



Madison Conservation District  
*Local Common Sense Conservation*

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[WWW.MADISONCD.ORG](http://WWW.MADISONCD.ORG)

**FINAL AGENDA**

Regular Board Meeting **\*\*7:00 PM\*\*** July 15, 2019  
Madison Valley Public Library

1. Call meeting to order: 7:00
2. Review minutes from previous meetings: 7:05
  - a. May
  - b. Budget Meeting
  - c. June
  - d. 310 Meeting
3. Financial-Emily Osborn: 7:06
  - a. June
  - b. July
4. Public Comment:
5. NRCS Report:
6. Business-310-Ethan Kunard: 7:15
  - a. #18-20 Steve or Eric Hamilton, South Willow Creek (Ditch Diversion in Potosi Campground)
  - b. #19-18 Moonlight Basin, Lees Pool & South Side Road
  - c. #19-20 Yellowstone Club, Rich Chandler, Muddy Creek (Clear span bridge)
  - d. #19-22 Granger Ranch, Mill Creek (Head Gate Maintenance)
  - e. #19-23E Granger Ranches, Mill Creek (Head gate maintenance)
  - f. #19-25 Michael Thompson, Ennis Lake (Boat Dock)
  - g. Work Completion Reports: #19-06 Joe Lopez
  - h. Monthly time spent on 310's
7. Old Business and Reports: 7:45
  - a. 2020 Meeting/Holiday Schedule – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
  - b. #19-01 Acela Truck Company violation
  - c. MCD Website
  - d. MACD dues
  - e. Drought Resilience Planning – reallocate funding for equipment
  - f. MWCC/MHP Fall Watershed Tour
8. New Business: 7:30
  - a. Urban Supervisor Appointment-Jon and Kaye
  - b. Adopt a highway renewal
  - c. Conservation Film Celebration
9. Correspondence: 8:00
  - a. Department of Livestock – Proposed rule amendment
10. Supervisors Report
11. Staff/Project Report

## 12. Upcoming Dates:

- a. Wildlife Speaker Series: Wolverines, July 17 – Lima, MT
- b. Wildlife Speaker Series: Mountain Lions, July 30 – Sheridan, MT
- c. Wildlife Speaker Series: Otters, August 6 - Divide, MT
- d. Conservation Film Celebration, August 28 – Ennis, MT
- e. Montana Range Tour, September 4-5 - Harlowton, MT
- f. MACD Convention, November 19-21 - Kalispell, MT

## Staff Report

### Ethan Kunard: Water Programs Manager

**River Conditions Web Tool** – Over the last year, we have been working with a group from DNRC, MSU, and USFWS to develop an online river conditions mapping tool. The web tool contains live gaging data and other information from across the Missouri Headwaters, and can also show river closures due to temperature or flow targets. Additionally, the developer built in the option to upload monitoring data collected by local groups (e.g., Madison Stream Team), and I'll be working to incorporate our monitoring sites with links to the data through the MSU Extension Water Quality Data Hub. The web tool is currently housed on a new website for the Missouri Headwaters (<https://uppermissouriheadwaters.org>). We will also be able to embed the Madison watershed page into our own website (once our website is updated). You can view the whole web tool here: [https://uppermissouriheadwaters.org/UMHW\\_RiverConditions/](https://uppermissouriheadwaters.org/UMHW_RiverConditions/) and the Madison watershed page here: [https://uppermissouriheadwaters.org/UMHW\\_RiverConditions/index.html?H2O\\_ID=Madison](https://uppermissouriheadwaters.org/UMHW_RiverConditions/index.html?H2O_ID=Madison)

**Madison Stream Team** – Volunteers have begun collecting turbidity data on South Meadow, North Meadow, Jack Creek, and Moores Creek. We're processing those turbidity samples now, and have also been taking streamflow measurements on the 11 sites with gaging equipment. Full water quality sampling events begin 7/16.

**Lower Jack Creek** – I will be developing contracts for the additional individuals who will be conducting oversight on the project (i.e., RESPEC, Jeff Dunn – Trout Unlimited, and Cindy Haushauer), and also will be resubmitting an updated 124 permit to FWP (permit for phase I expired). We'll begin working with some volunteers in late September or early October to collect conifer boughs that the Forest Service cut near the West Fork that will be used for the conifer fascine. Additionally, I'll be spending some time over the next month looking for suitable willow harvest sites at mid-elevation that are easily accessible (willows will need to be dormant by mid-October).

**MWCC Fall Watershed Tour** – Janet Endecott has agreed to host us for our portion of the tour. I'll be working to coordinate with her and other individuals who have been involved with the project (Northwestern Energy, FWP, etc.) to develop a strategy for that portion of the tour. Board supervisors are encouraged to join any and all portions of the event that are in the area. We will be having lunch on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Virginia City where we'll introduce the Madison CD and our partners before driving to the Endecott Ranch. After the tour at Janet's we will be coming back to Ennis for a social dinner event outside at Willie's Distillery.

**Watershed Restoration/Drought Resilience Planning** – We are not going to be able to use all of the remaining funds in our drought resiliency planning contract solely for my time before the August 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. I talked with the grant manager, and we are instead going to appropriate any unspent funds on equipment related to drought monitoring/planning. The two biggest opportunities I see for equipment are: a new flow meter that can be operated with one person, and staff gages for all of our stream gaging sites.

**CD Nonprofit** – I've had some inquiries from a handful of people about the status, but no new progress has been made.

**Planning Board** – We met in Big Sky in late June to visit projects at the Yellowstone Club, Spanish Peaks, Big Sky, and Moonlight Basin.

**Montana Outdoor Heritage Project (MOHP)** – I talked with Cole Mannix about the prospect of hosting a “conversation” at a Madison Watershed Partnership meeting, and he thought that would be an okay route to go. I’ll reach out to the partners to schedule our next meeting (August) and get their feedback on the idea.

**Conservation Film Celebration** – We’ve been working with the Chamber of Commerce on the logistics for the upcoming film series. The event will be August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Madison Theater. We’ve got 6 short films that cover a range of topics (land conservation, working lands, fish, wildlife, wildfire/forests, and stream restoration). The event is free, so invite friends/family to attend.

**Big Sky Watershed Corps** – I’m waiting to hear from Montana Conservation Corps on any potential reimbursement or money owed to MCC after Briana’s departure.

#### **Emily Osborn: Administrator**

**Administration Tasks:** I am completing the various bookkeeping task throughout the month. I had a meeting with Kristi Lyons on setting up sub-accounts under our savings account to show the allocated funds for the Strategic Plan Implementation. We have also set up sub account for future vehicle and equipment purchases/maintenance spending with the unspent funds from fiscal year 18/19 budget amounts.

**GROWW:** The Pollinator Garden has been planted. We hosted two volunteer days to complete the project which were both featured in The Madisonian over two publications. We have approximately \$1200.00 left in the budget and I am working with Signs West to design plant identifications signage. The remaining purchases will include the signage, fencing supplies, and educational supplies.

**Madison Farm 2 Fork:** I have been working with Kaye, Jamie, and Janet to design the Campus Greenhouse. We have received various shipments for outfitting out the greenhouse for use and I will continue to make purchases for supplies.