

Beaverhead Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

Call to order

Byron Martinell called to order the regular meeting of the Beaverhead Conservation District at 6:00 pm on April 17, 2025 in the NRCS office.

Roll call

The following persons were present: Byron Martinell, Harris Wheat, Rich Nordquist, Carl Malesich, Jerry Meine, Marti Laknar, Emma, Jess Fields, Jack Bazemore, Kelly Rowe, Garrett Vasa, and Tyler Barrus

Absent: Tom Miller, Billiette Brooks, JS Turner, and Meg Smith,
Motion to excuse absences by Jerry 2nd Rich, Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve the March minutes by Carl 2nd by Jerry, motion carried.

Summary of Finances.

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

NRCS – Garrett Vasa was in attendance but had no major updates

Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership – Emma presented on all of her work across the last 18 months and showed maps of everything she has mapped.

Beaverhead County Extension – Jack Bazemore precision agriculture and beef production workshop had only a few attendees, the county wide meeting went well with FWP, DNRC, weed board, NRCS, and BCD, everyone shared their current projects for the year

Range Committee – Meg and Dori were unable to attend.

Education and Outreach – Marti Laknar Marti got 2 partner grants to help with the community gardens, will be presenting at a grant hearing on Friday, will be tabling at the Dillon earth day event.

Motion to donate \$1,000 to the bee haven community garden by Harris, 2nd Carl, motion carries.

310 Business

Beaverhead – Matt Jaeger

- BCD 2401 Diamond O Ranch, Beaverhead River, Stream Restoration, 1 Year Extension
Tyler was able to inform the board on the project hold up, 404 permitting, and the dirt work he is currently doing to prepare for the project
Motion to extend for 1 year following original modifications by Jerry 2nd Carl, motion carried.
- BCD 2532 and BCD 2535 Travis Welborn, Rattlesnake Creek, Culvert and Bridge

The culvert is not on the actual creek so a site visit is needed to determine the true effects, there will also be some willow removal to open up the area because the willows are taking so much water, the board wants to make sure the culvert is big enough, it may be too small of a throat, bridge abatements are also a concern.

Motion to approve pending site visit by Carl 2nd Jerry motion carried.

- BCD 2533 Hansen Livestock Co., Medicine Lodge Creek, replace headgate and new diversion, the old diversion is no where near water, fish passage is a concern.

Motion to approve pending Matt's review by Carl 2nd Harris motion carried.

- BCD 2534 Draggin Y Cattle Company, Branch of Horse Prairie Creek, Replace headgate The board shared concerns over rock depth and 3ft cutoff walls, a site visit is needed

Motion to approve pending site visit by Harris 2nd Rich, motion carried.

Big Hole - Jim Olsen

Beaverhead Watershed Grants

- Elkhorn Request for Proposals – Big Hole Watershed, All Terrain Excavation, Hydrometrics, review of proposals April 29th at noon.
- Stone Creek- Feasibility Study and Assessment looking for comments, no comments made, submitting reimbursements.
- Grasshopper- Officially moved back to Fall, still waiting of the USACE review

Administrator Report

- The board reviewed the budget and admin grant application
- Marti will now be getting the permissive mill starting May 1 because she has taken the watershed position for now.
- Watercraft Inspection Station – 4 mussel boats, 265 inspections, 149 High Risk

Old Business

New Business

- *Motion to pay \$4,000 towards MACD Dues by Carl 2nd Rich, Motion Carried.*
- Decline in Montana's Forestry Products story
- DNRC report- Catey Bauer (Attached)

Public Comment - No public in attendance by the end of the meeting.

Upcoming Events

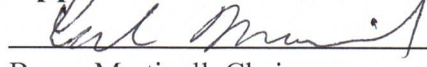
Next meeting date – May 15th 6 pm
Youth Conservation Day – April 24th
Wildlife Speaker Series – June 12th

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm

Minutes submitted by: Jessica Fields

Approved:


Byron Martinelli, Chairman
