eastern Sanders CD, Plains
Vicki McGuire, Lincoln CD, Eureka
Chris Malgren, Lake CD, Ronan (Area Representative)
Karen Petersen, Granite CD, Philipsburg
Lori Zeiser, Missoula County CD, Missoula
Julie Ralston, Bitterroot CD, Hamilton
Ginger Kauffman, Flathead CD, Kalispell
Sharon Patterson, Mineral CD, Superior

AREA VI No representation

Julie asked if there needed to be any additions to the Agenda. There were none. Julie also reiterated that this meeting is open to everyone. However, only paid-up members can vote. A letter of resignation from Chris Evans was read. She is resigning as vice-president but will stay on as an area representative.

MINTUES

Chris Malgren made a motion the minutes be approved as presented. Jean Dunn seconded the motion, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Julie asked if there were any questions or discussion on the treasurers' report. There being none Chris Malgren made a motion to approve the treasurers' report. Jean Dunn seconded the motion, motion carried.

PROPOSED BUDGET

After looking over the proposed budget Chris Malgren made a motion to approve it. Jean Dunn seconded the motion, motion carried.

REPORTS

- Shonny Nordlund gave her report on the Envirothon. There were 22 teams last year. Big Timber's FFA team took first place. FFA is using the Envirothon as their state natural resource competition.
- Jean Dunn gave a report on the convention. She stated that they didn't need help with anything. Larry VanRinsum had done a lot to make this a successful convention. The Wednesday night event is being held at the Old School House Museum. There are two drink tickets attached to the Wednesday event admittance ticket. There were 4 sponsors at \$250 each for a total of \$1,000.
 - ✓ Pat Johnson stated that a thank-you had been sent to each sponsor on behalf of the EO.
 - ✓ Penny Landon suggested each CD send a thank-you.
 - ✓ MSCA is funding the music which is being provided by supervisors from Mineral CD.
 - ✓ Barb Berry suggested in the future that the thank-you card be brought to the meeting so everyone could sign it.
 - ✓ Gloria Mason stated that sponsors are looking for contacts from individual districts and recommends a thank-you come from each CD.
- Scholarships were awarded to Sharon Patterson, Mineral CD; Stan French, Daniels County CD; Shannon Patterson, Hill County CD; Shauna Clark, Petroleum County CD and Pat Johnson, Valley County CD.

There was no one in attendance to give the agency reports.

OLD BUSINESS

- Julie Goss went over high lights of the Policies and procedures.
 - ✓ Pat Johnson requested a change to the fiscal year from November 1st through October 31st to October 1st through September 30th. She requested the change so the financial report would more accurately reflect income and expenses and members would also be able to get their dues in before the fall convention so they could have voting rights. Jean Dunn made a motion to change the fiscal year to October 1st through September 30th. Chris Malgren seconded the motion, motion carried.
 - ✓ Julie went over the officers and their duties.
 - ✓ Jean Dunn asked who could vote. The answer was any **PAID** member.
 - ✓ There was some confusion over the voting so Kit Sutherland stepped in to facilitate at this time. He went around the table and asked for each person's opinion on this. The consensus was finally made that whoever is present will constitute a majority. Voting decisions will be made by a majority of those paid up members that are present at the meeting. This decision will be added at the end of the Policies and Procedures.

- ✓ There will be no more president and vice-president. Instead they will be the chairman and vice-chairman.
- ✓ The directors are now called "Area Representatives". Teresa Wilhelms stated that it is the responsibility of the area representatives to contact the Districts in their area and ask for information/questions to be brought to the meetings.
- Chris Malgren made a motion to accept the Policies and Procedures with the two changes. Teresa Wilhelms seconded the motion, motion carried. Teresa then asked for input on what we had come up with regarding changing the by-laws to "Policies and Procedures". Gloria Mason said that the time that went into getting them changed was greatly appreciated and she thanked the people that worked on it and also for thinking of the organization when they worked on it.
- It had been decided at the spring meeting that the position of secretary/treasurer would be split. Shonny was supposed to come to the fall meeting with a name or names of those interested in the position. She stated that Gloria Mason had said she would volunteer for the position for a year beginning with the spring 2005 meeting. Shonny then made a motion to appoint Gloria to that position for one year. Lyn Guenther seconded the motion, motion carried.
- Julie asked if anyone would volunteer for the vacant vice-chairman position. Vicki McGuire volunteered.
- Julie asked for an update on the employee benefit survey.
 - ✓ Jean Dunn reported that she and Laurie Zeller had been in contact. It would take a legislative change to give the districts access to the state pool and it is not an easy process.
 - ✓ Ray Beck suggested waiting to see how the resolution goes. Now is probably the time to act if this is the avenue we want to pursue. He also suggested writing a letter requesting the use of Don McIntyre's services. Barb Berry made a motion that if the resolution passes we request Don's assistance. Sonia Silvan seconded the motion, motion carried. Julie will draft a letter. Ray also thanked the administrators for all of their efforts on behalf of their conservation districts, especially in the last 6-8 months. He said the administrators are the "backbone" of the districts.
- Julie asked if there were any specific training requests besides the one on retirement.
 - ✓ Penny Landon suggested digital camera – this time geared more towards the novice user. She also said that digital pictures can be saved in Power Point.
 - ✓ Teresa Wilhelms was wondering if training should be set up in a specific area. Jean Dunn agreed but also thought the training should be offered to everyone.
 - ✓ Shonny Nordlund showed the 512mb micro drive she had acquired. She said you could store a lot of information on one of these and can carry it with you. It connects to your computer through a USB port.
 - ✓ Pat Anderson and Barb Berry will continue to work on putting together a training session on retirement to be held during the spring meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Julie is unable to attend the "Leadership Diversity Conference" being held in Dallas, Texas. Barb Berry will be attending instead. She has already applied for a \$500 scholarship through the NCDEA. Jean Dunn asked what we would benefit from someone attending this conference. Barb stated that stepping out of State and seeing what other states/districts do and how they are helping each other would be very beneficial. Jean thought Barb would be a terrific representative and made a motion to pay \$500 towards Barb's expenses. Gloria Mason seconded the motion. There

was more discussion and ^{Shannon} ~~Sharon~~ Patterson thought we should pay \$500 towards the motel; \$150 for registration, and \$100 towards meals. After more discussion Jean withdrew her motion. Chris Malgren then made a motion to pay up to \$750 for attendance at this conference. Pat Johnson seconded the motion, motion carried. Barb then thanked the EO for their generosity.

Buzz Mattelin reported that the resolution regarding the health insurance would be given to District Operations today.

Chris Malgren reported that the auxiliary has arranged for in-house manicures and pedicures beginning at 10:00 a.m. and running until 2:00 p.m. if there is enough interest.. The manicures will cost \$25 and pedicures will be \$35.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Teresa made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Shonny seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Johnson

Pat Johnson

Secretary/Treasurer