



**Madison
Conservation
District**

Madison Conservation District
Local Common Sense Conservation

222 E. Main Street Suite 2B | PO Box 606 | Ennis, MT 59729
406.682.7289

WWW.MADISONCD.ORG

FINAL AGENDA

Regular Board Meeting ****7:00 PM**** August 20, 2018
Madison Valley Public Library

- 1. Call meeting to order (Supervisors and staff present): 7:00**
- 2. Review minutes from previous meetings: 7:05**
- 3. Financial-Emily Osborn: 7:10** Read financial report & review recent bills.
- 4. Public Comment:**
- 5. Business-310-Mel McKittrick: 7:25**
 - a. #18-20 Steve or Eric Hamilton, South Willow Creek (Ditch Diversion in Potosi Campground)**
 - b. #18-23 Pat Goggins, Moores Creek (Replace failed diversion structure)**
 - c. #18-24 John Crumley, North Meadow Creek (Erosion prevention)**
 - d. #18-25 Tim Cashman, Beaver Dam Ranch-Leonard Creek (Bridge repair/reconstruction)**
 - e. Work Completion Reports:**
 - #17-20-O'Dell Creek crossing
 - #18-03-Bear Creek headgate
 - #18-16-Mill Creek headgate
 - f. Monthly time spent on 310's**
 - g. Succession planning-310's with Mel**
- 6. Old Business and Reports: 8:15**
 - a. Strategic Planning/CD Foundation report-Sunni**
 - Strategic planning meeting with Dan Clark, October 18-19, or October 30-31st, 2018
- 7. New Business: 9:00**
 - a. Bookkeeping Services report-Emily**
 - b. Joint Funding Agreement with USGS-Sunni**
 - c. Overall Development Plan from Lone Mountain Land-Ethan**
 - d. MWCC Symposium, October 10-12, 2018-Ethan (Ethan is attending-requesting assistance with registration and lodging cost.)**
 - e. August 22nd, DEQ meeting-Ethan**
- 8. Correspondence: 9:30**
 - a. Dottie's Bookkeeping-Emily**
 - b. Madison County Commissioners/John Tubbs letter**
 - c. Stream Team thank you cards-outgoing, needs signatures**
- 9. NRCS Report**
- 10. Supervisors Report**
 - a. Equipment Usage-Colten**
- 11. Staff/Project Report**
- 12. Upcoming Dates:**
 - a. DEQ meeting, August 22nd -Ennis, MT**

- b. **Supervisor Summit, August 29 & 30-Helena, MT**
- c. **Conservation Film Fest, August 31-Ennis, MT**
- d. **Area 6 meeting, September 26-Clyde Park, MT**
- e. **2018 Watershed Symposium, October 10-11-Whitefish, MT**

Staff Report

Ethan Kunard: Water Programs Manager:

Watershed/Drought Planning – There will be a meeting hosted by DEQ on August 22nd at 1:00 for stakeholders to comment on the draft Madison TMDLs for nutrients, metals, and pathogens impairments on South Meadow, Moores Creek, Elk Creek, Hot Springs Creek, and O’Dell Creek. We’re currently in the 30-day comment period for stakeholders. These comments will then be incorporated into the draft document before the piece goes out to public review/comment in September. At that point, there will be a 30-day public comment period on the TMDLs before being finalized. I’ve compiled comments/questions to send to DEQ, but it would also be great to have a supervisor attend this meeting where a presentation will be given for the Madison TMDLs. Additionally, the Montana DNRC is requesting an extension for the Missouri Headwaters Drought Resilience Project that would allow us to have additional time to expend the \$13,000 remaining in that contract to address water supply vulnerabilities for surface and groundwater in the Madison.

Madison Stream Team – We’re nearly halfway through the sampling season. With time commitments on other efforts, I’ve not worked on a lot of the data entry and analysis so far, so there is not much to report yet on streamflow and water quality results. As time frees up, I’ll be working to catch up on those items.

Watershed Stories – The interviews have been completed, and our final products should be available in October.

MWCC Watershed Symposium – October 10-12th is the biennial Montana Watershed Coordination Council’s Watershed Symposium in Whitefish, MT. I have been working throughout the past year with MWCC to help plan the Symposium, and think the theme, “Advancing Conservation Through Effective Communication” will provide some great opportunities for local conservation groups to learn new ideas and skills. We’re anticipating almost 200 people to attend from around Montana. In addition to delivering the opening address, I’ll also be moderating one of the sessions with local groups and funders who are attending from around the Western US.

Planning Board – We had a pre-plat application for a subdivision in Moonlight Basin. The development was directly adjacent to one of the larger wetlands in the area, and also had two small streams flowing through the parcel. The developer initially requested a variance to the 100ft. setback from the stream corridor, but the variance was eventually withdrawn. The developer did not provide a buffer for the adjacent wetland, and I expressed concerns with nearby runoff having negative impacts to the condition of that wetland. The developer assured that the covenants will prohibit any impacts from occurring (as long as they are enforced throughout time).

Sunni Heikes-Knapton – Watershed Coordinator:

Lower Jack Creek: We were notified that we will be awarded \$20k for the Phase II work on Lower Jack Creek by the Montana Watershed Coordination Council. I will be attending the 223 hearing on August 29th in Helena to present for that grant request. We anticipate additional \$15k in grant support from Trout and Salmon Foundation, Yellow Dog Foundation, and the Montana Trout Foundation. We completed photo monitoring and did some maintenance on the browse protections on the plantings. Madison Valley Ranch staff is managing the watering tasks.

Moore's Creek Lyons: We completed the photo monitoring and NRCS will be doing a final check out. We need to go back to complete the final greenline transects in August.

GROWW: We submitted for \$7K for the teaching greenhouse and for new pollinator beds at the school garden. We would like to submit a letter of interest to get an observation hive at the school.

Conservation Film Festival: Final planning is underway for the August 31 showing, which will be free to attendees. Please attend to support this effort. The films are worth seeing.

Madison Watershed Partnership: We discussed updating the MOU to include Wildlife Conservation Society and Jack Creek Preserve as partners, and also to define the expectations of partner participation.

BSWC: The application was completed and submitted for the 2019 Big Sky Watershed Corps program. We should hear back in September if we were accepted, and then selection for members will be in Oct/Nov. The term starts January 2019.

Conservation District Foundation: I attended the Madison Valley Ranchlands Group July meeting and explained the thought behind the idea. I explained we would likely know more after our fall strategic planning session. They encouraged the idea of forming a CD subcommittee under the current MVRG structure.

Emily Osborn- Administrator:

Administration tasks: I have been busy with various administration tasks and bookkeeping.

I have drafted and secured a contract with Kristi Lyons of INA Accounting, PLLC with the help of Don MacIntyre, Kaye and Mel to take over our payroll duties from Ward, Stender, and Associates and am working to ensure a smooth transition.

