

*Agenda - Beaverhead Conservation District*  
*NRCS office/USDA conference room 420 Barrett St. –September 19th, 2024*  
*\*Public Comments will be limited to 3 minutes \*Sign-In Sheet\**

\_\_\_\_\_ opened the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.

**Present were:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Absent were:** \_\_\_\_\_

Motion to excuse absences by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**August Minutes were:** Approved/Denied/Amended by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**September Finances-**(attached)

Motion to approve/deny/amend finances by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**NRCS-** Sara Leffingwell and Garrett Vasa

**Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership** – Emma Fullerton - I am still finalizing contracts for the Fall. One being an Aerial treatment in the South Tobacco Roots and the other a road spray up the East Fork Blacktail. I am also revisiting places I inventoried last year that have not been treated yet to see if there has been an increase in the amount of cheatgrass in the area and map new infestations.

**Beaverhead County Extension** – Jack Bazemore – Estate Planning and Pest Management Tour flyers

**Range Committee-** Meg Smith and Dori McNeill

**Education and Outreach Coordinator Position** – Marti Laknar introduction and plans

**310 Business- Matt Jaeger**

- BCD 2418 Red Rock Springs Ranch, Bill Kempf, Red Rock River Roadside Ditch, Sediment removal and stream restoration. Water Management plan  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2422 Chad and Taylor Mussard, Beaverhead River, Irrigation Sump Maintenance Permit  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2423 Chad and Taylor Mussard, Beaverhead River, Irrigation Ditch Maintenance Permit  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2425 R&D Ranch Complaint, Kidd Creek, Compliant about a rock weir  
Matt called Dave Adams (R&D Ranch Manager) and Jason Rose on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Neither of them knows who did it but think it may be a down stream water user who is trying to push the water downstream to their water right. As far as which ranch is doing the work we are unsure as there are several downstream water users, Jim McBee used to do a rock weir like that when he was managing the Clark Canyon Ranch but he is not managing the ranch anymore.  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2426 Dragging Y Cattle, Dunlap Creek, Replace Failing Diversion  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2427 Mary Anne Nicholas, Rattlesnake Creek, Replace Bridge Abutments  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2427 Mary Anne Nicholas, Rattlesnake Creek, Replace Bridge Abutments  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2428 William (Bill) Totten, Clapham and Bassette Ditch, Violation, Diverting water into a newly constructed pond.  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**310 Business- Jim Olsen**

- BCD 2410 Mark Raffety, Big Hole River lower south side, headgate replacement and diversion

- Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2420 Erik Kalsta, Big Hole River, Emergency Diversion Repair  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- BCD 2424 Mark Raffety, Big Hole River upper south side, headgate replacement and diversion  
Motion to \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**Beaverhead Watershed- Zach Owen**

- I'm working with the County Attorney on the Elkhorn/Big Hole/DNRC stuff. I'm hoping to meet with him this week. We can't send DNRC the final stuff until he's reviewed everything. We should be ready for construction on the Grasshopper project next month. Rowe will be able to start hauling rock to Bannack this month, but we have to wait till willows are dormant to start construction. Wednesday night BCC held our first public meeting since having a draft agreement. Maybe Byron can update the group if he was able to attend? I attached our friend Kerry White's (Citizens for "Balanced" Use) email to their supporters. As usual, making a business out of lies and misrepresentation. If he's not careful, he'll discredit himself and we won't need to do it for him. This won't be the last attack from them, and we can expect it from more extreme wilderness advocacy groups too. If people on the extreme ends of these issues are attacking us, it likely means we're doing a good job (actual balance). I attended the cloud seeding presentation Tuesday night and attached the flyer. Pretty good turnout, good questions, good presentation. Tom was there, maybe he can give some info? I'm attending the MWCC Fall Watershed Tour in the Sun River watershed this week.
- Grants payments and billings (attached)  
Motion to approve/deny/amend by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- I solicited three quotes for the services BHWC has provided for all the Elkhorn grants. Pioneer: \$23,183, HGL: \$30,250, BHWC: \$9,902 Motion to hire Big Hole Watershed Committee to manage the Elkhorn Mine & Mill project by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- Motion to accept sole source justification for contracting with Montana Bioagriculture Inc. for the Elkhorn mine and mill project by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**Administrators Report- Jess Fields**

- 9 Mussel Boats, 3337 Inspections, 1200 High Risk

**Old Business**

**New Business**

- McCone CD Resolution: NACD encourages NRCS to return some hiring responsibilities back to individual states  
Motion to support/oppose/abstain by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- Gallatin CD Resolution: Support Reducing the Use of Neonicotinoids in Montana  
Motion to support/oppose/abstain by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- Richland CD Resolution: Managed Aquifer Recharge Potential in Montana  
Motion to support/oppose/abstain by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sheridan CD Resolution: MTDOT/BNSF Invasive Species Cooperation  
Motion to support/oppose/abstain by \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ motion \_\_\_\_\_.
- DNRC report- Catey Bauer (Attached)

**Public Comment-** Limited to 3 minutes and must sign in

**Adjournment**

**Upcoming Events**

- Area 6 Meeting – September 24<sup>th</sup>

- Estate Planning – September 25<sup>th</sup>
- Pest Management Tour – October 15<sup>th</sup>
- Next meeting date – October 17<sup>th</sup> 6 pm