

## **Flood Control Committee**

### **April 11, 2013**

The **Flood Control Committee** met Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Members John Hollowell, Jerry Partridge, Susanne Galbraith, and Dwayne Andrews. Also present were Floodplain Administrator Sam Malenovsky, Representative from KLJ, Carl Jackson, Mayor C.A. Grenz and Recorder HR/Payroll Officer Billie Burkhalter.

Committee Member Andrews thanked all the people who were in attendance as this was a very important issue to the community.

#### **1. Update on Association of Montana Flood Plain Managers Conference of March 26-28**

Administrator Malenovsky informed the Committee that she had attended the Association of Montana State Flood Plain Managers Conference (AMFM) where she was chosen to be the Eastern Montana Regional Director for AMFM and will represent the Floodplain Directors on the eastern side of the State. During these conferences DNRC and the Silver Jackets showed a lot of interest and support in Miles City's floodplain issues. Administrator Malenovsky explained the "Silver Jackets" are a group of members that consist of the United States Corps of Engineers (USACE), Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC), Fish Wildlife & Parks, and Disaster and Emergency Services (DES).

Administrator Malenovsky explained the Silver Jackets could assist with funding with a Floodplain Management Plan that would not require a City match. A Floodplain Management Plan could incorporate three different parts; an Emergency Assistance Plan, a Natural Beneficial Functions of Floodplain Plan, and a Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan could earn the City up to 482 Community Rating System (CRS) credit points, which would help Miles City obtain its goal of becoming a Class 6 or 7. Administrator Malenovsky stated Miles City is currently rated at a Class 9, but is hoping to move to a Class 8 soon. She further explained that "CRS" is a rating system that awards credits based off the City doing extra steps to help inform the community of flood issues and insurance problems. These credits can reduce flood insurance premiums.

Administrator Malenovsky stated a Comprehensive Plan could include items such as bringing the levy up to code to be FEMA certified, doing a nonstructural project, looking at the slough being used as a bypass system, modifying the water way itself, finding deficiencies in the Tongue River and also identifying specific sources of flooding and possible mitigation strategies to alleviate or reduce flood damages if the City ever flooded.

Administrator Malenovsky explained the City can also receive monies and grants through other revenues. An example would be an HMPG Grant where, if the City had a Red Cross approved emergency shelter, it could obtain generators and dry flood proof that building.

## **2. Update on Other Flood Related Issues**

Administrator Malenovsky explained the USACE has three different program opportunities; Section 22, Section 205 and General Investigations. Section 22, helps provide planning assistance. Section 205 is also for planning assistance and helps pay for construction costs. General Investigations would provide for a large amount of money to help the City with the issues of the floodplain, levy and dike. Currently they are waiting on a meeting with the USACE and DNRC for guidance on these three programs. They will also be setting up a phone conference with DNRC and USACE regarding Floodplain Management with the Silver Jackets. Regarding the Floodplain Feasibility Study, eligibility for grants will open up in July, and it will depend on the agency if the City is eligible for those grants or not.

Carol Hardesty, 412 S. Merriam, questioned whether most of these programs are available after the Feasibility Study. Administrator Malenovsky replied that not all of them are, some of them could go hand in hand with the Study, such as the Floodplain Management Plan being reviewed to see if the Feasibility Study's scope of work can be applied to offset the cost.

Terri Schmidt, 50 Spruce Drive, asked if Miles City was the only town the Silver Jackets were working with. Administrator Malenovsky stated that they are currently working with Forsyth and are looking at Glasgow also. The Silver Jackets have only been established in Montana for two years.

Dawn Leidholt, 58 Canyon View Drive, clarified that this was not a loan. Administrator Malenovsky agreed, stating this is not a loan or a grant; it is dependent upon the Silver Jackets determining how valuable the project is to the community and if it meets with their approval

Mike Coryell, 110 Neu Vu, questioned what the maximum amount of money is that the City would be provided from Silver Jackets. Administrator Malenovsky explained that it could be anywhere from \$100,000 to \$120,000.

Committee Member Andrews stated that right now it is so critical to keep the public informed, as there is so much information concerning the floodplain. He would recommend more Flood Control meetings be held to keep up on the information and to keep the public informed.

## **3. Requests of Citizens**

-none

**4. Adjournment**

**\*\*** *Committee Member Galbraith moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Partridge and passed unanimously, 4-0.*

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Flood Control Committee Chairperson



Billie D. Burkhalter, Recorder



John Hollowell, Chairperson