



Meeting Minutes May 16th, 2018

Supervisors Present

Sean Moran
Terry Hightower
Mindy Ferrell

Employees Present

Leona Gollen

Advisors Present

Ryan Kreiner
Travis Lemke
John Gubel
Samantha Tappenbeck

Associate Supervisors Present

Jim Carabin

Visitors Present

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

Meeting Agenda items not always taken in order that they appear

Introductions

Minutes 2018

- A motion to approve April 2018 meeting minutes as submitted was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, 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 Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

- Bob Flesher will be giving a 310 Presentation & Q&A at the June 20th Meeting
- A motion to start the meeting at 5:30 pm next month and have pizza for everyone was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy, motion carried.
- Grazing Workshop June 26th in Thompson Falls
 - Samantha requested someone from the CD do opening statements at the Grazing Workshop. The Supervisors thought it would be a good idea and suggested Bill to do this. Leona will put Samantha and Bill in contact with one another.
 - A motion to send a standard letter with the grazing workshop flyer (up to \$50.00 in postage cost), inviting stock owner on riparian areas to the grazing workshop and also inform them that there are 5 free registrations available on a first come first serve basis was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.
 - They will need to contact GMCD office no later than June 7th to qualify for the free registration.

- Samantha will send Leona wording to add to the letter
- Area 5 Director Position
 - We should know by May 18th if Bill Naegeli was nominated Director for Area V
- Insurance for Building
 - Leona informed the Board that she has contacted the insurance company to see if they will cover any of the costs that we are incurring with the sinking of the buildings. We are waiting to hear from the adjuster that will visit.
- Final Bull River Tour.
 - All of the GMCD Supervisors were encouraged to attend the final Bull River Tour. We are waiting on the date for the tour to be finalized.

GMCD Website: (greenmountaincd.org)

- No Report

LCFWG COORDINATOR “WATERSHED REPORT”

- Film tour went great
- Got a bunch of trees planted with the MCC crew a couple weeks ago before the water started coming up.
- At the end of June, the MCC crews will complete maintenance and mortality replacement plantings throughout all Bull River properties.
- Planning a Bull River Watershed Council meeting for June 21.
- Will have a post-project tour end of June. Date to be finalized soon.
- Miners Gulch film is done

MT FWP Report

- High Water!
 - Ladder Shut Down
 - Walleye shocking done

NRCS Report:

- Programs
 - Contract work on all pre-approved EQIP applications assigned to the Plains FO has been completed. Currently staff is conducting field visits/site assessments for new EQIP applicants and providing non-programmatic technical assistance to landowners.
- Outreach
 - Poster competition – judging occurred/awards issued for 3rd, 4th, 5th graders in Hot Springs, Dixon, and Plains on the topic *Watersheds – Our Water, Our Home*.
- General
 - Ed Daugherty (County Executive Director) for Farm Service Agency here in Sanders County will be issuing a formal request (letter) to the GMCD board for use of the GMCD building for up to 1-day/month to conduct FSA outreach and program delivery more effectively in western Sanders County.
 - Members of FSA & NRCS conducted a site assessment on 5/10/18 of various properties around Plains & Paradise to monitor the impact of the high water associated with the Clark Fork River drainage system. This assessment and others will be used in part to determine the need for county-wide ECP (Emergency Conservation Program – FSA) or EWP (Emergency Watershed Program - NRCS) funding to assist (technical & financial) private Ag landowners with loss/damage to structures, equipment, or crops. To-date funding for ECP or EWP has not been authorized in Sanders County.

(SWCDM) Soil & Water Conservation District of Montana

- See Attached

Education

- WF Meeting Update
 - Road to the Buffalo will be the 6th station; all stations set-up and staffed.
- Update on Wildlife & Natural Resource Management Class
 - The class as of last week is a go. The text book that GMCD purchased for them is their official text book.
 - Grant funding is being discussed
- Idaho forestry Contest

Mindy volunteered to work at this contest and it was amazing.
- Summer Youth Event Sponsorship (Mindy)
 - The Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp (sponsored by DNRC) is open to all youth 14 - 18 or have completed the 8th grade. The cost of the camp is \$300 for 6 days. This year it is from July 15 -20 at Lubrecht State Forest and kids will learn about forestry, water, soils, geology, range, wildlife, and recreation. All meals, lodging and supplies are included.
 - Mindy will dictate a letter to the counselors at the area schools with information about the camp and that GMCD is willing to provide 3 separate \$100 scholarships to offset the tuition.
 - A motion to provide 3 separate \$100 scholarships to offset the tuition was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

Old Business:

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Building Repair Project:

- Steps & Deck repair
 - They were repaired but other issues have been found with the building.
 - The shop is sinking very badly and now the electrical and the plumbing are damaged.
- Motion Detection Lights in Shop
 - Kent put them up.

No-Till Drill/Gopher-Getter:

- Nothing to Report

New Business:

- Resident called and recommended a boat trip for Supervisors down the Thompson Falls Res. To discuss past and present 310 issues.
 - Terry said that he would contact resident and discuss this.

Subdivision Review:

- Nothing to Report

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

310 Activities

- 310 law and jurisdiction on Federal Land.
- NWE's special permit has expired for the Lolo national forest. The Lolo approached FWP for comments on their draft SUP; during which clarification that 310 (not 124) applied to NWE on USFS was noted in draft SUP.

- The Forest Service is in the process of renewing the Special Use permit and FWP & GMCD want to have input on what the contractors can do on riparian land and also have included that they need to contact GMCD for a 310 permit for any work done on riparian land.
- FWP & the Lolo Forest Service went and looked at some sites with NWE on the mainstem of Crow Cr. and Cooper Gulch. To determine what they thought needed to be put in the special use permit.
- John Gubel attending our meeting for a Q&A session and to get the Forest Service input on this matter.
 - John said that on USFS land sometimes private entities do work that needs to have a 310-application completed
 - It was stated that some of the contractors treat everything the same and they do not see the distinction between forest and riparian.
 - The way the clearing standards are they cannot have trees under the line. If they remove vegetation they have to replace it with low growing vegetation.
 - A 124 permit is used when it is between agencies, i.e., USFS, BPA & FWP. Etc.
 - NWE would be under a special use permit with the USFS and it would behoove GMCD to get in on the discussion now while they are in the special use permit renewal process. John recommended getting the draft with FWP comments from Robin Jermyn (Lolo NF Plains RD Special Use Permit contact)
 - When asked about where 310 fits into other guidelines (RCA, SMZs etc.) of SUP it was noted that in the past it was a general reference in SUP that “party responsible to adhere to all applicable permits
 - John suggests that we give our comments to the forest service and send them a package of state laws on the 310.
 - When concerns were raised that GMCD should not have to inspect every stream X-ing and veg mgmt. action assoc. with every powerline corridor within the district on USFS lands, John suggested that GMCD work with USFS and MFWP on how they (the agencies) would cover these wider-ranging areas. It was asked if such an arrangement maybe could be recorded in the SUP as an MOU? Or as part of the 310 packet.
 - Action Items
 - GMCD will work with FWP and get a 310 packet together for addition to special use permits. (Contractor needs to be the applicant for a 310).
 - Leona will contact Robin Jermyn from Lolo forest service in Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District to see where the special use permit is at in the process
- Discussion on the tree trimming question
 - Table this until next month.
- Armor used in TF Res. by NW Energy (Kent)
 - Table until next month.

SW-52-17 Henry Complaint

- This will stay on the agenda until the project is complete in August 2018.


Motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm was made by Mindy, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.

Approved.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leona Gollen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leona" being more prominent than the last name "Gollen".

Leona Gollen
Administrator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry P. Hightower". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name "Terry" being the most legible part.

Terry Hightower
Supervisor

SWCDM Ranching for Rivers:

- Cost-share program (50%) available from SWCDM
- Provide landowners with resources to voluntarily construct fences and/or other infrastructure (crossings, water gaps, offsite water, etc.) that enable them to better manage the riparian resources on their land
- Need to have a DEQ-accepted Watershed Restoration Plan
- Due 6/15/18

Attended 2018 annual meeting: Clark Fork / Kootenai River Basins Council:

- CFKRBC was formed in 2016 to develop vision, coordinate common strategy, and support the network of water user interests at the basin scale
- Goal is to implement the State Water Plan and Clark Fork / Kootenai Basin Plan and facilitate collaboration
- Council is interested in engaging with conservation districts and local, on-the-ground organizations; welcome participation with work groups and executive committee
- Interested in attending CD meetings

Ranching for Rivers:

- Cost-share program (50%) available to landowners to voluntarily construct grazing infrastructure (fences, hardened crossings, water gaps, offsite watering tanks and pipeline, etc.)
- Goal is to enable landowners to better manage riparian resources on their land
- Assistance available from certified grazing plan developer
- Projects must be located in an area with a DEQ-accepted Watershed Restoration Plan (assistance available to help determine if you qualify)
- Applications due 6/15/18

SAVE THE DATE: Riparian Grazing Workshop in Thompson Falls

- In search of ideas for:
 - Field trip location to demonstrate grazing practices
 - Local catering or bagged lunch service
 - Transportation service to field trip site (school bus?)
- We welcome partnership with and participation from GMCD