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http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/1/85-1-102.htm

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- **85-1-102. Definitions.** Unless the context requires otherwise, in this chapter, the following definitions apply:
 - (1) "Administrative costs" means costs incurred by the department:
 - (a) for the purpose of protecting the department's properties and assets;
 - (b) to oversee the operation and maintenance of the projects;
 - (c) to administer contracts and receivables;
 - (d) to maintain project financial records;
- (e) to provide technical assistance for operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating the projects; and
 - (f) to assist in securing funds for operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating the projects.
- (2) "Cost of operation and maintenance" means the costs of operation, maintenance, and routine repairs and the costs incurred by the water users' association or the department in the distribution of water from the project, excluding the department's administrative costs.
 - (3) "Cost of works" means:
 - (a) the cost of construction, including any rehabilitation or alteration of the project;
- (b) the cost of all lands, property, rights, easements, and franchises acquired that are considered necessary for the construction;
- (c) the cost of all water rights acquired or exercised by the department in connection with the works;
- (d) the cost of all machinery and equipment, financing charges, and interest prior to and during construction and for a period not exceeding 3 years after the completion of construction;
- (e) the cost of engineering and legal services, plans, specifications, surveys, estimates of cost, and other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of any project;
 - (f) administrative expense; and

- (g) other expenses that are necessary or incident to the financing authorized in this part and the construction of the works and the placing of the works in operation.
- (4) "Department" means the department of natural resources and conservation provided for in Title 2, chapter 15, part 33.
- (5) "Owner" means all <u>individuals</u>, <u>irrigation districts</u>, drainage districts, flood control districts, incorporated companies, societies, or associations that have <u>any title or interest</u> in any properties, rights, easements, or franchises to be acquired.
- (6) (a) "Private person" means any individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other nongovernmental entity that is not eligible for loans and grants under <u>85-1-605</u>.
- (b) The term does not include a governmental entity, such as an agency, local government, or political subdivision of the state, the United States, or any agency of the United States, or any other governmental entity.
- (7) "Project" means any one of the works defined in this section or any combination of works that are physically connected or jointly managed and operated as a single unit.
- (8) "Public benefits" means those benefits that accrue from a water development project or activity to persons other than the private grant or loan recipient and that enhance the common well-being of the people of Montana. Public benefits include but are not limited to recreation, flood control, erosion reduction, agricultural flood damage reduction, water quality enhancement, sediment reduction, access to recreation opportunities, and wildlife conservation.
- (9) "Renewable resource loan debt service fund" means a separate fund created by <u>85-1-603</u> within the debt service fund type of the state treasury, to be used as provided in <u>85-1-619</u>.
- (10) "Renewable resource loan proceeds account" means a separate account created by <u>85-1-617</u> within the state special revenue fund of the state treasury to:
- (a) finance loans under the provisions of the renewable resource grant and loan program to agencies, local governments, and political subdivisions of the state, to private persons, and to any other eligible recipients; and
- (b) purchase liens and operate property, as provided in <u>85-1-615</u>, from proceeds of bonds issued under part 6 of this chapter.
- (11) "Tribal government" means the officially recognized government of an Indian tribe, nation, or other organized group or community that is located in Montana, that exercises self-government powers, and that is recognized as eligible for those services that are provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.
- (12) "Water development activity" means an action or program to protect and enhance water-based recreation or to protect or enhance water resources for the benefit of agriculture, flood control, or other uses, including but not limited to the promotion of efficient use of water in agriculture, the improvement of water quality in agriculture and other nonpoint source uses, the protection and enhancement of water-based recreation, the control of erosion of streambanks and control of sedimentation in rivers and streams, and the provision of greater local and state control of Montana's water resources. Water development activities may provide any combination of marketable and nonmarketable benefits.
- (13) "Water development project" means a project as defined in subsection (7), except that water development projects:
 - (a) are not limited to projects owned or operated by the department; and

- (b) for purposes of the renewable resource grant and loan program, must include water development activities.
- (14) (a) "Works" means all property and rights, easements, and franchises relating to property and considered necessary or convenient for the operation of the works and all water rights acquired or exercised by the department in connection with those works.
 - (b) The term includes:
- (i) all means of conserving and distributing water, including but not limited to reservoirs, dams, diversion canals, distributing canals, waste canals, drainage canals, dikes, lateral ditches and pumping units, mains, pipelines, and waterworks systems; and
- (ii) all works for the conservation, development, storage, distribution, and utilization of water, **including but not limited to works for the purpose of irrigation**, flood prevention, drainage, fish and wildlife, recreation, development of power, watering of stock, and supplying water for public, domestic, industrial, or other uses and for fire protection.

History: En. Sec. 2, Ch. 35, Ex. L. 1933; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 95, L. 1935; re-en. Sec. 349.2, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 163, L. 1965; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 158, L. 1967; amd. Sec. 120, Ch. 253, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1947, 89-102(part); amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 505, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 29, Ch. 298, L. 1983; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 332, L. 1987; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 491, L. 1989; amd. Sec. 8, Ch. 478, L. 1993; amd. Sec. 71, Ch. 18, L. 1995; amd. Sec. 415, Ch. 418, L. 1995; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 436, L. 1997; amd. Sec. 14, Ch. 432, L. 2007.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/85_7.htm

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http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-101.htm

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85-7-101. Creation of irrigation districts by percentage of titleholders. (1) Sixty per centum in number of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands sought to be included in an irrigation district and which are susceptible of irrigation, such holders of title or evidence of title also representing 60% of the acreage of said lands, may propose the establishment and organization of an irrigation district under the provisions of this part and part 15. When any of such land sought to be included in such irrigation district is covered by mortgage or other lien, then the owner or owners of such land shall first procure the written consent of the holder of such mortgage or other lien before proposing the establishment and organization of such irrigation district.

(2) Irrigation districts may be formed in order to cooperate with the United States under the federal reclamation laws heretofore or hereafter enacted or under any act of congress which shall permit of the performance by the United States of work in this state for the purposes of construction of irrigation works, including drainage works, or for purchase, extension, operation, or maintenance of constructed works or for the assumption, as principal or guarantor, of indebtedness to the United States on account of district lands. When so organized, such district shall have the powers conferred or that may hereafter be conferred by law upon such irrigation district. In all irrigation districts organized in connection with United States reclamation projects, a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands sought to be included in such irrigation district under the provisions of this part may propose the establishment and organization of such district.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 116, L. 1919; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1921; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 157, L. 1923; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 112, L. 1925; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 15, Ch. 280, L. 1965; amd. Sec. 164, Ch. 253, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1201(1).

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-102.htm

85-7-102. Evidence of title. (1) The following documents are sufficient evidence of title for the purpose of this chapter:

- (a) the certificate of the county clerk and recorder;
- (b) the certificate of the department of natural resources and conservation; or
- (c) records of ownership prepared by licensed title insurance producers.
- (2) When lands have been purchased from the state and part or all of the purchase money has been paid but the patents or deeds from the state to the lands have not been issued, the receipt or receipts held by the purchasers or the certificate of the department showing the payments on account of purchase is evidence of title to the lands under this chapter.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 116, L. 1919; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1921; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 157, L. 1923; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 112, L. 1925; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 15, Ch. 280, L. 1965; amd. Sec. 164, Ch. 253, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1201(2); amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 382, L. 1987; amd. Sec. 59, Ch. 16, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 479, Ch. 418, L. 1995.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-103.htm

85-7-103. Report by department of natural resources and conservation required. (1) Before any such district shall be established, there shall be presented to the district court, at the hearing on the petition for such establishment, a written report or opinion from the department of natural resources and conservation on the engineering features involved and the possibilities of water supplies, accompanied by a copy of the decree of the district court showing the adjudicated water rights in said streams from which said waters are to be diverted. For this purpose, a copy of the petition provided for in 85-7-104 and of all maps and other papers filed with the same shall be filed with the department at the time the original petition is filed with the clerk of the district court. The expense, if any, incurred by the department in the investigation and report upon the proposed district shall be certified with the report and shall be assessed as costs in said hearing, which costs shall be paid by the district in event of its establishment, and in event such petition be denied, then such costs shall be paid by the petitioners. The department shall, within a period of 120 days from the filing of said petition with the department, render its report, as herein provided, to the district court.

(2) Such report or opinion shall not be requested or obtained and shall not be necessary whenever it is proposed to cooperate with the United States under the federal reclamation laws heretofore or hereafter enacted or under any act of congress which shall permit of the performance by the United States of work in this state for the purposes of construction of irrigation works, including drainage works, or for purchase, extension, operation, or maintenance of constructed works or for the assumption, as principal or guarantor, of indebtedness to the United States on account of district laws.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 116, L. 1919; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1921; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 157, L. 1923; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 112, L. 1925; re-en. Sec. 7166, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 15, Ch. 280, L. 1965; amd. Sec. 164, Ch. 253, L. 1974; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1201(3).

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-109.htm

85-7-109. Irrigation district as public corporation. Every irrigation district so established is a public corporation for the promotion of the public welfare, and the lands included therein shall constitute all the taxable and assessable property of such district for the purposes of this chapter.

History: En. Sec. 4, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 116, L. 1919; re-en. Sec. 7169, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 7169, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 15, Ch. 460, L. 1977; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1204(7).

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/35_2_1.htm

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35-2-126. Designation of status of nonprofit corporations. (1) A domestic corporation must be designated as either **a public benefit**, mutual benefit, or religious **corporation**. The specific designation of a corporation is as follows:

- (a) A corporation designated by its articles of incorporation as a public benefit corporation, a mutual benefit corporation, or a religious corporation is the type of corporation designated by its articles of incorporation.
- (b) A corporation that is not designated by its articles of incorporation as a public benefit corporation, a mutual benefit corporation, or religious corporation is the type of corporation designated in the annual report filed in 1995.
- (2) A foreign corporation must be designated as either a foreign public benefit, foreign mutual benefit, or foreign religious corporation. The specific designation of a corporation is as follows:
- (a) A foreign corporation designated by its articles of incorporation as a public benefit corporation, mutual benefit corporation, or religious corporation is the type of foreign corporation designated by its articles of incorporation.
- (b) A foreign corporation not designated as provided in subsection (2)(a), but designated in its application for a certificate of authority, or any amendments of the application, as a public benefit corporation, mutual benefit corporation, or religious corporation is the type of foreign corporation it designated in its application for a certificate of authority.
- (c) A foreign corporation not designated as provided in subsection (2)(a) or (2)(b) is the type of corporation it designated in the annual report filed in 1995.

History: En. Sec. 16, Ch. 411, L. 1991.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/35_2_2.htm

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http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/35/2/35-2-213.htm

35-2-213. Articles of incorporation. (1) The articles of incorporation must set forth:

- (a) a corporate name for the corporation that satisfies the requirements of 35-2-305;
- (b) a statement that:
- (i) the corporation is a public benefit corporation;
- (ii) the corporation is a mutual benefit corporation; or
- (iii) the corporation is a religious corporation;
- (c) the information required by 35-7-105(1);
- (d) the name and business mailing address of each incorporator;
- (e) whether or not the corporation will have members; and
- (f) provisions consistent with law regarding the distribution of assets on dissolution.
- (2) The articles of incorporation may set forth:
- (a) the purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized, which may be, either alone or in combination with other purposes, the transaction of any lawful activity;
- (b) the names and business mailing addresses of the individuals who are to serve as the initial directors:
 - (c) provisions consistent with law regarding:
 - (i) managing and regulating the affairs of the corporation;
- (ii) defining, limiting, and regulating the powers of the corporation, its board of directors, its members, or any class of members; and
- (iii) the characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations attaching to each or any class of members;
- (d) any provision that under this chapter is required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws; and
- (e) provisions eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or members of the corporation for monetary damages for breach of a director's duties to the corporation and its members, provided that the provision may not eliminate or limit the liability of a director:
- (i) for a breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its members;
- (ii) <u>for acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;</u>
- (iii) for a transaction from which a director derived an improper personal economic benefit; or
 - (iv) under 35-2-418, 35-2-435, or 35-2-436.
- (3) A provision referred to in subsection (2)(e) may not eliminate or limit the liability of a director for any act or omission occurring prior to the date when the provision becomes effective.

- (4) Each incorporator and director named in the articles shall sign the articles.
- (5) The articles of incorporation need not set forth any of the corporate powers enumerated in this chapter.

History: En. Sec. 22, Ch. 411, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 37, Ch. 240, L. 2007; amd. Sec. 12, Ch. 26, L. 2011.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/35/2/35-2-217.htm

- **35-2-217. Bylaws**. (1) The incorporators or board of directors of a corporation shall adopt bylaws for the corporation.
- (2) The bylaws may contain any provision for regulating and managing the affairs of the corporation consistent with law or the articles of incorporation.

History: En. Sec. 26, Ch. 411, L. 1991.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/35/2/35-2-222.htm

- **35-2-222. Amendment by directors**. (1) Unless the articles provide otherwise, a corporation's board of directors may adopt one or more amendments to the corporation's articles without member approval:
- (a) to extend the duration of the corporation if it was incorporated at a time when limited duration was required by law;
 - (b) to delete the names and addresses of the initial directors;
 - (c) to change the information required by 35-7-105(1);
- (d) to change the corporate name by substituting the word "corporation", "incorporated", "company", "limited", or the abbreviation "corp.", "inc.", "co.", or "ltd." for a similar word or abbreviation in the name or by adding, deleting, or changing a geographical attribution to the name; or
- (e) to make any other change expressly permitted by this chapter to be made by action of the board of directors.
- (2) If a corporation has no members, its incorporators, until directors have been chosen, and later its board of directors may adopt one or more amendments to the corporation's articles subject to any approval required pursuant to 35-2-232. The corporation shall provide notice of any meeting at which an amendment is to be voted upon. The notice must be in accordance with 35-2-429(3). The notice must also state that the purpose or one of the purposes of the meeting is to consider a proposed amendment to the articles and must contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the amendment or state the general nature of the amendment. The amendment must be approved by a majority of the directors in office at the time the amendment is adopted.

History: En. Sec. 111, Ch. 411, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 38, Ch. 240, L. 2007.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/35/2/35-2-229.htm

35-2-229. Amendment by directors. If a corporation does not have members, its incorporators, until directors have been chosen, and later its board of directors may adopt one

or more <u>amendments to the corporation's bylaws</u> subject to any approval required pursuant to 35-2-232. The corporation shall provide notice of any meeting of directors at which an amendment is to be approved. The notice must be in accordance with 35-2-429(3). The notice must also state that the purpose or one of the purposes of the meeting is to consider a proposed amendment to the bylaws and contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the amendment or state the general nature of the amendment. The amendment must be approved by a majority of the directors in office at the time the amendment is adopted.

History: En. Sec. 118, Ch. 411, L. 1991.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/35/2/35-2-230.htm

35-2-230. Amendment by directors and members. (1) Unless this chapter, the articles, the bylaws, the members acting pursuant to subsection (2), or the board of directors acting pursuant to subsection (3) require a greater vote or voting by class to be adopted, an amendment to a corporation's bylaws must be approved:

(a) by the board if the corporation is a public benefit

corporation or religious corporation and the amendment does not relate to the number of directors, the composition of the board, the term of office of directors, or the method or way in which directors are elected or selected;

- (b) by the members by two-thirds of the votes cast or a majority of the voting power, whichever is less; or
- (c) in writing by any person or persons whose approval is required by a provision of the articles, as authorized by 35-2-232.
- (2) The members may condition the amendment's adoption on its receipt of a higher percentage of affirmative votes or on any other basis.
- (3) If the board initiates an amendment to the bylaws or if board approval is required by subsection (1)(a) to adopt an amendment to the bylaws, the board may condition the amendment's adoption on receipt of a higher percentage of affirmative votes or on any other basis.
- (4) If the board or the members seek to have the amendment approved by the members at a membership meeting, the corporation shall give notice to its members of the proposed membership meeting in writing in accordance with 35-2-530. The notice must also state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the proposed amendment and must contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the amendment.
- (5) If the board or the members seek to have the amendment approved by the members by written consent or written ballot, the material soliciting the approval must contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the amendment.

History: En. Sec. 119, Ch. 411, L. 1991.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/85_7_17.htm

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http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-1702.htm

85-7-1702. Election or appointment of commissioners -- term of office. (1) The election for commissioners in each district must be held annually in accordance with Title 13, chapter 1, part 5.

- (2) A person eligible to vote in the district may file a declaration of candidacy for the office of commissioner with the election administrator or deputy election administrator within the time period specified in 13-1-502.
- (3) Within 40 days following their election, the commissioners shall meet and organize as a board by electing a president from their number and a secretary, who may or may not be a commissioner, who shall each hold office at the pleasure of the board. The term of office of each commissioner begins on the date of the election.

(4) Commissioners are elected by the electors of the entire district.

History: En. Sec. 11, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 4, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 3, L. 1921; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 7, Ex. L. 1921; re-en. Sec. 7176, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 7176, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 302, L. 1977; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1303(part); amd. Sec. 370, Ch. 571, L. 1979; amd. Sec. 9, Ch. 27, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 40, Ch. 250, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 269, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 11, Ch. 254, L. 1999; amd. Sec. 246, Ch. 49, L. 2015.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-1710.htm

85-7-1710. Qualification of electors and nature of voting rights. (1) At all elections held under the provisions of this part, except as otherwise expressly provided, the following holders of title or evidence of title to irrigable lands within the district, designated "electors", are entitled to vote:

- (a) all individuals having the qualifications of electors under the constitution and general election laws of the state, except that registration of electors and county residency may not be required;
 - (b) guardians, executors, administrators, and trustees;
 - (c) domestic corporations, by their duly authorized agents.
- (2) In all elections held under this part, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each acre of irrigable land or major fraction of an acre owned by the elector within the district, irrespective of the location of the irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within congressional subdivisions, platted lots or blocks except as otherwise provided for, election precincts, or district divisions, but any elector owning any less than 1 acre of irrigable land is entitled to one vote. Until the irrigable area under the proposed plan of reclamation is determined, all land included within the boundaries of the district must be considered irrigable land for election purposes.
- (3) Whenever land is owned by co-owners, the owners may designate one of their number or an agent to cast the vote for the owners. Whenever the land is owned by a single owner, the owner may designate an agent to cast the vote. Only one vote may be cast for each acre of irrigable land or major fraction of an acre by the voting co-owner or by an agent. Whenever land is under contract of sale to a purchaser residing within the state, the purchaser may vote on behalf of the owner of the land. When voting, the agent of a corporation, of a single owner or co-owners, of the co-owner designated for the purpose of voting, or of the purchaser of land under contract of sale shall file with the secretary of the district or with the election officials a written instrument of the agent's authority, executed and acknowledged by the proper officers of the corporation, by the single owner or co-owners, or by the owner of land under contract of sale, and upon filing, the agent or co-owner or purchaser is an elector within the meaning of this part.
 - (4) The board of commissioners shall choose one of the following methods of balloting:
- (a) for 10 votes or less, separate ballots must be used, and for more than 10 votes, the elector shall vote in blocks of 10 using one ballot for each 10 votes and separate ballots for odd votes over multiples of 10; or

(b) the elector shall submit a ballot that includes the number of acres owned and the number of votes being cast.

History: En. Sec. 19, Ch. 146, L. 1909; re-en. Sec. 7184, R.C.M. 1921; amd. Sec. 6, Ch. 157, L. 1923; re-en. Sec. 7184, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 164, L. 1953; amd. Sec. 19, Ch. 460, L. 1977; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1311; amd. Sec. 371, Ch. 571, L. 1979; amd. Sec. 10, Ch. 27, L. 1981; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 261, L. 1983; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 584, L. 1989; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 191, L. 1993; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 134, L. 2013.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-1712.htm

85-7-1712. Call for election. The board of commissioners may at any time call an election and submit to the qualified electors of the district any question which under the provisions of this chapter is required or which, in the judgment of the board, is proper to be submitted to popular vote. The election must be called by resolution and conducted in accordance with Title 13, chapter 1, part 5.

History: En. Sec. 21, Ch. 146, L. 1909; re-en. Sec. 7186, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 7186, R.C.M. 1935; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1313; amd. Sec. 372, Ch. 571, L. 1979; amd. Sec. 247, Ch. 49, L. 2015.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-1713.htm

85-7-1713. Where documents to be filed and proceedings to be held. Where the lands of a district lie within more than one county, all petitions, papers, documents, or other instruments shall be filed and proceedings had in the county in which the office of the board is established.

History: En. Sec. 22, Ch. 146, L. 1909; re-en. Sec. 7187, R.C.M. 1921; re-en. Sec. 7187, R.C.M. 1935; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1314; amd. Sec. 6, Ch. 112, L. 1981.

http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/85_7_19.htm

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http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/85/7/85-7-1906.htm

- 85-7-1906. Relations with United States. (1) For the purpose of acquiring control over government land within the district and of complying with the provisions of the act of congress of August 11, 1916, the board shall have authority to make such investigations and base thereon such representations and assurances to the secretary of the interior as may be requisite.
- (2) The board may enter into any obligation or contract with the United States: (a) for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the necessary works for the delivery and distribution of water therefrom and the necessary drainage works;
- (b) for the assumption, as principal or guarantor, of indebtedness to the United States on account of district lands, under the provisions of the federal Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, and the rules and regulations established thereunder; or

(c) for a water supply under any act of congress providing for or permitting such contract.

(3) In case contract has been or may hereafter be made with the United States as herein provided, bonds of the district may be deposited with the United States at 90% of their par value, to the amount to be paid by the district to the United States under any such contract. The interest on said bonds of the district and regularly paid to the United States is to be applied as provided in such contract. If bonds of the district are not so deposited, it shall be the duty of the board of commissioners to include, as part of any levy or assessment provided for in 85-7-2101 or 85-7-2132, an amount sufficient to meet each year all payments accruing under the terms of any such contract. The board may accept, on behalf of the district, appointment of the district as fiscal agent of the United States or authorization of the district by the United States to make collections of money for or on behalf of the United States in connection with any federal reclamation project, whereupon the district shall be authorized to so act and to assume the duties and liabilities incident to such action. The board shall have full power to do all things required by the federal statutes now or hereafter enacted in connection therewith and all things required by the rules and regulations now or that may hereafter be established by any department of the federal government in regard thereto, including the power to require the prompt payment of all charges as prerequisite to water service.

History: En. Sec. 9, Ch. 146, L. 1909; amd. Sec. 2, Ch. 145, L. 1915; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 153, L. 1917; amd. Sec. 3, Ch. 116, L. 1919; re-en. Sec. 7174, R.C.M. 1921; amd. Sec. 4, Ch. 157, L. 1923; re-en. Sec. 7174, R.C.M. 1935; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 111, L. 1973; amd. Sec. 1, Ch. 307, L. 1975; R.C.M. 1947, 89-1301(6), (7); amd. Sec. 5, Ch. 326, L. 1979.