



**BITTERROOT CONSERVATION DISTRICT
(BCD)
1709 NORTH FIRST STREET
HAMILTON, MONTANA 59840
DRAFT MINUTES
June 9, 2026**

Board of Supervisors regular scheduled meeting, Tuesday the 9th of June 2026, called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Jeff Mark, Chairman.

MEMBERS' PRESENT

Howard Eldredge; Mike Hansen; Joel Johnson; Jeff Mark; Kent Myers; Todd Reagan; Paul Rosenberg, Chad Sutherlin

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Tommy Dobberstein; Dan Kerslake; Bob Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brent Christis; Steve Davis; Eddie Olwell; Tim Puczkowskyj, Associate Administrator, (BCD); Julie Ralston, District Administrator, (BCD); Kimberly Richardson, MSU Ravalli County Extension Resources/Horticulture Agent (by Zoom); Kurt Vause (310 Applicant)

MINUTES

Rosenberg motioned to approve May 26th, 2026 Minutes, Myers seconded; motion carried.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. Rosenberg motioned to allow Puczkowskyj to join the 2027 Western Montana Agriculture and Grazing Conference Planning Committee. Sutherlin seconded; motion carried.
2. Myers reviewed the 310 State Committee Civil Penalties questionnaire. He felt that individuals should respond individually rather than coming to a consensus. Responses to the questionnaire are due by June 15th, 2026. Kent discussed the Civil Penalties formula and comments were made that there is a need to have a more standardized system.
3. Puczkowskyj presented information about the Alpha Anywhere database program software update. He also described an available funding opportunity being offered by Hailey Graf of DNRC for the software. Myers motioned to authorize amending of the 2024 310 C.D.A. grant to update the database software and accept funds offered by Hailey Graf of DNRC. Rosenberg seconded; motion carried.
4. Steve Davis presented Julie Ralston with a retirement gift.
5. Mark presented the most recent No-Till Drill Rental Program income and expenses. A report will be sent out showing the number of acres and crops planted.
6. Draft Adopted Rules and Appendix Public Hearing comments will be reviewed and sent to Hailey Graf, DNRC 310 Specialist. Her feedback will be considered when the Board proceeds to continue drafting or adopting the new rules and appendix.

BCD COST-SHARE/EDUCATION/GRANT PROGRAMS

1. Rosenberg motioned to extend cost share contract Vaccaro CS-008-2026 for 1 year until June 30th, 2027. Reagan seconded; motion carried.
2. Rosenberg motioned to name and establish The Tom Raffato Education Scholarship, which was and will be awarded to the runner up of the Vogt Scholarship when there are two closely scored, high achieving applicants. The awardee will have the same requirements as the Vogt Scholarship, but it will be a 1-year award verses 4-year. Reagan seconded; motion carried.

BCD COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Myers, Open Lands Board.
 - a. Open lands Board meeting will be on June 18th, 2026.
2. Reagan, Education Committee.
 - a. Reagan said “he received a quote to install a wrap on the Watershed Trailer. The business, Grizzly Creations, quoted the work at less than \$1000.” The next step will be to find a workspace to dismantle, repair, and maintain the Watershed Trailer. It will need to be in the shop for one to two weeks. Rosenberg offered the use of his garage to do the repairs. The Board made suggestions on what graphics should be included on the wrap and questioned what the logo will look like and where on the trailer it should be placed. A quote on the cost of parts is needed before proceeding with the work.
3. Rosenberg, Scholarship Committee.
 - a. Nothing new to report

PARTNER REPORTS

1. Kimberly Richardson, MSU Ravalli County Extension Resources/Horticulture Agent.
 - a. 7B Farmstead Pasture Tour + Noxious Weed ID, 9:30AM – 12:00PM, 26th of June, 2026.
 - b. Nitrate tests will be starting to arrive at the County Extension office for hay testing.
 - c. Ag News and Brews is officially done for the year but will start again next year.
2. DNRC June CD Report.

NOTICES

1. 7B Farmstead Pasture Tour + Noxious Weed ID, 9:30AM – 12:00PM, 26th of June, 2026.
2. Notice of Department of Livestock Rulemaking.
3. DNRC Public Notice & Public Comment Period: proposing to grant a change to an application’s water rights. Public comment deadline is June 20, 2026.
4. NACD Update on Recent Congressional and Executive Actions.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 310 Application BT027-2026 Doug Gannett/Mitchell Slough-permanent ford crossing. (Dobberstein, Eldredge). Dobberstein’s field report read the crossing is under cut on the Eastside. Sutherlin motioned to approve with the modifications of cobbling the Eastside approach with 3’- 4’ rock and a 15-day waiver. Reagan seconded; motion carried.
2. 310 Complaint BT033-2026 Brad Johnson against Summit Heating & Cooling Inc./Christisen Creek-digging in the creek without a permit. (Reagan, Hansen). Tabled until more evidence can be obtained.
3. 310 Application BT039-2026 Gregory Scott Turner/Bear Creek-repair and replacement of an existing bridge crossing. (Dobberstein, Eldredge). Rosenberg motioned to approve as proposed. Reagan seconded; motion carried.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

1. Verification of Project Completion - 310 Application BT068-2025 Levi Petroff/North Burnt Fork Creek-Septic Pipe crossing (Sutherlin, Kerslake)
2. Verification of Project Completion – 310 Applications BT050-2023, BT046-2024, BT030-2024, BT029-2024, BT028-2024, BT027-2024, BT026-2024, BT018-2024, BT017-2024, BT016-2024, BT045-2025, BT009-2025/ Grizzley Broadband/Multiple Streams.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 310 Application BT040-2026 Michael Mang, ADB Companies, LLC/Bitterroot River-utility bore crossings. (Mark, Myers, Reagan, Hansen) Mark made the recommendation to double the scour depth. Mark motioned to approve as proposed. Myers seconded; motion carried.
2. 10-year 310 Application BT041-2026 John Lewis/East Channel Bitterroot River-annual installation and removal of steel irrigation diversion. (Dobberstein, Eldredge) Tabled for site visit.
3. 310 Complaint BT042-2026 Berro against Perkins/Pine Hollow Creek-excavation of a road across a stream without a 310 permit. (Sutherlin, Kerslake) Tabled for site visit.
4. 310 Application BT043-2026 Logan Stahly/Big Creek Lake/Replacement of slide gate and dam repairs. (Sutherlin, Kerslake). Sutherlin motioned to approve as proposed. Myers seconded; motion carried.
5. 310 Application BT044-2026 Ravalli Electric Cooperative/ Deep Creek/ Directional Boring Utilities (Dobberstein, Eldredge). Eldredge recommended to approve as proposed. Myers motioned to approve as proposed. Rosenberg seconded; motion carried
6. 10-year 310 Application BT045-2026 Gerlinger Ditch Users/Bitterroot River – Irrigation diversion blocks (Dobberstein, Eldredge) Mark motioned to approve as proposed. Sutherlin seconded; motion carried.
7. 310 Application BT046-2026 Grizzly Broadband/ Multiple Creeks/ Directional Boring Utilities (Sutherlin, Kerslake) Tabled for next meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC OPEN MIC

DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Rosenberg motioned to approve County checks 107285-107292. Myers seconded; motion carried.
2. BCD Credit Card for Puczkowskyj/Supervisors. The board will fill out the needed forms to obtain a new credit card for BCD.
3. Mark motioned to approve Ralston retain the (Ralston) BCD credit card rewards check. Rosenberg seconded; motion carried.
4. Mileage and Per Diem reminder

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

1. District Dirt: Petroleum County Conservation District.
2. Bitter Root Land Trust thank you letter

Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm

The next BCD Board meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, the 30th of June 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Kent R. Myers

Jeff Mark, Chairman

T. Puczkowskyj

Tim Puczkowskyj, District Administrator Assistant

Kent Myers, Vice Chair

Date: 06-30-2026