



## **Meeting Minutes March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### **Supervisors Present**

Sean Moran  
Terry Hightower  
Bill Naegeli  
Kent Wilby

### **Employees Present**

Leona Gollen

### **Advisors Present**

Travis Lemke  
Brita Olson  
Samantha Tappenbeck

### **Associate Supervisors Present**

Jean Dunn

### **Visitors Present**

**Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m.**

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

### **Introductions**

### **Minutes 2019**

- A motion to approve February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes as submitted was made by Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 for this period was made by Sean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, motion carried.

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

- Upgrade QB
  - A motion to upgrade QB was made by Sean 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill motion carried.
- Annual Plan
  - A motion to accept the annual plan with minor formatting changes was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- Administration Grant Proposal
  - A motion to accept the administration grant proposal as submitted was made by Sean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill, motion carried.
- Budget

- A motion to accept the 2019-2020 budget as proposed was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- Conservation District sign at Lincoln Boundary
  - Leona informed the Board that the Lincoln CD is putting in for a 223 grant to redo the CD signs at all their boundary locations and we will benefit from this because we connect to one of their boundaries.
  - Leona will contact Eastern Sanders about the sign on that end of the County.

**GMCD Website: (greenmountaincd.org)**

- See attached

**LCFWG COORDINATOR “WATERSHED REPORT”**

- See attached
- GMCD sponsorship of FF Sims Meander Grant
  - A motion to sponsor the FF Sims Meander Grant was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kent, motion carried.

**MT FWP Report**

- No Report

**NRCS Report:**

- Both Troy and Travis are working on EQIP-2019 contract development, refining cost estimates, & are in the early stages of ranking 2019 applicants.
- The Long Range Plan (LRP) and Targeted Implementation Plans (TIP-focused conservation) for Sanders County are still being developed. Due dates for both the LRP and TIP = December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 (FY2020 Funding).
- NRCS is in the process of revising their forms for all of NRCS projects and programs.
- There are at least 2 projects that Travis thinks will be funded in Sanders County.
- NRCS has an internship again so they may be getting another intern. If we know of anyone who might have interest, have them contact Travis.

**(SWCDM) Soil & Water Conservation District of Montana**

- See attached

**Education**

- Nothing to Report

**Old Business:**

- Nothing to Report

**Building Repair Project:**

- Nothing to Report

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

- Nothing to Report

**New Business:**

- There was a discussion on the use of the building by other entities. It was suggested that a fee should be charged.
- The liability issues were discussed
  - Leona will contact liability insurance company and see if we rent will it change the insurance. Does It cover if we just let a group use the building?

**Subdivision Review:**

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

**310 Activities**

- NWE Collaboration Meeting (keep on agenda until Spring)
  - Meeting has been confirmed for March 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the State Office Building in Thompson Falls.
  - Print Milliken Pictures and Fister pictures for meeting
  - Leona Contact Jay and Dennis about assessment report for bank stabilization for the Thompson Res. Minimum requirements.
  - Brita has found a document in her archive folders that address bank stabilization and she will send it to us.

**SW-05-19 Fairbanks**

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made last month.
- A motion to accept the project with the following addition; *Temporary "skid" system will be used to get the dock over the bank without disturbing it, 2 wooden beams will be used for skid system to remove the dock, they will not be a permanent structure or be fastened to the bank in any way. The dock will be stored on shore resting on a 2-4 timbers/beams to keep the dock off the ground. Launching the dock into the water would the same process in reverse order.* Was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- FWP waived site visit last month

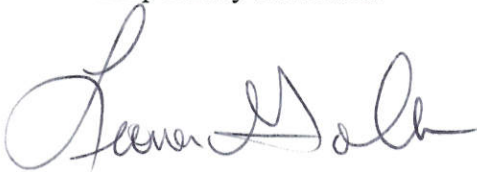
**SW-07-19 Fister**

- A motion that the application was incomplete was made last month. The list of requested information is below.
  - No location map included
  - Needs photos of shoreline and embankment
  - No Details or diagram regarding trail to dock dimensions, slope etc.
  - No Detailed diagram of dock dimensions and material used.
  - The helical anchors are shown in the water not on the shore in the drawing.
- A motion that the application is still not complete even with the addition of the attachment "A" Documents was made by Kent, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sean, motion carried.
- Leona will write a letter informing Mr. Fister of the missing information and tell him to contact the office to schedule a site visit.
  - Location was not address to the proper degree
  - Trail in not addressed

A motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm was made by Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kent, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.

Approved.



Leona Gollen  
Administrator



Kent Wilby  
Chairman

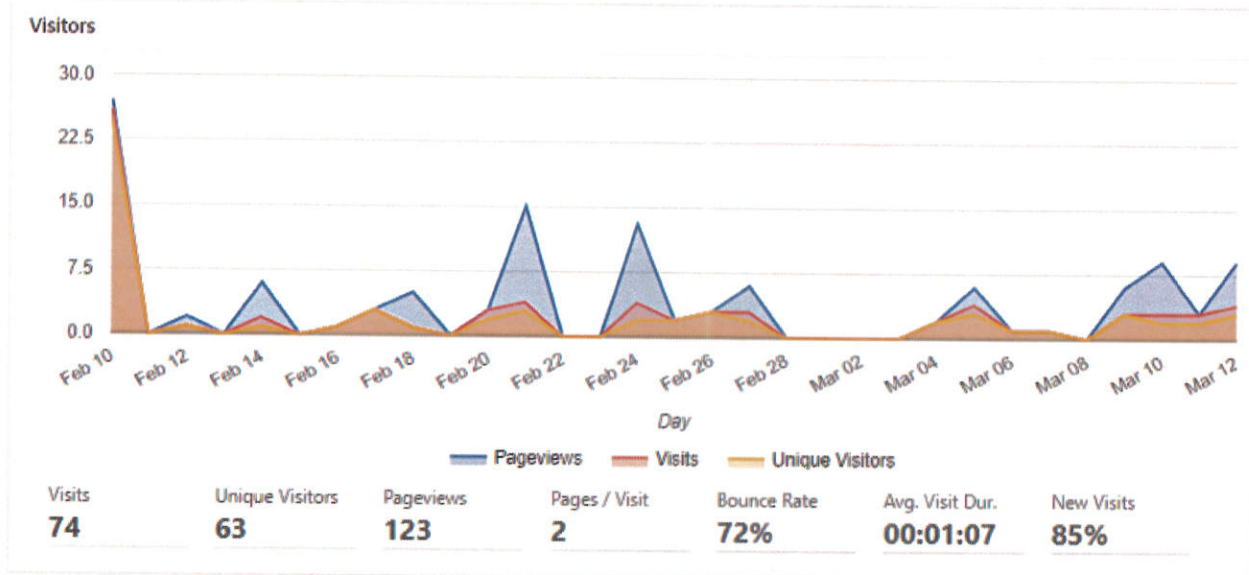




Report to the Green Mountain Conservation District  
March 20, 2019  
Brita Olson, Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group (LCFWG) Coordinator

### Website

- Draft February meeting minutes were posted.
- March meeting agenda was posted.
- Last month's stats:



### Upcoming Meetings

March 26, 2019: 2019 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group Meeting and Watershed Restoration Planning Meeting

### Project Updates

**Miners Gulch Project (Vermilion River):** Craig Neesvig with the Cabinet Ranger District completed the Miners Gulch Post-Runoff Monitoring Report in early March. His summary: "Most of what was expected happened, although we learned a bit more about the instream fine sediment movement during activities." If you would like to have a copy of the whole report, let me know and I can get that to you.

**Sims Meander Project (Vermilion River):** GMCD sponsored the first funding proposal for this project, a \$200,000 319 grant through Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Contracting is still pending on that but we expect it to be completed this summer. In the meantime, we are starting to think about additional funding proposals. Next on the radar is a Future Fisheries Improvement Program proposal to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. It makes the most sense to me to have GMCD sponsor all of the funds for this proposal, so **I would like to request approval from the board for me, Susan Drumheller (Clark Fork Grant Writer) and our technical advisors to prepare a grant proposal to Future Fisheries for this project**

**on GMCD's behalf.** Per the usual, I'll manage the whole project and work closely with Leona to complete reporting, contracting, and budget/grant tracking for this and all other funds.

### **Bull River Maintenance**

I've booked a Montana Conservation Corps crew for a week in early June. I'm hoping that the timing of weather, runoff, and mosquito hordes will work in our favor this year and that we'll get a good chunk of the maintenance work that I have completed with the help of the crew.

### **Sandpoint Fly Fishing Film Tour – March 23**

I'm working with event partners who are putting on the Sandpoint showing of the Fly Fishing Film Tour to show the Bull River film in Sandpoint this year. This event will be Saturday, March 23rd at the Panida Theatre and is a joint effort of Panhandle Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District (proceeds go in part to support their Water Festival). It will be cool to maintain some momentum through this event is distributing / sharing our film.

### **Fly Fishing Film Tour – April 27**

This event is shaping up! I've got posters out, and tickets are on-sale online and at Minnie's and the Liquor Store. Other event details are available at

<https://lowerclarkforkwatershedgroup.org/event/2019-fly-fishing-film-tour/>.

### **Other projects**

Beyond these projects, I'm gearing up for a busy year with other partners. We plan to implement 3 different projects on the Lolo National Forest this summer:

- West Fork Fishtrap Road Realignment Project
- Graves Creek Pilot Habitat Enhancement Project
- Crow Creek Restoration Project – Phase 2

Please let me know if you are curious about any of these projects, and I'd gladly share more information.

Report: 3/20/2019  
Samantha Tappenbeck  
Area Resource Specialist - Water



**Update on recent work:**

- Attended the Montana Lakes Conference in Whitefish, 3/13-3/15
- Worked with LCFWG on final edits to story maps, outreach details
- Plan to provide review of Lower Clark Fork Watershed Restoration Plan
- Central Clark Fork Watershed Restoration Plan
  - Upcoming public stakeholder meeting:  
April 16 from 7:00-9:00PM in Missoula, University of Montana, University Center Room 326

**Available Programs:**

- **Ranching for Rivers:** Cost-share program (50%) available to landowners to voluntarily construct grazing infrastructure and enable them to better manage the streams and riparian resources on their land
  - Financial assistance available for labor and materials to construct fences, hardened crossings, water gaps, offsite watering tanks, pipeline, etc.
  - Assistance available from certified grazing plan developer
  - Projects must be located in an area with a DEQ-accepted Watershed Restoration Plan (assistance is available to help determine if you qualify)
  - OPEN ENROLLMENT
- **Conservation Reserve Program:** Farm Service Agency program that provides long-term conservation benefits that control soil erosion, improve water quality, increase soil health, and develop and enhance wildlife habitat.
  - Participants receive an annual rental payment, and cost share assistance for 10-15 years
  - NRCS provides the technical land eligibility and conservation planning
  - Specific forestry CRP practices for northwest Montana



## Lower Clark Fork River Basin



February precipitation was well above average in the Lower Clark Fork River basin. This helped the basin recover from a relatively dry start to the water year. Last month began with a large storm system that slammed the area. During the first 2 weeks of February [Hoodoo Basin SNOTEL](#) received about 6 inches of snow water. There was so much snow from this storm that I-90 at Lookout Pass was closed for a second time this year. This time it was due to an avalanche that buried the road. One driver was buried in the avalanche but not critically injured. Snow trickled in during the second half of the month and the last week of the month brought cold temperatures. Overall, both the snowpack and water year-to-date precipitation are at near normal conditions.

### Lower Clark For River Basin Data Summary

#### Snowpack

	Percent of 1981-2010 Normal (Median)	Last Year Percentage of Normal (Median)
LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN	101%	101%
Basin-Wide	101%	123%

#### Precipitation

	Monthly Percentage of Average	WYTD Percentage of 1981-2010 Average*	WYTD Last Year Percentage of Average
Mountain Precipitation	123%	93%	123%
Valley Precipitation	231%	164%	137%
Basin-Wide Precipitation	125%	95%	123%

\*Water Year-to-Date (WYTD) Precipitation is October 1st - Current

#### Reservoir Storage

	Percentage of Average	Percentage of Capacity (Total)	Last Year Percentage of Average
Basin-Wide Storage	97%	91%	101%

\*See Reservoir Storage Table for storage in individual reservoirs