



## Special Meeting Minutes March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

<b>Supervisors Present</b>	<b>Employees Present</b>
Nancy Mehaffie-Chair	Morgan Owens
Bill Naegeli	<b>Advisors Present</b>
Kristen Wing	Jason Blakney-FWP (Zoom)
Mary Reed	Mark Sommers-NW (Zoom)
Terry Hightower	Arthur Potts-Avista (Zoom)
<b>Associate Supervisors Present</b>	
Mindy Ferrell	
<b>Visitors Present</b>	
Eric Moore	

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

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

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

- This meeting will be recorded.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Bill asked if the special meeting had been posted publicly. Morgan posted all notices in the email thread that contained the original agenda going out to all the partners, posted on the website, Facebook and the Trout Creek post office that the special meeting would cover the original February 21<sup>st</sup> agenda.

### **MINUTES FROM December 13th, 2023 MEETING**

- Approved as submitted by email.

### **310 ACTIVITIES**

#### **SW-22-23 Langford Thompson Falls Reservoir**

- Site visit occurred on February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Landowner was not present at the board meeting.
- NorthWestern Energy (who owns the shoreline) does not allow the rock work that the landowner originally applied for and advises to use vegetation to solve the erosion concern instead. NorthWestern also stated that they do not allow bottom barrier use to manage native weed species in the water.
- Bill notes to change verbiage on teams report from “dryland” to “lower-growing” species and that some nonnative species can be mixed in with the native plants that will be chosen.
- A motion to accept this as a project with the modifications listed on the teams/partners report was made by Terry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristen. Motion carries.

### **SW-1-24 Kraak Prospect Creek**

- Landowner had a medical emergency and requested to be moved to the next meeting to discuss the project.

### **SW-21-23 Noxon Reservoir Pilgrim Creek Park Potts/Avista Project Completion**

- A motion to accept the Pilgrim Creek Park erosion project as complete was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry. Motion carries.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- The financial report for December and January were reviewed in their entirety.
- A motion to approve the financial report for December and January was made by Kristen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry. Motion carries.
- A motion was made to approve A/P was made by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy. Motion carries.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- IDG-23-0294A Harlow Ranch Grant extended to get in-kind match documentation from LCFWG.
- Operational audit completed on 2/14/24 by Morgan, Nancy and Kristen.
- QuickBooks training happening at the end of April. A review of our books will be discussed at that time. Kristen gave information on QuickBooks training offered through Mission West.
- GMCD dinner planned for April 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Updated the staff page on the website.
- Got our Facebook page running.

### **LOWER CLARK FORK WATERSHED GROUP (LCFWG) REPORT**

- No Report

### **MONTANA FWP**

- No new report

### **NRCS**

- March 1 st is the application deadline for any projects that would fall under Act Now. For GMCD, that includes any new forestry applications for white pine work, potentially Roots for Rivers applications, and potentially cover crop applications. Have folks contact me if they're interested.
- We have been really busy working on assessing all our new applications and getting them ready for obligation. We have a really nice variety of projects this year with applications in all our TIPs, as well as a few high tunnel applications. Through Act Now, many of our projects are already preapproved for funding. The main ones we are waiting to hear on funding for are our high tunnel applications which is an area wide fund pool. We should know in the near future which applicants were selected for funding within that fund pool.
- Providing Conservation Technical Service (CTA) as requested.
- Administering a number of active contracts
- Currently in the Tri-state Leadership Development Program for NRCS, so I will be gone a few different weeks throughout this spring for training sessions for that program.
- Will be attending an Engineering Training for NRCS practices the first week of March
- Need to discuss holding a Local Working Group meeting again this year to discuss conservation issues in Sanders County, previous NRCS work and accomplishments, and ideas for new TIPs.
- Civil Rights for Partners Checklist needs to be reviewed with GMCD again (this is done annually).

### **AVISTA UTILITIES UPDATE**

- Arthur reported on the process and progress of Flat Iron Dredging maintenance and evaluation of the boat ramp.
- They are replacing the metal grating at the Trout Creek boat launch.
- There is a management committee meeting in Sandpoint on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Arthur is working on an vegetation management plan for Island Park.

### **NORTH WESTERN ENERGY (NWE) UPDATE**

- Mark discussed the FERC licensing update.
- The sloughing and restoration of properties affected by the drop down this fall was discussed.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

## SUPERVISOR/EMPLOYEE EDUCATION

- Morgan gave her report on the Western Montana Grazing and Agriculture conference

## OLD BUSINESS

## BUILDING REPAIR/GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

## NEW BUSINESS

- A nomination for Nancy to be the Chair was made by Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristen. Mary, Nancy, and Kristen vote "Yes", Bill vote "No", Terry abstains. Motion carries.
- A nomination for Mary to be Vice Chair was made by Kristen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy. Mary, Nancy, and Kristen vote "Yes", Bill vote "No", Terry abstains. Motion carries.
- A nomination for Kristen to be the Treasurer was made by Nancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary. Bill and Mindy both state that a treasurer is not necessary because of the admin position handling the finances and they feel the responsibility falls on the whole board to track the finances. Mary, Nancy, and Kristen vote "Yes", Bill and Terry vote "No". Motion carries.
- A copy of last year's written work plan and the excel sheet work plan that Nancy created was sent to everyone and made available at the meeting. It was discussed to look them over for edits/changes and a vote will be made at the next meeting.
- The Conservation District Administrative Grant application deadline was March 1<sup>st</sup>. We did not apply this cycle. There was a debate on the need for funds. The main concern brought up was the payment to cover the yearly MACD dues of \$4000.
- The CDG-24-3773 Pollinator Initiative MOA between Eastern Sanders and Green Mountain was reviewed. A motion to sign and continue that partnership was made by Kristen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill. Motion carries.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mindy would like Watershed Festival and educational outreach camp sponsorship added to next meeting agenda.

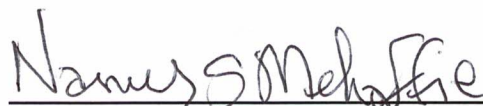
Meeting adjourned at 802 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.



Morgan Owens  
District Administrator

Approved.



Nancy Mehaffie  
Chairman



**MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET**

~~February 21, 2024 at 6pm~~

~~GMCD Monthly Meeting~~

Trout Creek, Montana

*March 6th 2024  
GMCD Special Meeting  
- M. Wells*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address or Agency</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Tony Hightower	GMCD		
Bill Nagel	GMCD		
Mary Reed	GMCD		
Nancy Mohaffie	GMCD		
Mindy Ferrell	GMCD Assoc.		
Arthur Potts	Zoom - Arista		
Jason Blakney	Zoom - FWP		
Mark Sommer	Zoom		
Kristin Wray	GMCD		
Eric & Kate Moore	Noxon landowner		Zoom