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## REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

December 08, 2015

Stoughie's Bar and Grill Dining Room  
Hinsdale, Montana

Jeff Pattison, Chair  
Nancy Heins, Vice-Chair  
Gene Granada  
Jody Mason

Hannah Kimball-Redfield  
Ron Stoneberg  
Ron Garwood

Mandie Maldonado, District Administrator

A quorum being present, Chairman Jeff Pattison called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

### SPECIAL GUEST(S)

Patti Armbrister, Joe Huber

### 310 PERMITS

None to review

### MINUTES, TREASURERS' REPORT, BILLS

Nancy made a *MOTION* to accept the 12 November, 2015 minutes. Gene seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Nancy made a *MOTION* to accept the November 2015 Treasure's Reports and bank statements. Gene seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Jeff made a *MOTION* to pay the monthly bills. Ron S. seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### CORRESPONDENCE

DNRC Water Right Reservations; Jeff said he would contact DNRC to see how to use the water rights. Jeff stated that we would use some of the water rights to fill a 1200 gallon water tank that will be used to water the PMC Plot. Patti Armbrister and Joe Huber were interested in purchasing some of the districts water rights to use in the High Tunnel project in Hinsdale.

### OLD BUSINESS

Gene was told to wait by Dean Rogge, for the information from Garfield County as who they have used in the past to make their signs.

Ron G. is currently working Seth at Pacific Hide and Fur to scrap maintainer for \$275.00.

Mandie will work with Stone Tihista to produce a MOU that will allow the weed district to keep and maintain sprayer and in trade the weed district will spray the PMC Plot as needed for weed control.

Jeff has spoken to Jennifer Anderson (Phillips County Administrator) about getting copies of the MRWA Printed Reports and Jump Drives.

### NEW BUSINESS

Local working group is going to focus on reestablishing Milk River Water Association (MRWA). The Milk River Committee consists of eight Supervisors (Hill, Blaine, Phillips and Valley County each providing 2 supervisors). Jeff proposed that the board focus solely on the Milk River and not be confused or compete with

*Sheep ALLIANCE*

the St. Maries Water Working Group. Jeff also proposed that the MRWA produce a 30 minute documentary that will be aired on PBS and a 15 minute hard facts video take to the legislature, both videos will be used to educate and highlight the issues and the impact it has on the communities within the Milk River Water Shed. Jeff made a **MOTION** to reestablish the MRWA. Ron G. seconded, motion carried unanimously. Jeff also made a **MOTION** to have both documentaries made. Ron S. seconded, motion carried unanimously. Mandie will work with Jennifer Anderson to put together a grant for the documentary project.

Nancy made a request to purchase trees for the PMC Plot as a part of the grant that was recently approved (223-16-3445). She requested \$2500.00 to purchase the trees that will be planted and grown for a period of three years, then sold for windbreaks or to private tree farms. Joe Huber stated he would be interested in purchasing trees from the Conservation District in the future. Ron S. made a **MOTION** to spend \$2500.00 towards the purchase of the trees. Gene seconded, motion carried unanimously.

No update on the City/County Committee meeting.

Mandie presented the application for the post pounder grant to the board. The board approved and signed the application. The application will be submitted prior to the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to DNRC.

Mandie requested input and assistance with putting the newsletter together by the December 16<sup>th</sup> deadline. Later was told by Nancy to push back the date due to the short timeline during the holiday season.

Jody is working on the 2017 Winter Grazing Seminar to be held in Glasgow the last week of January. The average attendance is between 150-200 people. The usual budget for this event is +/- \$10,000.00, which can be requested from DNRC as a grant. Jody asked Mandie to talk with the Chamber of Commerce about Bed Tax and see if we could get secure a grant from the Tourism Bureau. Jody would like to get the local FAA Chapters involved somehow. The event location was discussed, the Cottonwood suggested, so was the gym at the high school. Many guest speakers, focus on soil health, were suggested by the board, but will depend on cost and their availability. Entertainment for the first evening was suggested band, DJ, entertainer (Falcon Festival). Dinner for the first night will be a banquet. Jeff asked Jody if there was going to be breakout sessions and then suggested Sierra Holt or Ann K. (DNRC) to discuss water rights. Planning Committee will publish next meeting date and time.

On behalf of the Board, Nancy Presented Patti Armbrister with a plaque for being voted as the 2015 Conservationist of the year.

#### BLM UPDATE

No Update.

#### NRCS

No Update.

No further business to discuss, Jeff adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

The next regular board meeting will be on <sup>Jan</sup> ~~Thursday, November 12, 2015 AT 1:00 pm.~~

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mandie Maldonado  
District Administrator