



Meeting Minutes April 17th, 2024

Supervisors Present	Employees Present
Nancy Mehaffie-Chair	Morgan Owens
Bill Naegeli-Zoom	Advisors Present
Kristen Wing	Jason Blakney-FWP (Zoom)
Mary Reed	Dillon Martini-NRCS
Terry Hightower	
Associate Supervisors Present	
Mindy Ferrell	
Sean Moran-Zoom	
Visitors Present	
Brad Reid-Zoom	
Jeff Kraak & Tonya Ames-Zoom	Guy Engbretson
Lance & Lexis Lyle	Mark Bronner
Tony & Cindy Ferguson	

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 March 20th, 2024 MEETING

- A motion was made to approve as corrected by email was made by Kristen, 2nd by Mary. Motion carries.

310 ACTIVITIES

SW-04-23 Harrington Extension Request

- A motion was made to accept the extension request from the landowner was made by Terry, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.

SW-01-24 Kraak Prospect Creek

- A site visit occurred on 3/21/24.
- A motion to accept project as modified in Teams report and discussion from site visit was made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Motion carries.

SW-03-24 Plante Little Beaver Creek

- A site visit occurred on 3/21/24.
- A motion to accept project as proposed was made by Kristen, 2nd by Mary. Motion carries.

SW-04-24 Torr Noxon Reservoir

- There was discussion over the phone with the landowner about his plan, where the existing pipes are and determined the diversion point is on Forest Service property.
- A motion to accept as a completed application and approve project as submitted was made by Bill. Motion was withdrawn.

- A motion to accept the application as complete was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry. Motion carries.
- A motion to approve the project as submitted was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry. All opposed. Motion does not carry.
- Send a decision letter to landowner stating it is out of our jurisdiction, therefore not a project.

SW-05-24 Reid Noxon Reservoir

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Terry, 2nd by Bill. Motion carries.
- A site visit will be scheduled via email.

SW-06-24 Johnson/Avista Noxon Reservoir

- A motion to accept as a completed application and approve project as submitted was made by Terry, 2nd by Mary. Motion carries.

SW-07/08-24 LaPierre Noxon Reservoir

- There was a discussion about the method the docks would be put into/taken out of the water. That information was not listed on the application.
- Landowner was not present for the meeting to discuss.
- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Bill, 2nd by Kristen. All opposed. Motion does not carry.
- Send out a decision letter stating it's an incomplete application. Call landowner to get information needed to complete.

SW-09-24 Lyle Noxon Reservoir

- There was a discussion about how bad the erosion has gotten, the possible use of rip rap that was not listed in the application since they have done bank work before using logs and the bank is still eroding.
- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Kristen, 2nd by Nancy.
- A site visit will be scheduled via email.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The financial report for March was reviewed in their entirety.
- A motion was made to approve Financial Report and A/P was made by Kristen, 2nd by Nancy. Motion carries.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Did not attend Spring Biocontrol meeting like planned-no reimbursement needed
- Quarterly EO meeting on 3/29/24
- Pollinator season in full swing with upcoming events- First event for the Area 5 Pollinator grant took place in Polson on 4/13/24 and was a huge success. Between 60-70 participants total.

LOWER CLARK FORK WATERSHED GROUP (LCFWG) REPORT

- No Report

MONTANA FWP

NRCS

- Dillon gave updates on the landowner applications they are working on.
- Training events he is attending
- Cover crops

AVISTA UTILITIES UPDATE

- **Reid:** Has not been in touch with Avista.
- **Lyles:** I met with him at the property last week. I would suggest GMCD conduct a site visit but the best path forward may be to move his anchor location upstream to. See attached photos. The anchored logs in front of his dock are not attached securely. It would be ideal to have larger logs and heavier cable to hold them in place.
- **Lapierre:** They have been in touch but I have not yet received a Work Authorization. I don't see an issue with what they are proposing.
- **Noxon Rapids Riprap Project:** The purpose of this proposed project is to address and prevent erosion of the Noxon Reservoir shoreline along the Noxon Rapids Hydroelectric Dam (HED) (Clark Fork Project, FERC Project No. 2058) access road embankment. This project was recommended by a FERC inspector during annual inspections of the Noxon Rapids HED. We received an exemption for the project by the Sanders County Floodplain Administrator (email 4/4/2024). A similar project was permitted by Green Mountain Conservation District in 2017 (310 permit no. SW-01-2017).

- Kristen asked questions regarding why some projects are allowed to have rip rap and others are not and used Lyle's project as an example to lead the discussion.

NORTH WESTERN ENERGY (NWE) UPDATE

- Thompson Falls FERC relicensing update:
 - We are currently working on a couple additional information request that were issued by FERC on February 26 and March 25th. NorthWestern will submit responses to both AIRs by the end of May.
- 310 Permit Application:
 - We submitted a permit application to GMCD on April 12 for a bank stabilization project on Thompson Falls Reservoir. We have a construction slated to start in June on this project.
- Bottom Barrier request by Kim Langford:
 - We responded to Kim Langford's request to install bottom barriers on NorthWestern Energy-owned land in Thompson Falls Reservoir. NorthWestern denied this request following our policy on the use of bottom barriers is to not allow their use at locations of private docks where the vegetation targeted for suppression is predominately native.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYEE EDUCATION

- QuickBooks training for Green Mountain office rescheduled for May 7th.

OLD BUSINESS

- A motion to accept the drafted excel chart annual work plan for 2024 was made by Kristen, 2nd by Bill. Motion carries.
- Nancy gave an update on the progress of the online Gilly program for 310 permits.
- A motion to not have associate supervisors on Green Mountain's board anymore was made by Mary, 2nd by Kristen. Nancy, Mary, Kristen vote yes. Bill and Terry vote no. Motion carries.
 - There were questions as to why they believed we should not have associates.
 - Mindy spoke about Sean, Kent's and her own experience and historical knowledge, which makes them all an asset to the board and feels being voted off the board is a slap in the face.
 - Associates are Board elected volunteers serving when needed, not Board members. Some of the Supervisors felt we have enough Board members to cover the work that the CD completes. We can accept volunteers, if we need the help.
- Mary withdrew her 2nd in the vote of getting rid of and selling the gopher-getter to Bill for \$200.
 - A motion to reconsider that motion from the 3/20/24 meeting was made by Nancy, 2nd by Kristen. Nancy, Mary and Kristen vote yes. Bill and Terry abstain. Motion carries.
- At this time, we will not be rescheduling the annual GMCD dinner.
 - Morgan offered the idea of doing the dinner before a monthly meeting at a local restaurant in Trout Creek or ordering in to the office.

BUILDING REPAIR/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

- We are going to be getting bids together from local contractors for driveway repair and bringing the building up to ADA code. Morgan has been contacting contracting and figuring out logistics of property ownership and easements for driveway repair.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bill discussed when MACD Spring Board is and what it entails. Mostly for directors, but supervisors are welcome.

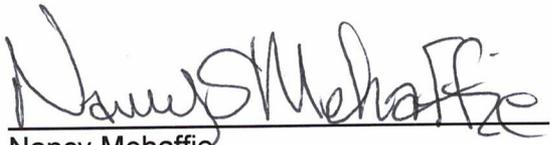
PUBLIC COMMENT

Meeting adjourned at 752 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.

Approved.


 Morgan Owens
 District Administrator


 Nancy Mehaffie
 Chairman

