

# **Green Mountain Conservation District**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

#### **Supervisors Present**

Kent Wilby  
Terry Hightower  
Bill Naegeli  
Sean Moran

#### **Employees Present**

Leona Gollen

#### **Advisors Present**

Ryan Kreiner  
Katherine Maudrone

#### **Associate Supervisors Present**

Jim Carabin  
Jean Dunn

#### **Visitors Present**

Darryl Gingerich  
Gene Joplin  
Tom Round  
Susan LaMont  
Don LaMont

**Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.**

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

#### **Minutes from February, 2017**

- A motion to approve March 2017 meeting minutes as submitted was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, motion Carried.

#### **Financial Report**

- Leona reviewed the financial report with the board for the last periods.
- A motion to approve the financial report was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- A motion to put 16,000.00 in a liability fund for building maintenance was made by Sean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill, motion carried.

#### **Administrator's Report:**

- 310 Flyers & Mussel Flyers
  - Total cost would be \$2,803.50 with the mussel insert and bulk mailing to Trout Creek, Thompson Falls, Noxon & Heron.
  - A motion to proceed with the flyer & insert mailing was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
  - A request was issued to the County Flood Plain Administrator and FWP to help with mailing costs. Both entities will let us know.
- Road Signs
  - Took picture of HWY 56 & Idaho side signs. Board agreed that the HWY 56 sign was still ok.
  - If possible, Mr. Gingerich will take down the Idaho Boarder sign and bring it to the office for repainting.
- Fish Inspection Stations:
  - A discussion was had concerning the fish inspection station in our area. Eastern Montana are having trouble filling the position. Our side of Montana seem to be doing ok with employees.
- More storage shelves for shop
  - A motion to purchase 2 more storage shelves for the shop was made by Sean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill motion carried.
- Good Paper Shredder for the office
  - Leona will get prices to submit at next month's meeting
- Donation to Bridger Plant Material Center
  - A motion to donate \$25.00 to the Bridger Plant Material Center was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, motion carried.

- Mindy Ferrell
  - Mindy Ferrell visited the office last week and submitted a request asking that she be considered in filling the position as a GMCD Associate Supervisor. She left her contact information and invited anyone to contact her with questions. She stated that she would not be able to attend tonight's meeting because of a prior planned engagement.
  - The Board was very happy with her interest and believe that she would be a great asset to the GMCD Board. They will vote on this addition at next month's meeting
- MACD & SWCDM
  - There are some CD's that have concerns concerning the validity of MACD & SWCDM and have decided to discontinue their membership.
  - One of the CD's that were assigned to host the Convention this year has made the decision to not participate.
  - The consensus of the GMCD's Board and Officers is that MACD & SWCDM have contributed greatly to GMCD at least on the project side of things. Between GMCD & LCFWG we have received of 10,000.00 in grant funds this year alone from SWCDM which would not have been available otherwise. One of MACD's primary function is to represent all Montana CD during the legislative process and if not for them advocating at that level for us that we would probably not have the Grant funds available to do our restoration projects.
- Sander County Rural Address Atlas
  - A motion to purchase the Rural address atlas was made by Sean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, motion carried.

**GMCD Website: ([greenmountaincd.org](http://greenmountaincd.org))**

- The new website is up and running

**Coordinator "Watershed Report":**

**General**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter LCFWG and Board meetings were held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Minutes were sent out on April 3 and March 27, respectively.

**Grants/funding/proposals**

- Avista Clark Fork Settlement Agreement proposals to Appendix B, Appendix E, and Appendix K proposals were all approved by the Management Committee.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter report was submitted to Avista for Appendix E, and status reports were submitted to the Appendix B and K managers.
- An updated agreement with Northwestern Energy for 2017's work in the Thompson River was developed, and an invoice for the approved funds was submitted.
- Monthly invoices (January, February and March) have been submitted for reimbursement to SWCDM for Sarah's time on the Thompson River WRP and coordination expenses related to the Thompson River WRP.
- Supplemental agreement between GMCD and LCFWG was signed for the Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP) funding awarded through the DNRC 223 program.
- A proposal was submitted to the DNRC Watershed Management Program for \$10,000 for additional staff time to work on the Thompson River WRP and Lower Clark Fork WRP.
- Ruth and Susan developed a funding plan for the potential Elk Creek road relocation project. Entities involved will continue to discuss this and choose the direction they will take the project over the next year leading up to the time when grant proposals will need to be developed.

**Training**

- No trainings were attended this month.
- In April, Sarah and Brita will attend the Watershed Restoration Planning training that is being put on by the Montana Watershed Coordination Council in Missoula.

**Projects**

**Bull River/Dry Creek Sediment Reduction and Riparian Revegetation**

- Making progress planning for the outreach video:
  - Will be developing a story board and outline for Josh in the coming weeks, finalized by the end of April.
  - Footage will likely be shot of planting in early May when Jason and Brita plant along the Bull River with a small group. Interviews will be conducted this field season and any additional footage will be shot of
- There is opportunity to work with a few additional landowners to plant this fall using a few new techniques for landowner partnership and re-vegetation implementation. We might get an additional week of the

Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) crews to support this work and purchase some additional plants and materials. This would be funded through unallocated funds from the modification of our contract with Watershed Consulting.

- Dry Creek agreement between GMCD and the USFS is being drafted. Draft language was written by Brita this month.
- A draft RFQ for the contract on the Dry Creek project was developed this month.

#### Other Bull River Re-vegetation Projects

- Jason and Brita submitted a plant order for 250 black cottonwoods to plant at the Wood Duck property in May.
- Another order to Lawyer's nursery will be submitted for pick-up in the fall when MCC crews are working.
- Jason and Brita signed up to host two weeks of adult MCC crews in the fall to work on the Wood Duck property, Crull property, and potentially others. With the addition of the week for the 2 new landowners interested, we will host a total of 3 crews this fall though the 3<sup>rd</sup> week is not yet confirmed.
- Through the Appendix B Habitat Restoration Monitoring and Maintenance fund, Brita worked with Jason to purchase a suite of hand tools that will help enable the MCC crews to work more effectively and efficiently.

#### Miners Gulch Restoration

- Interview questions have been developed by Susan Drumheller. A further storyboard will be fleshed out for Josh prior to Brita's leaving this summer.
- Shooting and interviews are still planned for this spring and summer.

#### Prospect Creek

- Jason is planning a day or two of re-vegetation work in Crow Creek in the spring as soon as the snow melts. Brita plans to assist.

#### Thompson River

- Watershed Restoration Plan
  - Sarah and Brita have multiple sections of the document drafted, and will send some of the draft out in April.
  - Sarah and Brita are also working with Samantha Tappenbeck from SWCDM to develop outreach materials for engage input from local stakeholders.
  - Overall, good progress continues to be made in line with an established timeline for completing the Thompson River WRP by the end of the year.
- General project coordination
  - Brita met with Jon Hanson and Kris Richardson from the USFS to develop an idea for monitoring and data collection in Fishtrap Creek. Further input will be solicited from Ryan Kreiner and Jason Blakney, with data collection planned for September.

#### **MT FWP Report**

- Night shocking in progress
- Fish ladder are open and running
- Water temp is cold and flows are high which is hindering the fish count

#### **NRCS Report:**

- NRCS secured funding for three EQIP projects in Green Mountain's Service Area. Contracts are awaiting obligation.
- Troy has worked to complete a thinning and forestry improvement project on a Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) Easement in Green Mountain' Service Area. It was a really great project that will improve forest health and wildlife habitat.
- NRCS has gotten the approval to move forward with Travis Lemke's hiring process to fill the District Conservationist position in Sanders Co.! Not sure how long till he'll be on-board but at least things are moving forward now. Ben would expect that NRCS will have him over here in the next 3 months.
- .

#### **Old Business:**

**Building Repair Project:**

- We have paid the contractor in full for the work on the shop which is now complete

**No-Till Drill/Gopher-Getter:**

- The no-till is ready for spring planting

**New Business:**

- Bill said that there has been some emergency work done but we have not received any emergency applications.
- Leona will contact Patty English by letter requesting an emergency application be completed and any further work needs a 310 application.

**Subdivision Review:**

- 

**Time Allowed for comments from the Public not already on the agenda:**

- 

**310 Activities****SW-03-17 Gingerich Culvert**

- Application was accepted in February and a site visit was conducted.
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: *Instead of a 36-inch culvert use a 48 inch. Culvert is to be buried below grade and slope should match the existing slope of the stream bed.* was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- FWP waived site visit participation

**SW-04-17 Grenell Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made last month.
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: *Install anchor on the upstream side of dock to secure dock against the current* was made by Terry, 2nd by Bill, Motion carried.

**SW-05-17 Thomas Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made last month
- This will be on hold until next month and Kent will contact them to get a different erosion control method added to their application
- The reasoning for the requested change is because the pathway from the fire pit to the dock will not be permitted as it is proposed in the application because the hardened path proposed is in a straight downhill line and could be a potential water way in a heavy run off situation causing erosion at the lower end of the path.

**SW-07-17 Kleinschmit Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made last month
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: *Install anchors on the upstream side of dock to secure dock against the current* was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried.

**SW-10-17 Northwestern Energy**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Kent 2nd by Bill, Motion carried
- Application was reviewed and a site visit was scheduled for April 27th, and Ryan and Kent will attend.
- Ryan will contact to schedule a site visit

**SW-11-17 Lamont**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- Application was reviewed and a site visit was scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>, and Kent and Ryan will attend.
- Kent will contact them to schedule site visit

**SW-12-17 Avista improve existing structure and 10 Maintenance**

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

- FWP Waived site visit

**SW-13-17 Round Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application a approve it as submitted was made by Bill, 2nd by Kent, Motion carried
- FWP waived site visit

**SW-14-17 Larchwood South Homeowners Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application and approve the project as submitted was made by Bill, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- FWP waived site visit

**SW-15-17 Pardee/Robert Windemaker Dock**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Bill, 2nd by Sean, Motion carried
- Application was reviewed and a site visit was scheduled for April 27th, and Kent, Ryan will attend.
- Kent will call Mr. Pardee to schedule

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm was made by Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.

Approved.

Leona Gollen  
Administrator

Kent Wilby  
Chairman