



Madison Conservation District
Local Common Sense Conservation

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Final Minutes

Regular Monthly Board Meeting ****7:00 PM**** June 15, 2021

Madison Valley Public Library

1. Call meeting to order: 7:00
2. Supervisors Present: Kate Roberts, Jon Siddoway, Kaye Suzuki, George Boyd, Nick Dyk
3. Staff Present: David Laufenberg, Rebecca Barney, Raeyna Gordon
4. Others Present: Kristi (INA Accounting) Will Smith (Public Visitor)
5. Review minutes from previous meetings: 7:05
 - a. Annual Budget Meeting Minutes Not available at meeting. (see attached)
 - b. May Monthly Meeting Minutes - Kaye Suzuki motioned to accept with **modification**, Jon Siddoway seconded, All in favor and motion carries. **APPROVED**
6. Financial-INA Accounting: 7:06
 - a. Review of Balance Sheet for end of May (Balance sheet was first reviewed at June Budget Mtg. 6/8/2021.)
 - b. Direct deposit liability shows negative due to fact that payroll is run before the end of the month and payday is after the end of the month
 - c. Review of anticipated expenses submitted at Budget Meeting see attached Anticipated June 2021 Transactions; Items noted: Trout Unlimited expenditure, Bayley Gibson's pay out, staff wages \$5K, Cody Marxer not at 25 hrs., laptop funds (paid back by MACD local government reimbursement program, funds were sent to Ruby Valley CD, DL worked with Ruby Valley CD to get these funds;) MACD funded the new laptop for the Administrator.
 - d. Workers Comp Discussion: this is paid in June each year so it does not appear on May Balance Sheet. This is paid to Montana State Fund. There was a dividend and rate reduction so the amount is much lower this year.
 - e. Interest Checking **11,509.43**
 - f. Debit Card: **\$1,669.86** (note to keep this balance at \$5K)
 - g. Funds Transfer –
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to transfer \$3,300 to Debit Card account from the 1321 checking, George Boyd Seconds, All in favor motion carries. **APPROVED**
 - Nick Dyk motions to transfer \$6,000 from MVB Savings to Checking, Kaye Suzuki seconds, all in favor motion carries. **APPROVED**
 - (Note: KS requested to verify the MVB account has overdraft protection Kristi will check on this)
 - h. Quarterly IRS Taxes were 18 days late due to password issues; INAs paid fee (29:32)
 - i. Net income:
 - Past Year at about \$18K (6-2020-6-2021)
 - Vehicle Capital Fund usually roll over left over \$2,850 to save for new vehicle capital account
 - (note: all funds rolled over from previous year budget to accounts for dedicated future projects)
 - Proposed roll over of **approximately** \$15,000:
 1. \$5,000 to Equipment funds*
 2. \$5,000 to Vehicle funds* (Vehicle has 150,000 miles and is 15 yrs old)
 3. **\$Remainder of Funds to** Strategic funds*
 - Nick Dyk motions to allocate funds as noted *above, Kaye seconds, all in favor motion carries. **APPROVED**

Discussion was held considering different pieces of equipment to consider purchasing no decisions were made. Kaye Suzuki thinks we could use strategic funds for equipment.

- Kaye Suzuki motions to accept the Financial Report submitted by INA, Jon Siddoway seconds, all in favor motion carries. **APPROVED**

7. Public Comment: None.

8. NRCS Report: no response

9. Business-310: 7:45

- No new proposed permit applications for this month
- Work Completion Reports
 - #21-08 and #21-09 wrapped up
- Monthly time spent on 310's; 6 hours; shortage of contractors
- VC Ranches 8-mile emergency... culvert got a meeting with the commissioners yesterday and am tasking them to pursue with the County, as there have been multiple subdivisions that use that as the main vein, to possibly do a traffic study and enter into some kind of agreement with the County to get that road up to standard. No HOA. There has been no engineering on those roads. David Laufenberg indicated it was very valuable that Cody Marxer facilitated these discussions. It is a private road. Subdivision has always said to the county to stay out of their business.
- Also made contact with the Deputy Attorney (310 Enforcement) will touch base again in mid-July.
- Site visits July 1
 - Mile Creek
 - Madrid South Willow
 - Spanish Q Permit #20-11 Sending a letter to follow up; to include copy of the original permit follow up visit to determine if the person is in compliance with the permit; request they send update of what has been done; Culvert is in and Letter was reviewed. Also request photos. It was suggested August 24th or 25th to visit before freeze, and if no mitigation of weed control (Kaye Suzuki would like to go if available.) There are some photos in dropbox files.
- Completed or Ongoing Projects Field Visits Update, and expiring permits
- Question to Cody Marxer are you getting enough hours? Answer: yes; Be sure to count all time for phone calls, research, any and all things you do.

10. Old Business and Reports:

- [MCD Model Draft 310 Enforcement Policy](#)

11. New Business: 8:00 pm

- Approval of 2021/2022 Budget
 - Discussion of Scholarships – decision was made to have (2) \$1000; one for a 2 yr/trade and one for a 4yr (1:06:49) We are only allocating the funds at this time; the process is yet to be developed.
 - Leaves \$7,500 for Grant program
 - Put the WC estimate back into the expenses (Workers Comp is paid once a year in June.)
 - (1:18:02) **Nick Dyk motioned to accept the 21-22 budget as modified, George Boyd seconds, all in favor motion carries (see attached) **APPROVED****
- Cameron Gage Update (1:18:34) D Laufenberg presented the two contractual documents the MOU between MCD and NW Energy (NWE) and the MCD and USGS Joint Funding Agreement. These have traditionally been done annually. D Laufenberg requested a longer term agreement for the MOU with NWE, of 5 years and this was accepted by NWE. Either party can opt out with 60-day notice. This will streamline the process. MCD will send the USGS invoice to NWE and they will pay MCD to then pay USGS. There was a question on required amount of time if MCD wanted to pull out of this agreement. There is no indicated time for this. Also noted: if USGS pulled out and NWE had sent a check to MCD, then MCD would have to return the funds. If NWE pulled out, MCD would have to either find alternative funding or discontinue support of the Gage. **George Boyd motioned to accept change from one year to five-year contract with USGS and NW Energy, Nick Dyk seconded, all in favor motion carries. **APPROVED****
Note: Nick Dyk requested the Budget spreadsheet pdf with additional notes be sent to all the Board Members

- c. Sponsorship Scholarship – As noted above K Roberts indicated this had been decided earlier and that the process to award scholarships would be determined at a later date.
- d. Grant and Cost Share: David Laufenberg provided examples of an application form for entities to use to apply for a cost share program project and as Ranking Criteria form to rank applications. He noted these are taken from Missoula and Lewis & Clark Districts. D Laufenberg indicated that it may be a good idea to have a Sub Committee to work on Cost Share Program Projects. At recent round table meeting D Laufenberg learned it is very important that the Ranking Criteria is very clear and shows very transparent especially if they have anything to do with 310 permit projects. MCD would be both the arbiter for approving, modifying, or denying a permit and funding. With justification ranking it seems there have not been any problems with transparency.

Natural Resources benefitted

Show how a small project can have a big impact

Most efficient way for MCD to support local common sense conservation

Access CD funds maybe they can get as cost match

Keeping our partners in the loop too

Nick Dyk motions to set up a subcommittee, Kaye Suzuki seconds, all in favor motion carries;

APPROVED

Cost Share Program Sub Committee

Nick Dyk

Jon Siddoway

George Boyd

Kaye Suzuki

David Laufenberg

Also noted: K Suzuki spoke about “From the Ground Up” video 45 min film it would be too long for the Fly Fishing Festival but would be great to have a Resource Film night. Dandelion spray 24D killed a whole hive of Bees.

12. Correspondence:

- a. MACD Correspondence:
 - [MACD Board Mtg May 10, 2021 Minutes](#)
 - MACD ED Report
 - CARDD legislature review and summary report
- b. [Cattleman U Live Event Sponsorship](#)
- c. Riverside Addition Subdivision Review in Ennis (Haystack Developers) Phase 1 ties into municipal water & sewer;

Ditch- Nick Dyk: May be some water rights issues;

D Laufenberg: DNRC has to sign off first on Water rights; (they have a year to bring the formal application to the City Commissioners) there is a spring (belongs to Goggins) They are planning on this area to be green space park like area. Snow Gorge: they are fairly sure this is not a problem.

K Suzuki: the gorge doesn't come that far; the buffer was built up for the water treatment plant;

D Laufenberg: we review all city applications. Phase 1 is about 30+ lots with about 122 lots complete build out

Nick Dyk: Keep tabs on the stream that runs down to there make sure they aren't tramping over someone's ditch rights or dumping into ditch
- d. Jeff Ryan – Stewardship Awardee put on agenda for next board meeting we haven't done a stewardship award for 3 years.
- e. Gallatin CD – River Rendezvous Event in July

13. Supervisors Report: None.

14. Staff/Project Report: Attached

12. Upcoming Dates:

- a. Madison County Planning Board Meeting; June 28th, 6p.m.
- b. MCD Monthly Meeting; July 20th, 2021 7pm
- c. [Wildlife Speaker Series](#); June 24th, 6:30pm

Discussion on MSU Red Bluff Range Health Study (2:01:23)

Nick Dyk asked about this and David Laufenberg offered that we could ask Clayton Marlow to give us updates on the Red Bluff. They are studying club moss and its recovery from the fire, how long will it take the club moss to come back and grazing rotation for about 3 weeks then moving the cows to see what the effects are to club moss return and forage quality/after burn health. D Laufenberg indicated that Clayton Marlow will keep us informed. Nick Dyk commented that this might be a good fit for a partnership/funding opportunity for cost sharing with MCD to assist. D Laufenberg said they are interested in assistance as they may come up short for next year. D Laufenberg let Clayton Marlow about this.

Kate Roberts adjourned the meeting at 9:08pm

Approved by: _____ Date: _____