



Final Minutes

Regular Board Meeting ****7:00 PM**** June 18, 2018
Madison Valley Public Library

1. **Call meeting to order:** Nick called the meeting to order. 7:05
2. **Supervisors present:** Nick Dyk, Mel McKittrick, Bob Sitz, Kaye Suzuki, Colten Clark
3. **Staff present:** Sunni Heikes-Knapton, Emily Osborn
4. **Others present:** Sean Lewis, NRCS
5. **Review minutes from previous meetings: 7:04** Mel moves to accept the May board meeting minutes as amended. Bob seconds. All in favor and the motion passes.
6. **Financial-Emily Osborn: 7:10** Emily read the financial report. Kaye moves to accept the financial report as presented. Colten seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
7. **Public Comment:** none
8. **Business-Mel McKittrick: 7:29**
 - a. **#18-05 Sitz Angus Ranches- Preacher Creek (stream restoration):** The purpose of this project is to improve spawning habitat. Installing rock drop structures and cleaning out willow and cottonwood deadfall along with beaver population control. Project will begin in August 2018. Mel would like Ron Spoon to review the submitted survey data and make recommendations. Mel makes a motion to table this until July board meeting. Colten seconds. Bob abstains. All in favor and motion passes.
 - b. **#18-09 Tim Cashman, Beaver Dam Ranch-Leonard Creek (dam reconstruction):** We will continue to receive information on this project. Mel moves to table until further notice. Bob seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
 - c. **#18-11 Rich Chandler, YC- 2 unnamed tributaries of Muddy Creek (bridge):** This permit is for the possible construction of a temporary log bridge to transport equipment from one side of the stream to the other during construction of a 72,000lb bridge for skiing and snow cats. The bridge will span the narrowest part of this tributary. Construction timeframe is estimated to be another month out. Kaye moves to accept #18-11 as proposed. Colten seconds. All in favor and motion passes. Permit will expire July 1, 2019.
 - d. **#18-12 Kevin Germain, Moonlight Basin-unnamed tributary to Jack Creek (fill placement for gravity sewer main):** Tabled.
 - e. **#18-17 Carter Kruse, Flying D Ranch- NF of Spanish Creek (concrete fish barrier):** This permit is for the installation of a concrete fish barrier spanning the creek channel constructed to withstand a 100-year flow event. They will install a water balloon coffer dam during construction to divert water. Bob moves to accept #18-17 as proposed. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion passes. Permit will expire July 1, 2019
 - f. **#18-18E Pat Goggins, Moores Creek (erosion):** The stream was temporarily diverted around the cement control headgate because of massive erosion around the cement headgate causing a complete washout making it impossible to irrigate and increasing sediment in the stream. When stream flow is down, they will submit a 310 permit for construction. Mel moves to accept #18-18E as proposed. Colten seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
 - g. **#18-19 Madison Valley Garden Ranch, Madison River (increase flow for irrigation pump):** This is a five-year maintenance permit to improve a diversion for an irrigation pump making a trench with a backhoe into the channel. Modifications are possible using a Jersey Barrier. Bob

moves to approve #18-19 as modified. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion passes. Permit expires in July 1, 2025

h. Work Completion Reports: none

i. Monthly time spent on 310's: Mel estimates 25 hours spent on 310s

9. Old Business and Reports: 8:15

a. Strategic Planning/CD Foundation report: George was planning on checking with the Madison Valley Ranchlands Group (MVRG) to hear their opinion on forming the CD Foundation. George is absent from tonight's meeting. The MVRG meeting is this Thursday, June 21st, to discuss setting up a fiscal sponsor agreement. Sunni will be attending the meeting this Thursday to discuss the MVRG's concerns and will report back. Sunni reached out to Dan Clark for assistance with forming the CD foundation and is waiting for a response.

10. NRCS report: Sean Lewis was in attendance and introduced himself as the new Dillon/Sheridan District Conservationist.

11. New Business: 8:37

a. Election by acclimation/vote needed: Kaye moves to accept Bob as an MCD supervisor, Colten seconds, all in favor and motion passes, Bob abstains. Colten moves to accept Mel as MCD supervisor, Kaye seconds, all in favor and motion passes, Mel abstains.

- **Mel and Bob:** Roger Thompson read the Oath of office for Mel McKittrick, and Bob Sitz.
- **George:** Kaye moves to accept George Boyd as MCD supervisor. Bob seconds. All in favor and motion passes.

b. Budget and Workplan meeting County Commissioners (6/26/18): The RVCD has not been able to discuss joining us for the presentation. We will proceed without them. The meeting is to give Madison County an idea of the goal of the CD workplan and budget for this fiscal year. To highlight the projects being completed with the county assessment income within the water program and show the lost 310 funding.

c. Bookkeeping Services: Emily received a letter from Ward, Stender and Associates, stating that they will be closing their office September 1, 2018 and we will need to find a new bookkeeper. Sunni reached out to Kristi Lyons. She quoted \$45.00 an hour. She has not done PERS before. Kaye inquired if Ward, Stender and Associates would be willing to help train with the transition. Kaye will contact Julie. Jennifer Barsness was also mentioned as an option.

d. Indian Creek Ditch Measurements: We received correspondence from Jeff Lazslo that claims there was a consensus with the board of the Indian Creek Ditch Company (ICDC), there was a question if this was a consensus from the board, for the MCD to continue data collection on the Indian Creek Ditch. The company would prefer the MCD to lead the data collection instead of Trout Unlimited, which has been taking the measurements previously. Sunni feels that the water users would benefit to continue the water data collection but that there are other organizations that could be involved with the data collection. We will not proceed forward with the collection at this time until the ICDC board comes to us to discuss the expectations and goals. There was a suggestion of other organizations that could be involved with the data collection. Sunni will attend the next ICDC meeting, Colten will follow up with Sunni on the details of their next meeting.

e. Rent increase for MCD office spaces: We received a notice that our rent will increase 10% to \$385.00 a month that includes both office spaces.

12. Correspondence: 9:41

a. Dottie's Bookkeeping: Emily reported that we received a response from Dottie requesting more information. We need to continue getting the information to Dottie. Emily will gather pay stubs and reports showing no payments during Dottie's time as the MCD accountant.

b. Ward, Stender and Associates: See above "Bookkeeping services"

- 13. Supervisors Report:** Nick reported on attending the Leadership training held in Virginia City on June 7, 2018. The training covered the correct protocols for holding public meetings. Kaye, Mel, Ethan, Jon, and Emily also attended.
- 14. Staff/Project Report:** Mel moves to approve Sunni submitting a 233-grant application for \$20,000.00 for the Lower Jack Creek Project. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion passes.
- Summer activities:** Mel would like to MCD board to take a tour of the Yellowstone Club. Nick suggested October 5-10.
- Fred Provenza:** Sunni would like to get him to come and give a presentation.
- Tour of our recent projects.**

15. Upcoming Dates:

- **Ranching for Rivers Project Tours: June 27th in Helena, and June 28th in Deer Lodge**
- **River Rendezvous: July 12th in Great Falls, MT**

Staff Report

Ethan Kunard: Water Programs Manager:

Watershed/Drought Planning – The draft Watershed Restoration Plan is ~40% complete. Additional TMDL information is needed from DEQ to move forward on remaining components. Additionally, I will be turning my direction this summer toward developing the drought resilience components of the plan. This will focus on strategies and management practices to improve water efficiency.

Madison Stream Team – The Madison Stream Team training will be held June 19th at the Jack Creek Preserve Foundation. We're still in the planning phases of the summer monitoring, but will be working on that intensely over the coming weeks. We are seeking funding from the Big Sky Resort Tax to pay for the portion of Jack Creek that is monitored within the resort tax boundary, but are otherwise seeking additional funds for general operation of the Stream Team.

Watershed Stories – We chose three focus areas for the watershed stories: youth education (GROWW), community engagement (Madison Stream Team), and landowner stewardship (Owens Ranch). We are photographing the individuals for each story June 13th and June 14th. The end product will be a set of postcard-sized publications we can use to promote the community conservation efforts in the Madison Valley.

Planning Board – No Report

Sunni Heikes-Knapton – Watershed Coordinator: *Thank you for allowing me to take time off to visit family in South Dakota.*

Leadership Montana:

I was notified that I was selected for the 2018-2019 class of Leadership Montana, and that my \$2,750 tuition is covered by the Wilburforce Foundation. Additional costs include travel and lodging for the 7 trainings: September 5-7 Big Sky, October 10-12 Butte, November 14-16 Missoula, January 9-11 Helena, February 6-8 Great Falls, March 13-15 Glasgow, April 24-26 Billings.

Lower Jack Creek: Madison Valley Ranch has taken over watering responsibilities for watering the plantings and things survived high water very well. We will do a tour on site on June 29th and the full board is welcome. We have started to apply for funds for Phase II work, with a \$20k application submitted to MWCC. We will be submitting a 223 Grant application for \$20,000 to help offset the remaining project expenses. Need approval to do this.

Moores Creek Lyons: The final walk through with the NRCS is planned for Monday, June 18th. All plants have been installed and protected from browse, and the final fence work is done. MTFWP wants to tour the site and then will provide final payment from the Future Fisheries grant.

South Meadow Endecott: No Report

GROWW: June 11th was the first week of the Good Thymes Camp. All weeks are full and a wait list exists for any openings. We have not heard on the grants for the greenhouse for the high school.

Summer Activities: We have previously done some education events this time of year. Do you want to bring any speakers in? Demonstrate the rental equipment? What topics do you think are of value to our area? We have a number of projects that have been completed in the past 5 years. Do you want to tour all of them this summer?

Emily Osborn: Administrator: I have been busy filling my time with various administration tasks and bookkeeping.

Meeting adjourned: 10:01pm