

Beaverhead Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Call to order

Byron Martinell called to order the regular meeting of the Beaverhead Conservation District at 6:00 pm on October 16, 2025 in the Baptist Church across from the post office, a sign was put on the door to guide people in.

Roll call

The following persons were present: Byron Martinell, Jerry Meine, Rich Nordquist, Carl Malesich, Harris Wheat, Tom Miller (left before the meeting began but got the room set up), Marti Laknar, Emma Fullerton, Jess Fields, Dori McNeil, Kelly Rowe, Matt Harmon, and Jack Bazemore

Absent: Billiette Brooks, JS Turner, and Meg Smith

Motion to excuse absences by Harris, 2nd Rich, motion carried.

Approval of minutes from last meeting

- *Motion to approve the September minutes by Harris 2nd by Carl, motion carried.*

Summary of Finances.

- *Motion to approve summary of finances for October by Carl 2nd by Jerry, motion carried.*
- *Motion to send \$100 to NACD for dues by Harris, 2nd Carl, Motion Carried.*

DNRC- Catey Bauer was able to attend and gave updates on BCD's 2 CDB grants

Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership – Emma is finishing up a couple spraying contracts. Her pheasants forever grant is on hold but her NRCS grant can be used during the shutdown.

Beaverhead County Extension – Jack is working on another precision ag workshop and getting 4H signed up for the new year. The 4H open house was last week and there may be over 200 participants this year.

Range Committee – Meg is working on an agenda for the June Range tour with JM Peck. Jess and Dori talked about speakers and suggested Jim Hagenbarth, Liz Jones or Yvonne from Wise River.

Education and Outreach – Marti is working on the native gardens around town, Red Rock water monitoring, Lima Garden beds, and small school projects.

NRCS – Erin was unable to attend because of the shutdown

310 Business

Beaverhead – Matt Jaeger

- BCD 2562 Carl Malesich, Beaverhead River, Headgate Cleanout
Motion to approve pending Matt's site visit by Harris, 2nd Rich, motion carried.
- BCD 2563 Centennial Livestock, Horse Prairie Creek, Pin and Plank Replacement
Motion to approve pending Matt's site visit by Harris, 2nd Rich, motion carried.

Big Hole - Jim Olsen

- BCD 2541 Violation, Boat Ramp, Big Hole River
There is a rock boat ramp about one mile above Browns bridge and a new house. The board has previously decided that there will be no new boat ramps as there is plenty of public ramps and new ramps allow for noxious weeds to take hold and removing willows disturbs the bank. Jess will try to get a violation form from the complainant.
- BCD 2542 Violation, Irrigation Pipe under the road into Alder Creek
A complaint form has been turned in and when Jim is back, we will do a site visit.
- BCD 2564 Matthew Harmon, Unnamed Tributary near Joseph Creek, 2 Culverts
Motion to approve pending Matt's site visit by Harris, 2nd Rich, motion carried.

Beaverhead Watershed Grants

- Elkhorn is moving again, one of the reimbursements is still held but should be released soon. We have done everything they have asked so far.
- Grasshopper – work has begun! Jess is working with Daniel Hair to get a sage grouse permit, somehow, we got all our permits without having that form so we are getting it now.

Administrator Report

- Watercraft Inspection Station – 12 mussel boats, 3421 inspections, 1210 High Risk
- Closing October 26th, 2025

Old Business

New Business

- Resolution 25-01 Adhere to MACD Resolution Process
Motion to Vote Yes by Carl, 2nd by Harris, motion carries.
- Resolution 25-03 Stabilize and Build Capacity for Montana's Forest Products Industry
Motion to Vote Yes by Carl, 2nd by Jerry, motion carries.
- Resolution 25-04 Resolution to Encourage Non-Governmental Organizations to "Qualify" for Ag Status Taxation
Motion to Vote Yes by Carl, 2nd by Harris, motion carries.
- Resolution 25-05 Resolution to Adjust MT Wildlife and Parks Fee and Cannabis Tax Structure
- *Motion to learn more at convention and allow the BCD convention rep to vote based on the understanding of the resolution by Jerry, 2nd by Rich, motion carries.*

- Resolution 25-07 Process to Develop Legislation to Reform the Civil Penalty Provisions of the Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act of 1975
Motion to Vote Yes by Harris, 2nd by Carl, motion carries.
- Convention! November 18-20 Hotel deadline is October 17th.
Motion to send Jess, Marti, and reserve one extra room for whichever supervisor can go by Jerry 2nd Carl, Motion Carried.
- Area 6 districts went in together to buy 2 inflatable paddleboards, Gallatin is the organizing district and our cut is \$83.33.
Motion to reimburse GCD for the area 6 auction donation by Carl, 2nd Jerry, Motion carried.
- Note: Catey Bauer left at this time so we could freely discuss the area 6 meeting, Dori and Matt Harmon also left, Kelly joined the meeting.
- Area 6 Meeting and Jess's letter to DNRC
Jess explained how the meeting went and what we learned, this is happening to several districts across the state. DNRC is watching the elkhorn project extra closely because the rules are different for BHWC and Mark wants to make sure we follow all of the district rules not so much the BHWC rules.
- Madison County Planning Board Report

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

Upcoming Events

- Convention November 18-20th
- Next meeting date – December 11th 6 pm

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Jessica Fields

Approved: Byron Martinell
Byron Martinell, Chairman