

# ***Beaverhead Conservation District***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

Thursday, April 21, 2022

### **Call to order**

Byron Martinell called to order the regular meeting of the Beaverhead Conservation District at 6:10 pm on April 21, 2022 in the NRCS office.

### **Roll call**

**The following persons were present:** Byron Martinell, Carl Malesich, Jerry Meine, Tom Miller, Rich Nordquist, Billiette Brooks, Harris Wheat, JS Turner, Kelly Rowe, Matt Jaeger, Jim Olsen, Jessica Fields, Zach Owen,

**Absent:** Meg Smith

### **Approval of minutes from last meeting**

*Motion to approve the March minutes by Harris 2<sup>nd</sup> by Billiette, motion carried.*

### **Summary of Finances.**

- *Motion to approve summary of finances for April by Billiette 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carl, motion carried.*

### **NRCS**

- Sean gave updates on the stock water TIP, Intensive Grazing TIP that came from the working group meeting. NRCS is at 75% capacity and the front door has been unlocked but will be reassessed each week.

### **Range Committee**

### **FWP Fisheries Biologist**

- Jim and Matt gave a presentation on putting a system in place for opening and closing the Big Hole and Beaverhead Rivers. Jess is getting a letter of support ready for the plan and all of the supervisors will sign it.

### **310 Business**

#### **Beaverhead - Matt Jaeger**

- BCD 2206 Lance Jensen, Cottonwood Creek, Maintenance Permit and Headgates  
*Motion to approve pending modifications by Billiette 2<sup>nd</sup> Harris, Motion carried*
- BCD 2207 Huntsman Ranch Company, Sage Creek, Irrigation Diversion  
*Motion to approve pending modifications by Billiette 2<sup>nd</sup> Harris, Motion carried*

## Big Hole - Jim Olsen

### Beaverhead Watershed Grants

- *Motion to approve Watershed finances for April by Tom 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carl, motion carried*
- During the last month Zach submitted a Bureau of Reclamation Water Smart application to do more work in the Red Rock. This would provide \$100,000 over 2 years. This is the same grant he was hired through.
- We were awarded a \$4,000 grant from Montana Trout Unlimited to help cover our insect monitoring lab expenses this year.
- The Cornell Park EA is open for comment. If the CD is willing, letters of support will definitely help. The project needs to be approved by an FWP commission, and they'll want to see local support.
- Truck- try for exempt plates
- Next insect monitoring set for Monday. Postponed last week due to weather.
- There is a Zoom meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> for explaining water rights.

### Administrator Report

- Jess is working in the office as much as possible Tuesday and Thursday and from home the rest of the week when needed.
- *Motion to buy \$10 coffee cards for inspectors that find mussels by Billiette 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich, Motion Carried.*
- *Motion to approve the Admin Grant ask of \$10,000 by Carl 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom motion carried.*
- *Motion to buy an external hard drive for the district laptop (\$53.99) by Harris 2<sup>nd</sup> Billiette motion Carried.*
- *Motion that approval beforehand is not needed for supplies up to \$200 by Carl 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom, Motion Carried*
- The Watercraft inspection station is running smoothly, they had found 1 mussel boat twice. The same boat came through the station twice and each time they found more mussels, the mussels were dead and not viable, he was headed for lake Coeur d'Alene.
- Jess went to the soil health workshop and Byron was there also. A class from UMW came as well. We discussed how expensive ranching and farming has become. Rotational grazing has lots of promise but high initial cost with fencing. More workshops are needed that focus on the cost benefits of new soil health practices.
- Our ARPA irrigation grant was ranked 16 out of 34 so we will see how many they decide to fund.

### Old Business

## **New Business**

- *Motion to donate \$5000 to the 4H building rebuild by Carl, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom, Motion Carried.*
- *Motion to donate \$50 to Montana Biocontrol Project Donation Missoula Chapter by Carl 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom, motion Carried*
- DNRC report- Hailey Graf
- Lima Private Applicator Training- April 26<sup>th</sup>
- 310 Training Helena – May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (preregistration, let me know and I can register you \$12/person)
- Next meeting date- May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## **Public Comment**

## **Adjournment**

*Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm*

Minutes submitted by: Jessica Fields

**Approved:**



Byron Martinell, Chairman