



Madison Conservation District
Local Common Sense Conservation

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Final Meeting Minutes

Spanish Q Ranch Site Visit – Permit #20-11 ****10:30 AM****
Regular Monthly Board Meeting ****12:00 PM**** November 17, 2020
WebEx (virtual) & Lone Elk Mall MCD Office

1. Spanish Q Site Visit. Nick Dyk, Jon Siddoway, and David Laufenberg toured site for permit #20-11 at 10:30am with Greg and Colin Rice.
2. Call meeting to order: 12:02
3. Supervisors Present: Jon Siddoway, Kate Roberts, Nicholas Dyk, Kaye Suzuki, Paul Jurenas, George Boyd joined at 3:15pm
4. Staff Present: David Laufenberg, Bayley Gibson
5. Others Present: Emily Osborn, Mike Duncan
6. Review minutes from previous meetings: 12:03
 - a. October Meeting Minutes
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to accept the Oct. Minutes. Jon Siddoway seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
 - b. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
7. Financial-Emily Osborn: 12:04
 - a. October Financials
 - Emily created a new line for Grants/Scholarships/Awards under expenses– this line is not in the original budget.
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to accept the financials as presented. Kate seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
 - b. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
 - Nick Dyk motions to move \$10000 from savings to checking. Kaye Suzuki seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
8. Public Comment 12:18: None
9. NRCS Report 12:18:

Office is in “Phase 3” for now. Each county must have less than 4 active cases, and maintain for several weeks before we can fully open, or go back to normal. Building is still closed to public, but visitors are allowed by appointment and must wear face mask.

EQIP application period closed for 2021 project, today.

12 applications

2 Honey bee pollinator initiative

2 High tunnel initiative

8 SGI conifer encroachment/ S. T-Roots TIP

1 CSP Renewal application

Ranking deadline is Dec 4.

1 WRE restoration project is underway, construction started last week. Fencing/ interior fencing removal is almost complete.

4 of 5, FY-2020 conifer encroachment contracts have had work begin, with approximately 1700 acres treated this year.

Working with David Laufenberg (Madison CD), early stages or developing TIP for riparian health on streams in east side of T-roots.

10. Business-310-Paul Jurenas: 12:19

a. 20-29

- Applicant: Kirby Alton
- Stream: Madison River/Shumaker Ditch
- Type of Project: Replace worn out headgate with new ones
- Status:
- Date of Proposed Work: 11/1/2020 to 12/1/2020
- Notes:

- Approved/Modified/Tabled

- Jon Siddoway motions to accept permit #20-29 as proposed with the maintenance plan. Kaye Suzuki seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.

b. 20-30E

- Applicant: Mike Green and Julie Funston
- Stream: North Meadow Creek
- Type of Project: Removed debris from streambed that caused flooding and threatened the safety of a home.
- Status:
- Date of Proposed Work: Emergency action taken on 10/23/2020
- Notes:

-The emergency action taken didn't disturb bed or banks, just involved minimal debris removal. Nick Dyk motions to accept this permit as proposed. Kate Roberts seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.

- Approved/Modified/Tabled

c. 20-31

- Applicant: Tim Cashman – Beaver Dam Ranch, LLC
- Stream: Leonard Creek
- Type of Project: Maintain a headgate and restore a damaged stream reach
- Status:
- Date of Proposed Work: 10/2020 to 4/2021
- Notes:

-This project intends to remediate the effects of a dam washing out and includes stabilizing a headgate at the bottom of a channel; limited debris removal – where there are full blockages; and creek restoration.

-There is deep incised erosion with very steep banks off the creek channel. Applicant wants to slope banks back quite a way – 1 to 1 slope that would catch rain and erosion. Revegetation is key in this project– use silt fence and /or erosion control matting on this stretch. Mike Duncan suggests waiting until spring and after high water. Nick Dyk wants to limit amount of debris removal and leave rootballs intact that are holding soil in place.

-Jon Siddoway motions to accept this permit with the recommended time outlines that Mike Duncan suggested. Work on upper stretch after high water flows, headgate work can be done whenever. Modification: Utilize silt fence at the base of exposed slope to ensure that sediment doesn't reach creek channel.

-Kaye asks about slope. Nick says it will likely be 1 to 1. Mike agrees. It will be fairly steep. Nick Dyk seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.

- Approved/Modified/Tabled

d. 20-32

- Applicant: Michael Actkinson/Channels Ranch
- Stream: Madison River
- Type of Project: Use pit run materials and soil stabilization fabric to provide a sloped surface that water can flow over without eroding more land
- Status:
- Date of Proposed Work: 11/9/2020 to 11/11/2020
- Notes:
 - Project area includes a braided channel of the Madison River; to the east a good two track then eroded area headed in opposite direction. Eroded area funnels into small natural spring that runs along the levy. In the past ice events directed water from side channel to the east and when it hit the creek along the levy it side cut back toward the Madison and threatens the road. This area is very conducive to continued erosion. Applicant wants to slope the banks back to prevent the flows from continuing to erode the area.
 - The irrigation ditch is mislabeled on the map provided by the applicant and should be a natural spring. Nick Dyk would call it a slough or a spring creek and believes this portion of the project is jurisdictional.
 - The work would ultimately prevent a natural process from happening that would certainly affect the bed or banks of a stream (within jurisdiction.)
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to accept permit #20-32 as a project under our jurisdiction as proposed. Nick Dyk wants to add the modification from the team report. Kaye Suzuki agrees. Strike upstream headgate likely not jurisdictional from the team report modifications. Nick Dyk seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
- Approved/Modified/Tabled

e. 20-33

- Applicant: Karen McKitrick
- Stream: Eight Mile Creek
- Type of Project: Clean small channel so water is contained in a stream
- Status:
- Date of Proposed Work: ASAP
- Notes:
 1. Mel McKitrick applied for this same application last year, but the work was never started and that permit has expired. The previous application, #19-05 was approved with modifications.
 - Small channel floods and makes swamp-like conditions. Original recommendation was to move the channel to the north. Team maintains that recommendation and adds to keep the channel narrow - 12 to 18 wide at the top and similar depth.
 - Mike Duncan suggests keeping livestock out of the project area by fencing stream off to get things established. Riparian stream management area possibility.
 - Nick Dyk motions to approve it as modified from the team report. Kate Roberts seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.

- Approved/Modified/Tabled

f. Work Completion Reports:

- #19-24 Brad Owens: culvert installation on UT Moran Creek.
- #20-17 Drew Scott: project to remove silt from pond on Daisy Creek.

- #19-34 Nicholas Dyk: replace existing headgate slide structure
- g. Monthly time spent on 310's; 20 hours- Paul Jurenas; 9 hours for Supervisor
- h. 310 Completion Visits: Spanish Q Permit #20-11
 - Site Visit 11/17/2020. Applicant used good fill material. Gravel is blocking flow into pond that will have to be removed in the spring to fill the pond. The culvert was probably bedded 3 to 4 inches. Will plan another site visit after revegetation – late next summer, or early next fall.
- i. Restructure 310 Visits
 - Transition Date – Paul Jurenas
 - January/February or until position is filled
 - Supervisors assigned 310 site visits monthly vs. geographically
 - Kaye Suzuki prefers geographical responsibility with back up from other supervisors. Nick Dyk thinks a monthly rotation will be more flexible. Kate Roberts suggests choosing an option, then adjusting if needed; prefers to commit on a monthly basis.
 - 310 Specialist Position and Hiring Process
 - Include meeting hours to the job description. Require trainings for the 310 process.
 - David is willing to spearhead the hiring effort. Jon Siddoway will work with David. Kate Roberts is willing to help on January 310 site visits along with Paul Jurenas and Mike Duncan.

11. Old Business and Reports 2:52:

- a. MOU with RVCD regarding common boundary along watershed delineation
 - MCD provides field visits/recommendations on permits within the Madison Watershed but that are located technically in the RVCD. RVCD makes the decision and send us a copy of that permit.
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to accept and send MOU to RVCD regarding 310 watershed delineation as put together by David. Jon Siddoway seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
 - **Approved**/Modified/Tabled

12. Take a break; reconvene at 3:15pm

13. New Business 3:15: George Boyd has joined the meeting, making five Supervisors

- a. Supervisor Appointments
 - Supervisor Position held by Colten Clark
 - Colten Clark is not present. Nick Dyk motions to reappoint Colten Clark for another term. Nick Dyk spoke with Colten Clark yesterday. Kaye Suzuki seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
 1. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
 - Supervisor Position held by Nicholas Dyk
 - Kaye Suzuki motions to have Nick Dyk retain the position of Supervisor. Kate Roberts seconds. Kaye Suzuki, Jon Siddoway, George Boyd, Kate Roberts all in favor, and Nick Dyk abstains.
 1. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
 - Supervisor Position held by Kate Roberts
 - For the duration of term, 2 years, Kaye Suzuki motions to reappoint Kate Roberts to the position of Supervisors, Jon Siddoway seconds. George Boyd, Kaye Suzuki, Jon Siddoway, Nick Dyk all in favor, and Kate Roberts abstains.
 1. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
- b. 2021 Programs, Projects, and Strategic Plan – revisit when we meet in-person again.
 - Continue with the Madison Stream Team
 - Pilot soil/range health program – small scall monitoring; basic methodology; Jon Siddoway is happy to help with this program and wants to think about who our audience will be.
 - Intern/technician for summer 2021 – have hired BSWC member in past years. Montana Conservation Intern – 6-month position May – August; takeover Stream Team duties/logistics. Cost \$5000. Not our responsibility to provide housing. George Boyd motions to give David Laufenberg the authorization to move forward on finding an intern and to sign for things with a limit of \$6500. Nick Dyk seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.
 1. **Approved**/Modified/Tabled
 - Restoration – work on passive projects – riparian fencing, Ranching for Rivers.
- c. Reassess Employee Insurance Stipend
 - Asking for an increase to \$700 per employee per month. Half that for part-time employee.

-George Boyd motions to increase the employee health stipend to \$550/month for full-time employees and \$275/month for part-time employees. Kaye Suzuki seconds. Nick Dyk, Kate Roberts, George Boyd, and Kaye Suzuki all aye, Jon Siddoway nay, the motions carries.

14. Correspondence:

- a. October 2020 LAHC Report
- b. Cataract Data Access

15. Supervisors Report:

16. Staff/Project Report:

1. Madison Stream Team
 - a. Completed season's field work on Nov 6th
 1. Data analysis and report in the coming months
 2. One field day in the winter for baseline nutrient sampling on Jack Creek
 - b. Multimeter maintenance (materials purchased for \$350)
 2. Pollinator Program
 - a. Winter/Spring 2021 rollout
 3. Rancher Roundtable
 - a. January and February; 4 programs
 - b. Partnering with MVRG, MSU-Ext, and RVCD
 4. Madisonian Newspaper
 - a. Natural Resource Notes (NRN) column on soil health
 5. MCD Newsletter
 - a. Distributed in mid-November
 6. Planning Board
 - a. Working on identifying and describing terminology in sub-regs to clarify review process.
 7. Covid-19 Funding
 - a. CARES Act grant for laptop and PPE (\$950; working with the county)
 8. Events and Meetings attended
 - a. Madison County Planning Board Monthly Meeting, October 26th
 - b. Gravelly Landscape Collaborative Meeting, November 3rd
 - c. Rancher Roundtable Planning Meeting, November 3rd
 - d. Madison County Planning Board Subcommittee Meeting, November 9th
 - e. Conservation District Idea Share Presentation, November 10th
 - f. GROWW Meeting, November 10th
 - g. Future Fisheries and Ranching for Rivers meeting with Travis Lohrenz (FWP), November 10th
 - h. CD Employees Organization Annual Meeting, November 13th
- 12. Upcoming Dates:**
- a. Madison County Planning Board Meeting; November 30th, 6p.m.
 - b. MCD Monthly Meeting; January 19, 2021, 12pm