



## MACD Employees' Organization

The MACDEO Fall Board meeting was held Tuesday, November 7, 2006, at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. Meeting was called to order by Chair Teresa Wilhelms at 7:00 p.m. 41 in attendance were:

Area I	Lyn Guenther, Roosevelt CD, Culbertson (Area Representative) Shauna Clark, Petroleum CD, Winnett Pat Johnson, Valley CD, Glasgow (Area Representative) Rachel Takela, Garfield CD, Jordan Judy Benson, Sheridan CD, Plentywood
Area II	Renee Nelson, Wibaux CD, Wibaux (Area Representative) Julie Goss, Richland CD, Sidney (Area Representative) Starla Gundlach, Little Beaver CD, Baker
Area III	Gloria Mason, Glacier CD, Cut Bank (Secretary) Kody Farkell, Pondera CD, Conrad (Treasurer) Marlene Moon, Liberty CD, Chester Sara Shepard, Toole CD, Shelby Teresa Wilhelms, Judith Basin CD, Stanford (Area Representative, Chair) Shonny Nordlund, Fergus CD, Lewistown Jill Lorang, Cascade CD, Great Falls Pat Anderson, Phillips CD, Malta Shannon Patterson, Hill CD, Havre (Area Representative) Sonia Silvan, Big Sandy and Chouteau CDs, Fort Benton Shannon Sattleen, Blaine CD, Chinook John Finch, Teton CD, Choteau
Area IV	Penny Landon, Carbon CD, Joliet (Area Representative) Barbara Berry, Stillwater CD, Columbus (Area Representative) Laurie Kelley, Rosebud CD, Forsyth Rae Moreland, Treasure CD, Hysham
Area V	Lori Zeiser, Missoula CD, Missoula (Area Representative) Jean Dunn, Green Mountain CD, Thompson Falls (Area Representative) Chris Malgren, Lake CD, Ronan Julie Ralston, Bitterroot CD, Hamilton Patsy Meredith, Eastern Sanders CD, Plains
Area VI	Joy Short, Meagher CD, White Sulphur Springs (Area Representative, Vice-Chair) Chris Evans, Lewis & Clark CD, Helena (Area Representative)
DNRC/CARDD	Laurie Zeller
MACD	Buzz Mattelin Steve Hedstrom Shirley Parrott Pete Wohl Jan Fontaine
NACD	Debra Bogar
MSCA	Jane Holzer
NRCS	Dave Kascht, CD Liaison Tracy Cumber, Valley County NRCS

### Minutes:

Chris Evans made a motion to accept the minutes to the June 8, 2006 spring meeting. Penny Landon seconded. Motion passed.

### Financial Report:

Treasurer Kody Farkell reviewed the 2006 financial report and the 2007 proposed budget. Pat Johnson questioned the Gifts/Awards line item for retiring officers' gifts. She felt there should be a \$15 continuing balance in that line item. Treasurer Farkell will check into the records. A motion was made by Chris Malgren, seconded by Chris Evans to approve with correction the report and proposed budget. Passed.

**Correspondence:** None

**MACD Report - MACD Chair Buzz Mattelin:**

MACD's been struggling with the communications – hard copy vs. email. About half of the Districts work with email. What works for your CD? *MACD News and Views* - Publication date of last week of the month was recommended so CDs would have the *News* before their monthly meetings and could get copies to Supervisors without internet access. Discussion items: CDs shouldn't be burdened with additional cost to send *News* by hard mail. Another CD pays ITC monthly fee for Supervisors' hookups.

Continuing Ed – The Administrators Academy was recommended for continuing education with a request for a second Academy to be held in Billings. Supervisors' Training needs survey could be conducted to find specific subjects.

**Envirothon Report – Shonny Nordlund:**

Shonny explained the Envirothon competition for the new Administrators. 2006 event was held in April in Lewistown. A bonus this year was Mike Gurnett, FW&P, being there to film a segment for televised broadcasts over "Out Among Fish, Wildlife and Parks". The 2007 dates are April 23-24 in Lewistown with a theme of "Alternative, Renewable Energy". Thompson Falls won the MT Envirothon, with Harlowton FFA and Missoula FFA also placing. 1<sup>st</sup> Place winners receive \$500 for each team member. Registration packets were given to those CDs who haven't received it. Information includes requirements of the participants, their team instructors, competition format for the two days. There also is an Envirothon website with addresses of sponsors, etc. Students need to study before competition to be prepared. This is not a simple contest. There is no limit on numbers of teams; however, teams need to organize along the recommended guidelines.

**Administrators' Academy – Teresa Wilhelms:**

The presentations at the Academy were very educational and helpful. Thanks to MACD for presenting this program and to DNRC for the 223 grant. There was a great turnout of 29 people. Networking with the other agencies and personnel is wonderful. Jan Fontaine explained that MACD is hoping to hold the Academy as an annual event.

**New Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NACDEO**

Julie Goss made a motion to provide \$500 toward expenses for Shonny Nordlund to represent MACDEO at the NACDEO event in Nashville. Lyn Guenther seconded. Motion passed. Shonny was requested to bring back a written report on the NACDEO.

**Dave Kascht, NRCS – CD Liaison**

Questions were answered: Background checks and security information will not be sent back to CDs. OPM is doing the background checks, not NRCS. This clearance follows a check of where you've been and if you're who you say you are. Cascade CD had questions on these checks and were happy with the response received from NRCS, State Office. Kascht admitted there is a real concern on the Homeland Security issues. Some offices have "Smart Cards" with all their personnel information on them. Landlords will be responsible for janitor services, bonding, etc. The Dell computers, CCE will not be replaced.

**Laurie Zeller, DNRC –** \_\_\_\_\_

Computer equipment grants are available and computers can be replaced through NASCA. NACD District Resources are available for computer purchases, computer programs, and software. Dave Kascht also stated the equipment, etc., must be okayed by NRCS-ITS before it can be hooked to the NRCS server. ITS is now a separate entity. NRCS computer support positions might be replaced.

NRCS training plan will be coming out with courses offered in Montana. Computer courses may be taken online if Level II-E authorization is complete, and then register and NRCS personnel can give the CD access.

Question was asked if an Administrator or CD employee quits, what is the transition? NRCS requires working with the local District Conservationist about the vacancy and get a newly hired person set up properly in the system.

#### **CD Training Plans: Photo Shop (Tabled)**

Joy Short, Meagher CD, has resigned as Vice-Chair. A replacement for the remainder of her term is needed. Nominating Committee submitted Lori Zeiser, Missoula CD, and Chris Evans, Lewis and Clark CD, names for consideration. Election was by written ballot. Lori Zeiser elected and will take part in monthly Conference Call with MACD on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

#### **EO Event – Jill Lorang**

EO Event – Area III and host CDs are presenting a Horse Racing event. This is a DVD of live horse races. Play money is given out to bet with. Following the races, winnings can buy blind auction items.

#### **EO Raffle – Kody Farkell**

Tickets were sent by email for copying and for sales. Drawing for \$500 cash will be made Thursday evening.

**Old Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Education Project Handbooks – Teresa Wilhelms:**

These handbooks are being developed for each Conservation District. They are titled: 'Taking Conservation to the Schools'. The plans are to keep them updated and list all pertinent information on the individual projects:

1. Age Group,
2. Tools needed,
3. Step by Step Procedure,
4. Reactions expected per age group.

Teresa Wilhelms, Jill Lorang, and Kody Farkell will work on the handbooks.

#### **Area Director:**

Replacement needed for Joy Short. Joy has resigned her position with Meagher CD but has returned to fill the Administrator's position till someone is hired. Chris Evans was appointed to fill Joy's term as Director for Area VI.

#### **Nominating Committee:**

Shonny Nordlund, Penny Landon, Barbara Berry are the Nominating committee. They will present a slate of nominations of officers at Spring Board meeting. Election will take place at November, 2007, meeting, with officers taking position the Spring of 2008.

#### **State Technical Committee Representative:**

Lyn Guenther made a motion to appoint Jill Lorang as EO Representative on the State Technical Committee. Shonny Nordlund seconded. Motion passed.

**EO Scholarships:**

Starla Gundlach and Rachel Takela applied for the scholarships. MACDEO pays mileage and MACD pays  $\frac{1}{2}$  room expense in return for assistance with clerking duties at the Convention. Starla and Rachel will be allowed time to attend sessions their CDs are interested in. Pat Johnson made a motion to pay full mileage expense. Jan Fontaine seconded. Motion passed. Mileage bills will be submitted to MACD office.

Pat Johnson made a motion EO pay remainder of room expense for Scholarship recipients. Chris Evans seconded. Motion passed.

**Insurance – MACo-HCT:**

Laurie Zeller explained that to get CDs on the State Insurance program, they need to be administratively attached to DNRC. If that happens, CD loses control of their employees – no Supervisor direction, then the employee would come under State Jurisdiction. The \$220,000 budget addition was requested under DNRC but was not approved. It may take a lot of work to have it included in the Governor's budget. All other DNRC budget requests were approved. If this is followed up and worked on as an increase to the Governor's Budget, Districts would need to follow the suggested lead from Ray Beck.

**Luncheon with Mary Sexton:**

Chair Teresa will set up a lunch date with Mary Sexton, DNRC Director. A request will be made for her support of CDs on the local side and continued support from her office. Representatives from each Area will attend the lunch with Ms. Sexton, be informed of talking points to be familiar with. It is important that CDs express their work in areas in addition to agriculture – children, civic, etc. Those volunteering to attend:

Jean Dunn, Lori Zeiser, Barbara Berry, Penny Landon, Lyn Guenther, Julie Goss,  
Jan Fontaine, Chris Evans, Marlene Moon, Gloria Mason, Teresa Wilhelms

Pat Johnson made a motion the meeting adjourn. Motion was seconded by Chris Evans. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Mason, Secretary, MACDEO  
Administrator, Glacier Conservation District

---