

WRC UCF Minutes

May 7, 2019

Public Meeting

Those Present:

Susie Johnson – DLVCD/WRC, Karen Knudsen – CFC/WRC, Bret Bledsoe – NRCS, John Moodry – WRC/BSB/MHCD, John Hollenback – DLVCD/WRC, Pete Dallaserra – WRC/Landowner/MHCD, Cam Balentine – Brown's Gulch/MHCD/WRC, Jason Lindstrom – FW&P, Fred Staedler – WRC, Doug Martin – NRDP, Will McDowell – CFC/WRC, Dan McQueary – Landowner/WRC, Paul Hooper – USFS, Matt Whithed – NRCS, Erik Suffridge – NRCS, Mark Zuber – NRCS, Erin Ryan – USFS, Jayd Oster – USFS, Murray Strong – Pioneer Technical, and Ted Dodge – WRC

Agenda:

The meeting was called to order by John Hollenback.

Treasurer Report:

- Invoices were reviewed and approved at the previous Board meeting.

Project Updates:

- **NRDP Deer Lodge North & South** – meeting today with Burnt Hollow ranch to go over projects. We were planning to use the Prison Crew to do Beaver Mimicry on the Cline property, but issues came up at the Prison and now can't use the prison crew, so Ted will contact Watershed to do the work.
- **Philipsburg West** NRDP project area – Confluence is working with Greg to put together the final design for the stock water pipeline project. Will was contacted by a landowner in this area to expand his riparian project that he is working with NRCS on.
- **Little Blackfoot River** – design moving forward. Waiting for task order.
- **Browns Gulch** – there will be a meeting on May 23rd to discuss Brothers diversion project.
- **Blacktail Creek** – had a meeting to decide where the priority areas are and went over potential projects.
- **Cottonwood Creek** – Baggs and Cottonwood Creek moving through the permitting process. Will gave a report on a new fish screen that he saw in Utah.
- **Flint Creek/Boulder Creek** – waiting for new task order.
- **CREP** – (Conservation Reserve Program) FSA – FSA has refused to sign off on the hand book because of the new Farm Bill so Ted approached Senator Tester to write a letter to the National FSA headquarters. A letter was received from Montana State FSA Office stating that FSA is evaluating the changes the 2018 Farm Bill made to the program and they are working to implement those changes as quickly as possible.
- **RCPP** – Erik Suffridge, NRCS State Office gave a report on the RCPP modification. Erik stated that the modification has to run through the National office. Erik would like to set up a meeting to go over the plan of work and deliverables.

- **Garnet Terrestrial Proposal** – met with Graveley and they are interested in Juniper removal and wanting to do something with their diversion on Brock Creek.
- **Basin Creek** – Ted reported that we have good baseline information on Basin Creek and Blacktail Creek. We are finished with the Beaver Mimicry work and installed around 45 structures above the reservoir.
- **Wildlife Conflict Grant** – there will be a meeting May 15th with all parties involved. Ted would like to invite Kim from Peoples and Predators to one of the WRC meetings to talk about her program.
- **FW&P Milltown Outreach** – three outreach meeting have taken place in Gold Creek, Rocker and Racetrack. Five hundred mailings have been sent out.
- **Prescribed Burning Legislation** - \$5,000 came from this year legislation. The Governor wants to form a committee to get the process going.

Partner reports were given.

Next meeting June 7, 2019

Submitted by: Susie Johnson, May 21, 2019