

Beaverhead Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 20, 2022

Call to order

Byron Martinell called to order the regular meeting of the Beaverhead Conservation District at 6:10 pm on October 20, 2022 in the NRCS office.

Roll call

The following persons were present: Byron Martinell, Harris Wheat, Rich Nordquist, Carl Malesich, Jessica Fields, Zach Owen, Matt Jaeger, Jessica Murray

Absent: Tom Miller, Jerry Meine, Billiette Brooks, Kelly Rowe, JS Turner, and Meg Smith
Motion to excuse absences by Harris 2nd by Rich, Motion Carried

Approval of minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve the September minutes by Harris 2nd by Rich, motion carried.

Summary of Finances.

- *Motion to approve summary of finances for October by Harris 2nd by Rich, motion carried.*

NRCS

- Sean was unable to attend.

Range Committee – Meg was unable to attend. Jessica has began planning a range talk for the end of January, it will be held at the new 4H building. The board discussed possible speakers and decided to go with one main speaker and then have a panel of local ranches with good conservation practices. This panel will include Carl Malesich, David Schuett, Race King, and maybe more. We also discussed possibly having Sean Lewis talk about new ideas for winter grazing on uncut hay.

310 Business

- **Beaverhead - Matt Jaeger**
- BCD 2219 Mike Huntsman, Emergency Beaver Dam Removal, Hell Roaring Creek
Motion approved with the modifications from his previous permit by Harris 2nd by Rich, Motion Carried. No discussion as the project was previously permitted and never completed.

Big Hole - Jim Olsen

Beaverhead Watershed Grants

- *Motion to approve Watershed finances for October by Harris 2nd by Rich, motion carried*
- Zach has been working on a 319 for stone creek for a nutrient wetland, working with Eric Wedland to see future plans for the Johnson property which include a barn for community events, a senior center, and a couple more houses. The Beaverhead Collaborative group has finished up work in the Hidden Pastures WSA and settled on no surface occupancy, they are moving on to the next WSA in line.

Administrator Report

- We have run out of FWP funding but secured new DNRC funding. We also are using funding from Big Horn CD to purchase new tablets and a printer that will work better together. We are having exit interviews on November 1st to see how the inspectors felt about the station. The district made just over eighteen thousand in admin fees for the station. Jess asked for \$22,000 more in our WIS contract to cover a \$1 raise for returning employees and a \$.50 raise for new employees, this will also cover some mileage so we don't go over our budget next year.
- *Motion to sign the 2023 Watercraft Inspection Contract for \$225,000 by Carl 2nd Rich, motion carried.*
- *Motion to give all of our full time and part time WIS employees a \$200 bonus for staying on all season by Carl 2nd Harris, motion carried.*

Old Business

- Longevity Pins – Harris got his 5 year, Rich got his 10 year and JS got his 5 year.
- American Prairie Reserve – Zach researched UPOM and determined that they are a real trust worthy source and Jess looked into the legality of letters of support against BLM, the matter was tabled until December so that the full board could be there

New Business

- DNRC report- Hailey Graf (Attached)
 - New Funding Initiative ideas – Conservation in the Park, Wildlife speaker series
- *Motion to pay \$150 for NACD dues by Carl 2nd by Rich, motion carried.*
- *Motion to get Jess a county ID card for \$10 by Harris 2nd by Rich, Motion Carried.*
- *Motion to spend \$100 on Jewelry from Thomas Company jewelers for a donation towards the convention auction by Harris 2nd Rich, Motion carried.*
- *Motion to spend \$100 on Jewelry from Thomas Company jewelers for a donation towards the MCDEO auction by Harris 2nd Rich, Motion carried.*
- *Motion to pay mileage, hotel, registration fees for Jess, Zach, Byron, maybe Carl and Rich to attend convention by Harris 2nd Rich, motion carried.*
- *Resolution 22-01 motion to Pass by Harris 2nd Carl, motion carried.*
- *Resolution 22-02 motion to Pass by Harris 2nd Carl, motion carried.*

- *Resolution 22-03 motion to Pass by Carl 2nd Harris, motion carried.*
- *Resolution 22-04 motion to Pass by Harris 2nd Rich, motion carried.*
- *Resolution 22-05 motion to Pass by Harris 2nd Rich, motion carried.*
- Discussion was had about adding Jessica Murray as an associate supervisor, Jessica is open to the idea and the board will vote on it in January.

Upcoming Events

- Pollinator Initiative Workshop – GCD November 3, 10:30am
- Convention, Helena – November 15-17th, 2022
- Next meeting date- December 8th, 2022
- Youth Conservation Days – April 27th, 2022

Public Comment


- No public in attendance.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Jessica Fields

Approved:



Byron Martinell, Chairman