



Meeting Minutes October 18th, 2023

Supervisors Present	Employees Present
Nancy Mehaffie-Chair	Morgan Owens
Mary Reed	Advisors Present
Kristen Wing	Jason Blakney (zoom)
Bill Naegeli	
Terry Hightower	
Associate Supervisors Present	Visitors Present
Mindy Ferrell	Mark Sommers (zoom)
Visitors Present	Mike and Barbara Normandin (zoom)
Roscoe Kronfuss	

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda items not always taken in order that they appear.

INTRODUCTIONS

- This meeting will be recorded.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES FROM September 20th, 2023 MEETING

- Approved as submitted by email

310 ACTIVITIES

SW-08-23 NESTE- Completion

- Motion to accept project as complete made by Bill, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.

SW-20-23 Normandin

- There was a discussion about the changes that were recommended to the property owners at the site visit. There will still be excavation and rip rap use, but on a smaller scale.
- Motion made to approve the permit with modifications from the field visit made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.

There was a discussion about possible 310 violations up Prospect Creek on the Thompson Reservoir. A letter will be sent to the property owner to notify them of the possible violation and a site visit will be scheduled. There was discussion about the beaver dam being created at the Wild Coyote Saloon up Prospect Creek and contact will be made to the owner of the business about solutions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The financial report was reviewed in its entirety.
- A motion to approve the financial report for October 2023 was made by Kristen, 2nd by Mary. Motion carries.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Area 5 meeting in Phillipsburg went well. Nancy, Bill, Kristen and Morgan all were in attendance and gave a short blurb about the experience. We talked about the fact that it is our turn to host next year and what all that entails for our district.
- A motion was made to host next year's Area 5 meeting on September 26, 2024 was made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.

LOWER CLARK FORK WATERSHED GROUP (LCFWG) REPORT

- No Report

MONTANA FWP

- No Report- Gave input on SW-20-23 and information on the possible 310 violations up Prospect Creek.

NRCS

- October 27 th is the deadline for putting in applications for our EQIP and CSP programs for FY24.
- If you know of anyone interested in doing forestry work that will benefit white pine, anybody that might be interested in using cover crops for hayland renovations, or folks interested in installing high tunnels, send them my way.
- Working through initial site visits on the applications we have received so far. Mixture of interest in thinning for white pine, high tunnels, and cover crops.
- Working on Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) on a few properties for plant identification and pasture management recommendations. Also getting a few calls to do site visits on improving irrigation systems.
- Administering a number of active contracts
- Helped with the Water Fest, Ag Days, and Forest Fest.
- Will be on vacation October 23-27 th . Jamie will still be in the office if people are bringing in applications for our programs.

AVISTA UTILITIES UPDATE

- No Report

NORTH WESTERN ENERGY (NWE) UPDATE

- Mark Sommers gave update on FERC licensing and draw down effects on the land. (sloughing and erosion)

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Watershed Festival and Ag days were both a huge success. A big shout out to Emily Baker of ESCD for taking the lead on the festival and connecting with Wendy Carr to be able to participate in Ag Days. Between the two days, we taught 7 different topics in relation to conservation including pollination, fish identification, rolling rivers bank stabilization importance and more to over 200 kids across all of Sanders County.

SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYEE EDUCATION

OLD BUSINESS

- FERC licensing covered under NEW report

BUILDING REPAIR/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

NEW BUSINESS

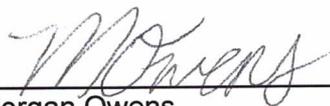
- We talked about the MACD state conference travel, what the days include and discussed on voted on each of the resolutions.
- Mindy Ferrill suggested car-pooling to save the district money on mileage.
- A motion was made fill out a scholarship through MACD to cover Bill's room and mileage for the state conference, 2nd by Terry. Nancy and Mary oppose. Motion carries.

- A motion was made for the district to cover all travel expenses for supervisors not covered under scholarship, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to vote to pass 23-02 resolution (policy statement language change in real estate contracts) at the MACD state conference by Bill, 2nd by Terry. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to vote to pass 23-05 resolution (policy statement to support exclusion of grizzly bear encroachment in Eastern MT) at the MACD state conference by Bill, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to vote to pass 23-03 resolution (legislative directive for irrigator water rights) at the MACD state conference by Mary, 2nd by Nancy. All oppose. Motion does not carry.
- A motion was made to vote to pass 23-04 resolution (national directive to support removal of conservation leasing from BLM's proposed Public Lands Rule BLM 1004-AE92) at the MACD state conference by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to vote to pass 23-01 resolution (policy statement to coordinate reuse of used infrastructure materials) at the MACD state conference by Nancy, 2nd by Mary. Nancy opposes. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to cancel the November board meeting and move the December meeting up one week to December 13th was made by Bill, 2nd by Nancy. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to ask for amendment on the closing date for the Area 5 Pollinator grant to March 2025 instead of 2024 was made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to ask for an amendment to accept Lake County's part of the administrator's fee for the Area 5 Pollinator grant was made by Nancy, 2nd by Bill. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to ask for a budgetary amendment for necessary expenses was made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to buy an extra 7 acres of pollinator seed mix was made by Nancy, 2nd by Bill. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to approve Morgan's probationary period, start the health insurance stipend and increase salary to \$20/hour was made by Nancy, 2nd by Bill. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to approve mill levy budget draft to send to county for approval was made by Bill, 2nd by Nancy. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

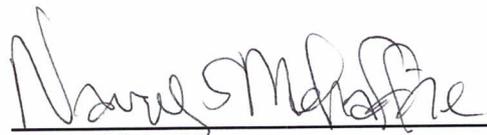
Meeting adjourned at 845 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.



Morgan Owens
District Administrator

Approved.



Nancy Mehaffie
Chairman



October 18th **MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET**
April 19th, 2023 at 6pm
GMCD Monthly Meeting
Trout Creek, Montana

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address or Agency</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
<i>William & Roscoe</i>	<i>GMCD</i>		
<i>Mary Reed</i>	<i>GMCD</i>		
<i>Nancy Melaffie</i>	<i>GMCD</i>		
<i>Tony Hoff</i>	<i>GMCD</i>		
<i>Mandy Ferrell</i>	<i>GMCD Assoc</i>		
<i>Krista Wynn</i>	<i>GMCD</i>		
<i>Roscoe Knott Sr</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>406-788-5357</i>	<i>roscoeknott@yelp.com</i>
<i>Mark Sommers</i>	<i>zoom</i>		
<i>Jason Blakney</i>	<i>zoom</i>		
<i>Barb & Mike Normandin</i>	<i>zoom</i>		