



Madison Conservation District
Local Common Sense Conservation

222 E. Main Street Suite 2B | PO Box 606 | Ennis, MT 59729
406.682.3181

WWW.MADISONCD.ORG

FINAL MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting **7:00 PM** May 20, 2019
Madison Valley Public Library

1. **Call meeting to order: 7:00**
2. **Supervisors Present:** Jon Siddoway, Abigail Dennis, Paul Jurenas, Nick Dyk, Kaye Suzuki, George Boyd
3. **Staff Present:** Ethan Kunard, Briana Shook
4. **Others Present:** John Wagoner, Murray Strong, Mary Hendrix
5. **Review minutes from previous meetings: 7:05** Jon moves to accept the April minutes as amended. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion carries.
6. **Financial-Ethan Kunard: 7:06** Ethan presented the April financial report. Kaye moves to approve the financial report as presented. George seconds. All in favor and motion carries. Kaye makes a motion to move \$15,000.00 from the county account to the checking account for future expenses. Jon seconds. All in favor and motion carries.
7. **Public Comment:** Mary Hendrix, DNRC Conservation District's Bureau: Mary is here to introduce herself to the Madison Conservation District.
8. **NRCS Report:** John Wagoner read report from NRCS. New grassland conservation initiative, was previously under FSA. EQUIP ranking deadline is May 31st, and the Sheridan office has only received a few applications. John hosted a landowner outreach meeting for the Southern Tobacco Root conifer project, and about 25 people attended. John has gotten 4 EQUIP applications for the Southern Tobacco Root conifer removal projects. The 5-year goal for this project is 6500 acres. Kaleena Miller, Madison Jefferson Extension, inquired about using the Sheridan Field office to have office hours in the Ruby Valley. John has been working on the Long Range Plan, stream health and noxious weeds are of main concerns.
9. **Business-310-Ethan Kunard: 7:15**
 - a. **#18-20 Steve or Eric Hamilton, South Willow Creek (Ditch Diversion in Potosi Campground)**
Work won't be occurring until July. Permit is expiring, waiting for new 310 application to come in.
 - b. **#18-29E Keith Dunn, North Willow Creek (Beaver Dam)**
On hold until site inspection takes place.
 - c. **#19-07 Levi Dutton, Sheep Creek (Culvert installation)**
Due to the lack of live water and aquatic vegetation at the proposed site, the board decided the application is not a project. Nick made the motion to call the application not a project. Kaye seconds. All in favor, and motion carries.
 - d. **#19-08 3 Rivers, Butte Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - e. **#19-09 3 Rivers, Deadman Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - f. **#19-10 3 Rivers, Horn Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - g. **#19-11 3 Rivers, Madison River (Fiber optic)**
 - h. **#19-12 3 Rivers, Mile Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - i. **#19-13 3 Rivers, No Name (Fiber optic)**
 - j. **#19-14 3 Rivers, Canal Crossing (Fiber optic)**
 - k. **#19-15 3 Rivers, Papoose Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - l. **#19-16 3 Rivers, Sheep Creek (Fiber optic)**
 - m. **#19-17 3 Rivers, Sun Creek (Fiber optic)**
Kaye moves to accept permits #19-08 - #19-17 as Not a Project, unless they are changing method of installation. George seconds. All in favor and motion carries.

- n. **#19-18 Moonlight Basin, Lees Pool & South Side Road**
Site inspection held off until June when site is accessible. Kaye moves to table permit #19-18 until site inspection. Jon seconds. All in favor and motion carries.
- o. **Work Completion Reports:** None
- p. **Monthly time spent on 310's**

10. Old Business and Reports: 7:45

- a. **MCD Nonprofit:** Ethan has compiled a list of potential board members. Discussed projects of the CD that the Nonprofit can takeover to allow the CD to focus on providing assistance and support to landowners. The Nonprofit would also take on more education and outreach projects. Ethan shared a handout that illustrated how strategic planning of the CD can compliment strategic planning of the Nonprofit and areas the Nonprofit can takeover. Nick would like the CD to keep education and engagement as a focus of the CD, programs such as GROWW. There was discussion on potential board members, Kaye noted to make sure there is even representation between Ag and Business. A survey/questionnaire can be distributed to all potential members and the CD Board of Supervisors can discuss results. Any suggestions for potential board members can be sent to Ethan.
- b. **#19-01 Acela Truck Company violation:** The Deputy County Attorney, Justin Ekwall is reviewing the violation.
- c. **Banquet Report:** Nick moves to pay the Ruby Valley Conservation District \$3,087.56 for banquet expenses. Kaye seconds. All in favor and motion carries.
- d. **MHP/MWCC Fall Watershed Tour:** The MWCC is hosting 3-day tour on September 11th touring through the Missouri Headwaters Partnership area. One of the nights would be in Ennis. Potential project site is Janet Endecott's.
- e. **2020 Meeting/Holiday Schedule – Tues/Thurs:** Possibly 3rd Tuesday of the month. Will be discussed at next meeting in June.
- f. **Montana Range Days Scholarships:** No applicants
- g. **Montana Youth Range Camp Scholarships:** No applicants
- h. **Agenda for Budget Meeting:** Ethan handed out the draft agenda for the upcoming budget meeting on June 10th at 6pm.

11. New Business: 7:30

- a. **Montana Leopold Conservation Award-Applications due July 1st:** Send out to previous stewardship award winners
- b. **GROWW Program Administrator-Emily:** Emily will work ~10 hours/week towards GROWW administration and would work out of the CD office. George makes a motion to allow Emily to utilize the CD office for her GROWW admin duties. Nick seconds. Kaye abstains. All in favor and motion carries.

12. Correspondence: 8:00

- a. None

13. Supervisors Report: Nick has been doing some work with the rotary harrow and seeder.

14. Staff/Project Report

15. Upcoming Dates:

- a. **Livestock Genetic Management and Grazing, May 29-30-Hobson, MT**
- b. **2019 State Wide Administer Training, June 3-6-Highwood, MT**
- c. **MWCC Ales for Charity Night, June 4th-Helena, MT**
- d. **Montana Range Days, June 17-19-Dillon, MT**
- e. **Montana Youth Range Camp, June 25-28-Bozeman, MT**
- f. **33rd Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp, July 14-19-Missoula, MT**
- g. **MACD Convention, November 19-21-Kallispel, MT**

Meeting adjourned: 9:39PM

Staff Report

Ethan Kunard: Water Programs Manager

Jack Creek/Moonlight Basin Watershed Planning – We'll be attending a "healthy headwaters" meeting in Big Sky to discuss monitoring needs on both sides of the divide. Additionally, we are meeting with Karen Filipovich to discuss future coordination needs for organizing discussions around the Jack Creek watershed in the future.

Madison Stream Team – We were awarded ~\$2,000 from the DEQ to cover lab analysis costs. Additionally, we submitted a rollover request to the Big Sky Resort Tax to pay for some monitoring on Jack Creek. The training date is set for June 10th, and I'll be working with Briana to organize and plan the training. We will also be participating in a one-day workshop with MSU Extension Water Quality to discuss opportunities for better engage communities in the Madison, Gallatin, Yellowstone, and Sun River watersheds with volunteer data collection. The goal of the workshop is to identify tools we can use to increase awareness and understanding around water resource conditions at the local level.

Lower Jack Creek – We will be working to develop individual contracts with Jeff Dunn, Cindy Haushauer, and RESPEC for their upcoming involvement in construction oversight. Together, ~\$15,000 is going to their expenses for oversight, and we need to make sure individual roles and expectations are clearly outlined. I visited the Phase I site last week to look at the condition of the containerized willows and cottonwoods. Roughly, it appears that about 80% of the plants are living. In an effort to reduce browse pressure this spring/summer, I applied a chemical treatment to all of the plants to hopefully limit ungulate browsing.

MWCC Fall Watershed Tour – We had a meeting in April to discuss details for the tour. The tour will begin in Butte, and we will spend the first day in the Big Hole/Beaverhead. The first overnight stay will be in Dillon, before spending the second day in the Ruby/Madison. We will stay in Ennis the second night, and then visit the Jefferson/Gallatin the final day. We need to plan 1-2 potential tour stops, and MWCC will plan all of the logistics.

Watershed Restoration/Drought Resilience Planning – No update

CD Nonprofit – I've worked to refine the objectives of this group, and have identified a list of prospective board members to reach out to. Additionally, I've begun parsing out potential roles and responsibilities that we might consider splitting between the Conservation District and the nonprofit.

Planning Board – There is a new Planning Director who I met last week while working on the department's 2019-2020 budget. During the April meeting, we discussed a proposal for the North 40, and also took a brief look at the proposed updated Ennis subdivision regulations.

Strategic Plan – I will be going through the outcomes from our strategic plan to begin selecting some items for us to consider taking on for 2019-2020. This will coincide with our upcoming budget planning meeting, and will ensure we are following through with the priorities we set for the next ~3 years.

Emily Osborn: Administrator

I will be traveling to New Zealand from May 15th to May 31st, 2019

Administration Tasks- I have completed or scheduled all the administrative tasks in preparation for my trip. I have been working with Ethan drafting the MCD FY 19/20 budget for our Budget meeting on June 10th.

2019 Banquet – I've included in the meeting packets the final budget for the banquet for review. Payment will need to be submitted to the RVCD for our share of the expenses. These numbers have been confirmed by the RVCD.

GROWW: I have accepted a position with the GROWW program as an administrator to help with the invoicing and volunteer schedule. This position will be approximately 10 hours per week.

Bear Creek Days: The MCD will be volunteering with the food preparation and serving on Thursday, May 16th. I have coordinated with Melissa Griffiths (MVRG) to split the Bear Creek Days Costco shopping. The Forest Service confirmed that we will be feeding approximately 600 students, volunteers, and presenters over the course of the three days. The RMEF contributed \$1500.00 to be spent on these supplies. Confirmed MCD volunteers are; Ethan, Briana, Adam, Kaye and Jon.

310: I have been working with Don MacIntyre, DNRC and Justin Ekwall, Deputy County Attorney – Madison County to address the #19-01 310 violation. Don MacIntyre provided Justin with the documents to confirm this is a violation. Justin is reviewing the documents and will contact the MCD.

Briana Shook: Big Sky Watershed Corps Member

Madison Stream Team – A few volunteers are still continuing early run-off turbidity sampling and I have been analyzing the samples as they come in. Ethan and I have begun taking stream flow measurements and continuing to get the TruTracks out on designated sites. I have set a date for the upcoming 2019 Training for June 6th and I am working on flyers to help spread the word around town and electronically. I am also working on incorporating noxious weed ID and AIS best practices into the training this year.

Ennis School Pollinator Garden – I have met with Blake Nursery to discuss plant species, what they have available, and what may work for the garden. I have received a quote from them that lists species, quantity, and price. I will be meeting with the GROWW program to discuss the species list and possible changes to the budget. Once I get approval for species and budget spending, I will order the plants. I estimate this to happen around end of May to early June. Planting should take place soon after. I will also be discussing needs for the garden and what to purchase based on the budget.

SWCDM Grant – I received funding for a grant I applied for to address non-point source pollution within the Madison watershed by education and outreach. For this project, I will be purchasing custom dog waste stations to place in town. Locations are TBD, however I am currently working with the Ennis Lions Club as a partner, and Montana FWP has given permission to place a station at the Ennis fishing access site.

BSWC Technical Skills Training – I attended the BSWC Technical Skills training on April 30th-May 3rd. This training provided me with some background that will help when it comes time to do the Madison Stream Team training.