



Meeting Minutes July 15th 2020

Supervisors Present	Employees Present
Bill Naegeli	Leona Gollen
Terry Hightower	
Mindy Ferrell (Zoom)	Advisors Present
Kent Wilby (Zoom)	Arthur Potts (Avista)
Sean Moran (Zoom)	Katherine Maudrone (Flood Plain Admin)
	Ben Montgomery (NRCS)
Associate Supervisors Present	Visitors Present
	Gene Jopling
	Paul Jacquemart
	Andy Sherry

Meeting called to order at 6:00p.m.

- Due to the high level of safety concerns for large gatherings, GMCD has limited the number of attendants at our GMCD office for the July meeting. All other interested parties will use the Zoom Meeting Room.

Meeting Agenda items not always taken in order that they appear

Introductions

Minutes 2020

- A motion to approve June 17th 2020 meeting minutes as submitted was made Mindy by, 2nd by Sean, 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 Kent motion carried.
- A motion to approve all invoices for this month was made by Kent, 2nd by Terry, motion carried.

Administrator's Report:

Video Conferencing

- Zoom was chosen as the app to use.
- A motion to purchase an annual subscription was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

Area V meeting is Scheduled for October 8th in Deer Lodge

- MACD discussed trying to do zoom for these meetings

MACD

- Currently interviewing for a new executive director
- MACD is also looking into virtual conferencing this year

Jackie Nichols has retired.

- GMCD thanks her for her many years of service and her year of work on the Water Festival. Her enthusiasm and dedication will surely be missed.
- Send a card.

LCFWG Report

- See attached report

FWP Update

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NRCS Update

- See attached

Public Education

Pollinator

- People are still picking up the seed that we currently have.
- Elena, Brita, Heidi & Leona met to discuss grant options, outreach opportunities and sample projects. This is still in the planning stages.
- The Board is fine with using the back yard for a example garden.

Water Festival

- All instructors from last year have been contacted and everyone has stated that their involvement is dependent on the Covid restrictions at the time. In other words, we do not have any firm commitment yet.
- Elena has been in close contact with the schools and the consensus is that they do not know yet if they will even be holding class room classes this fall. They also stated that riding the bus is probably not going to happen so transpiration to the Water Festival would be very difficult.
- After discussion with some of the presenters, their input was that the groups would not be the problem it is the hands-on activities that is the real issue. They do not envision being able to keep everything sanitized and being possible to wipe down everything like the stamps, containers, etc. every time they were touched. Also a few of the station would not be possible because of the required student to student contact.
- The WF is still scheduled and we are dealing with it day by day but we will need to make a firm decision soon.
- The Board has sent next month's meeting on August 19th as the decision date either to cancel or move forward with the Water Festival.

New Business

Prospect Creek Camp ground Site Visit (Katherine)

- Sean Rowland contacted Katherine and requested a site visit be scheduled to look at the project site. Sean would be coming in from Helena so we need to try and work around his schedule. Mondays are not good for him and late morning early afternoon is the best time of day.
- Katherine will schedule the site visit with Sean Rowland, Bill, Sean Moran, & Jason from FWP and notify GMCD of the day and time.

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

Avista Report

- Avista has been with down tree removal request
- All of Avista's recreational sites are fully operational

Weed Control

- Kent would like to see some investigation into the ventinota grass that is coming up that cannot be destroyed without strong chemicals.
- The weed board is working on some grants to assist land owners.
- Leona will contact Julie Thurston and invite her to the meeting next month to discuss option if any.

310 Activities

SW-27-19 Day

- Jason would like to leave this on the agenda for one more month in order to possibly go and visually see that it is gone.

SW-08-20 Yellowstone Pipeline

- After the site visit it was requested by YPL to table this 310 application until the new design is completed.
- A motion to table this 310 application until they resubmit the new design was made by Terry, 2nd by Kent, motion carried.

SW-11C-20 Cherry Creek

- Jason went to the house and no one answered the door.
- Jason thinks he found the contact phone number to reach the landowner and will try to call him.
- We will leave this on one more month

SW-14-2020 Walker

- The application was accepted last month
- A site visit was conducted on Friday June 19th and Bill, Terry & Jason were in attendance.
- A motion to approve the project as submitted was made by Terry, 2nd by Sean, motion carried.

SW-15-20 Sherry re-submitted per request

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Terry, 2nd by Mindy, Motion carried
- A motion to approve project as submitted was made by Kent, 2nd by Terry, Motion Carried.
- A concern was brought up about the number of docks in this specific area and it was brought to our attention that a dock density report was completed by Avista and covers this issue.
- This dock was approved in 2018-2019 by Avista.

SW-16-20 Meagher re-submitted per request

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Terry, 2nd by Kent, Motion carried
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: to adhere to the specification outlined in Avista's permit that deal with location and the minimization of vegetation disturbance was made by Terry, 2nd by Mindy, Motion carried
- Avista permit is not complete

SW-19-20 Brown

- A site visit was conducted last month.
- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy, Motion carried

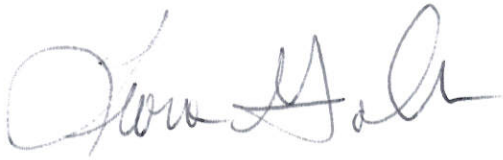
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: Put vegetation in rock work to lessen visual impact and increase stability was made by Mindy, 2nd by Sean, Motion carried

SW-2-20 Jacquemart

- A motion to accept as a completed application was made by Sean, 2nd by Mindy, Motion carried
- A motion to approve the permit with the following modifications: The dock will be pulled out of the water up stream at the boat ramp so the bank will be disturbed or damaged and it will be stored away from the bank. was made by Mindy, 2nd by Terry, Motion carried
- Some concerned about the length of the dock were discussed. But the area is very shallow and it needs to be longer to reach the water.
- There was an existing permit from 2018 that was approved by Avista

A motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm was made by Mindy, 2nd by Kent, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.



Leona Gollen
Administrator

Approved.



Bill Naegeli
Chairman

Green Mountain Conservation District Meeting

NRCS Report

July 15, 2020

An offer has been made in the selection for the new DC in Sanders County. Still waiting confirmation.

The Plains Service Center is now in "Phase III" which means visitors are allowed with pre-scheduled appointments and social distancing and masks are required.

Ben Montgomery

Supervisory District Conservationist

Ronan Field Office



Report to the Green Mountain Conservation District

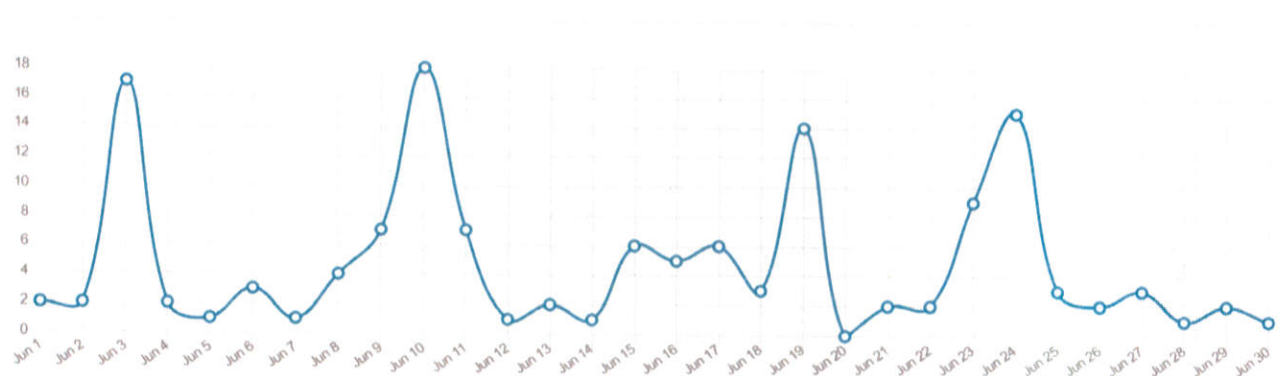
July 15, 2020

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

Website

- Final May Meeting Minutes were posted.
- Draft June Meeting Minutes were posted.
- July agenda was posted.
- Website users over the last 30 days: 114

Visitors



SESSIONS

142

↓ 38%

USERS

114

↓ 49%

PAGEVIEWS

597

↓ 2%

PAGE/SESSIONS

4.2

↑ 58%

AVG. SESSIONS

00:02:19

BOUNCE RATES

59.86%

↓ 30%

Project Updates

Bull River Revegetation

- Continued efforts maintaining exclosures and monitoring revegetation success in the Bull River.
- Assisted Troy Hidy in expanding browse protection around cedar trees on the Ross property.
- Worked with another volunteer to fix holes from beaver on the Edwards property.
- Worked with two volunteers to take photo points on Warrington and Jura properties.
- Plan to complete additional work in late July through the fall as time, resources, and volunteers are available.

Empowering watershed stewardship and restoration on private lands (223 grant):

- Continued some work on draft website. However, project implementation is currently taking a lot of priority and I have not made much progress recently. This is on the radar and I will complete a draft for your review as soon as I can.
- Met with Elena and Leona, and have coordinated with Heidi Fleury from Lake County, to develop plans for demonstration pollinator gardens in both Plains and Trout Creek. Labor, equipment, and material needs will be included in a DNRC grant proposal. Details on this are developing... and will be outlined in a draft proposal for your review hopefully sometime in August.
- Met with Troy and Don Edwards to discuss conservation opportunities and plan for further work on Edwards property in the coming years.
- Confirmed with LCFWG board that they are supported of my involvement in the pollinator program and facilitating conservation work on Edwards property

Sims Meander Project: We have preliminary consensus on a design alternative, and will continue developing this project for implementation in 2021 over the fall and winter. The USFS will complete permitting and NEPA consultation. I will work with Susan Drumheller to develop funding proposals for the remaining funding needed to implement the project.



This is me in the Bull River yesterday, standing in front of one of our revegetation plots.