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Quarterly Meeting Minutes November 16th, 2010 Crown Plaza Hotel Skybridge Rm 2 Billings, Mt.

Chairman Dana Darlington opened up the meeting at 4:04 p.m with introductions. Council members present were; John Chase representing Cascade County CD; Dean Rogge representing Garfield County CD; Nick Schultz representing Petroleum County CD; Buzz Mattelin representing Roosevelt CD; Tim Ouellette representing NRCS and MRCDC Coordinator Laurie Riley, and MRCDC Secretary Carie Hess. Guests in attendance Rob Bray and Joyce Swartzendruber with NRCS, Bill Milton; Rancher from Roundup, Gary Knudsen from Phillips CD, Paul Jones from Pondera County CD, Alicia Vanderheiden and Rabi Vandergon from the Mt. Watershed Coordination Council, Vicki Baker and Lee Dahlman Teton CD, Gayla Wortman Cascade County CD, Ann Schwend and Ray Beck with DNRC, and JT Korkow with Rehberg's office. Due to the fact that there was not enough member's present for quorum these are just meeting notes as no business was conducted.

General:

1. Minutes were read for any typo's to be corrected and will be approved at the next meeting. Carie has included the minutes from the Executive Committee conference calls as well and each person read those on their own.
2. Carie read the financial package. The Council talked with DNRC about the next fiscal year's budget and it was noted that the council needs to submit the next year's budget by July for FY 2012 & 2013. Ray Beck noted that the Governor's budget was in and that there had been a 5% across the board cut. Gayla Wortman stated that she would send the last couple of bank statements from the Mountain West Bank to Carie so that they are on file.
3. Correspondence received and sent since the last meeting was presented and reviewed.
4. Coordinator's Report- It was noted that in the September coordinator's report it needs to state RMP instead of BMP. Cottonwood Regeneration was noted and Vicki Baker stated that her local nursery had told her to take a tractor and disturb the ground around the existing trees.

Gallatin Conservation District
Broadwater Conservation District
Lewis & Clark Conservation District
Cascade County Conservation District
Chouteau County Conservation District

Blaine County Conservation District
Big Sandy Conservation District
Fergus County Conservation District
Petroleum County Conservation District
Phillips Conservation District

Garfield County Conservation District
Valley County Conservation District
McCone Conservation District
Roosevelt County Conservation District
Richland County Conservation District

Buzz stated that there had been a meeting in the Lower Reach and the USFWS was asked about the flooding. The USFWS was asked "Do you want the cottonwoods or the flood?" Tim noted that the NRCS has done some studies with cottonwood regeneration and that the information is available to the public. It was noted that there is a meeting in Lewistown on December 14th and the council asked Tim to speak about the studies NRCS has done on Cottonwood regeneration.

Reports:

1. Upper Reach:

- ❖ Whitmore Ravine Update: John Chase updated the group that the grants that had been applied for have not been funded and that future funding for Whitmore is non-existent and that the landowner is looking into EQIP funding but that is in limbo.
- ❖ CREP Update: Laurie noted that an approved addendum from Lana Nesbit was received but it did not contain the grazing language that Glen Patrick had asked the council to include back at the April 2010 meeting in Ennis. Karl was going to try to work on the language for grazing on the CP22. Once the language is added the council will send the addendum back to Lana and Glen for final approval.

2. Middle Reach:

- ❖ BLM RAC Update: Nick noted that there had been an impromptu meeting September 17th in Malta when they met with Mr. Abbey. He stated that Mr. Abbey wanted to hear about the buffalo as wildlife/ livestock issue and nothing more. Nick noted that the next meeting is December 7 & 8th in Lewistown.

3. Reservoir Reach:

- ❖ CMR Comprehensive Management Plan Update: It was noted that the final deadline for CCP comments was December 10th, 2010. Jeanne Rae Kirkegard from Mc Cone County CD had sent her comments and Laurie had them printed and handed them out. The council discussed whether or not to reschedule a meeting to address the comments or to do a conference call.
- ❖ Stakeholder Group Proposal: Bill Melton the facilitator hired to work with the CMR stakeholder group commented on the group's progress. His thought to the council was that they should be prepared and put their comments in but to be flexible once the comment period has ended. He felt that if they chose an alternative that leaves the best flexibility over time.

4. Lower Reach

- ❖ MRRIC Meeting Update: Buzz updated the group on the MRERP section of the MRRIC and Laurie noted a handout that she had made with the last meetings achievements listed.

5. MACD- none at this time

6. DNRC- none at this time except what was already stated.

7. NRCS- Tim talked about some of the studies the NRCS has done.

New Business:

- ❖ John Chase noted that the council's car needs to have snow tires purchased for it. The council all agreed with this.
- ❖ Alicia Vanderheiden and Rabi Vandergon from the Mt. Watershed Coordination Council presented a short presentation on the AmeriCorps Volunteer Program. They answered questions the council had.

Old Business: none at this time

Public Comment:

Next meetings:

With no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Approved by unanimous vote on January 12, 2010,

Submitted by:

Carie Hess, Secretary

Nick Schultz, Chairman