



Meeting Minutes February 19th, 2020

Supervisors Present

Sean Moran

Mindy Ferrell

Bill Naegeli

Terry Hightower

Associate Supervisors Present

Employees Present

Leona Gollen

Advisors Present

Brita Olson

Ben Montgomery

Visitors Present

Gene Jopling

Kevin Bush

Shawn Rowland

Arthur Potts

Katherine Maudrone

Karen Ferguson

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

Meeting Agenda items not always taken in order that they appear

Introductions

Minutes 2020

- A motion to approve January 15th, 2020 meeting minutes as submitted was made by Sean 2nd by Mindy, motion carried.

Financial Report

- The financial report was sent to all Supervisor prior to the meeting
- A motion to approve the financial report for last period was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.
- A motion to pay all invoices was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy, motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

- Reminder of Annual Dinner with Eastern Sanders CD is at Minnie's on Feb. 26th starting at 5:30
- Annual Plan
 - A motion to table this until next meeting was made by Sean, 2nd by Terry, motion carried.
- Purchase of tent bags
 - Leona contacted ESCD and they have agreed to pay for ½ the cost of the tent bags if we wanted to do that. The cost would be \$131.84 each
 - A motion to split the cost of the tent bags was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy, motion carried.
- Troy Hidy from NRCS utilizing office space
 - A motion that Troy from NRCS can use office space and a MOU will be created between GMCD & NRCS concerning liability and frequency of use was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

- Employee evaluations
 - Bill has received the evaluations from everyone.
- Policy Approval
 - A motion to accept the Sick Leave, Holiday Pay, Procurement, Mill Levy and Officers Duties policy changes was made by Terry, 2nd by Bill, motion carried.
- 310 resolution adoption
 - A motion to accept the revision to rule HB 383 to reflect the extended time period to appeal a decision from 15 to 30 days was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.
- Meeting Minutes Procedures
 - A motion to table this until next month was made by Terry, 2nd by Mindy, motion carried.

GMCD Website: (greenmountaincd.org)

- See attached

LCFWG COORDINATOR “WATERSHED REPORT”

- Outreach Guidance discussion
 - Brita provided a document to show what we have on our web site now and suggestions on a plan to update and add content.
 - Brita will send out all changes to be reviewed by the Board before publishing directly on the website.
- Additional work will include direct mailings landowners in specific watersheds, aligned with new content on website but presented in a more personal tone. We can potentially add a 310 flyer with the letter.
- Discussed merits of hosting a spot at the Huckleberry Festival and/or the Sanders County Fair. Board all agreed that the Huckleberry Festival would be most cost-effective. Funds in DNRC 223 grant could likely fund this expense. GMCD will try and reserve a spot at the Huckleberry Festival.
- Another suggested venue would be the 4th of July Parade in Noxon, and potentially also Heron.
- DNRC Watershed Management Grant
 - A motion to sponsor the DNRC Management grant was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

MT FWP Report

- FWP intends to release the EA on the property that they are looking to acquire in the lower Thompson River Drainage. They are hoping to open it to public comment in late February or March. They would like GMCD to write a letter of support and will notify us when it would be needed.

NRCS Report:

- Montana Focused Conservation in GMCD district, the thought was a forest health project but right before it was submitted it was decided to focus on white pine restoration habitat. It will be a large project but focused on white pine. It is believed that this will be more receptive to landowners. This TIP is expected to be approved and then they will accept applications hopefully the middle of March for this funding in 2020. They have about a dozen landowners interested.
- After March any programs submitted will be for projects in 2021
- NRCS/Conservation District agreements will be coming out soon. Ben will notify GMCD and the specifics.

(SWCDM) Soil & Water Conservation District of Montana

- No Report

Public Education

- Winter track was cancelled
- Pollinator project
 - We will be getting all information hopefully the beginning of March and then Elena, Mindy & Leona will meet to come up with our own individual district plans.

Supervisor 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:

- Nothing to Report

Subdivision Review:

- Prospect Creek Camp Ground
 - The set back is outside the flood plain.
 - One concern on creek access is people creating their own path to the water and degrading the banks. People will find the easiest path to the water.
 - There is already one step that goes to the creek the they would like people to use. They will put up signs to inform the public of the rules.
 - The landscaping may ease the public making their own pathways to the creek.
 - A site visit needs to be done to see the banks and where the best access points would be.
 - They will put n the EA coming and Shawn will work with the GMCD before getting the final approval.
 - There will be a whole subdivision review for the RV part of the camp ground and will have a public hearing.
 - Project is about a 10-acre project with other structures on the land already.
 - Katherine Maudrone will coordinate a site visit with GMCD as the process goes on.

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

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310 Activities

SW-27-19 Day

- GMCD sent a letter to the property owners' son which is living on the property. The letter was sent through his probation officer. It requested that she give him the letter and asked that he call Ryan Kreiner to discuss the issue.
- The letter was delivered to the landowner's son today and he informed his probation officer that he would contact Ryan.

SW-30-19 Conoco

- Because most of this work it to be done in Eastern Sanders District They will be taking the lead on this and they will keep us in the loop. We will attend the site visit sometime in April.

SW-02-20 Thomas

- A motion to accept as completed application was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean motion carried.
- The existing steps will come out in about 15 minutes so the only erosion on the bank would be foot traffic to replace the old deck with the new deck.
- The shrubs will remain as much as possible.
- A motion to approve project based on the recommendation from the site visits was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy Motion Carried.
- A sight visit was scheduled for Friday 21st meeting at Bills office at 10:00 am and Bill & Ryan will be in attendance

SW-03-20 McGrann

- A motion to accept as completed application and approve project as submitted was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean motion carried

SW-04-20 Sanders

- The bank will be leveled off after the big block is removed.
- Screw anchors will be used
- A suggestion to plant willows was made.
- A motion to accept as completed application was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean motion carried
- A motion to approve project based on the recommendation from the site visits was made by Sean, 2nd by Terry Motion Carried.
- A sight visit was scheduled for Friday 21st meeting at Bills office at 10:00 am and Bill & Ryan will be in attendance

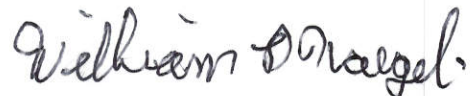
A motion to adjourn at 9:45pm was made by Terry 2nd by Mindy, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.



Leona Gollen
Administrator

Approved.



Bill Naegeli
Chairman



Report to the Green Mountain Conservation District February 19, 2020

Brita Olson, Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group (LCFWG) Coordinator

Website

- Final December Meeting Minutes were posted.
- Draft January Meeting Minutes were posted.
- Public notice RE: public hearing for rule change was posted.
- Events for outreach meeting and public hearing were added to the calendar.
- February agenda was posted.
- Website users over the last 30 days: 83



Project Updates

Empowering watershed stewardship and restoration on private lands: Began a little work under joint 223 grant funding this month, which large entailed preliminary planning and prep work for meeting with GMCD board, a few minor website updates, and brainstorming for continued capacity after 2020. Will meet with GMCD Board prior to February 19 board meeting to discuss:

- resources and information that you would like to see featured on your website, and/or in other GMCD-sponsored outreach materials;
- venues/events for sharing GMCD program-related information; and
- content development that you all feel would be the most useful to GMCD and the district you serve.

Sims Meander Project: Craig Neesvig plans to complete design alternatives for the project by the end of February. Project partners and technical advisors will meet on March 26 (prior to LCFWG Quarterly Meeting) to discuss alternatives.

Private land engagement and project development: Working under the 223 grant (above), the LCFWG and GMCD are seeking to increase engagement from private landowners in restoration work. In order to maintain any momentum successfully created and have the capacity to follow-through with landowners, the LCFWG requests that GMCD sponsor another funding application to the DNRC Watershed Management Grant program for 2021-2022, titled "Private land engagement and project development". Draft application was sent out via email on February 11.