

1601 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. North, Ste. 601  
Great Falls, MT 59401



Phone: (406) 454-0056  
mrcdc@MissouriRiverCouncil.info  
www.MissouriRiverCouncil.info

## Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes November 30th, 2009

The Executive Committee met on November 30th, 2009 beginning at 9:04 AM by telephone conference call. Present were: John Chase, Upper Reach; Dana Darlington, Chairman, Paul Gies, Middle Reach, Jim Beck, Immediate Past Chair, and Buzz Mattelin, Lower Reach, Ron Garwood, Reservoir Reach; Vicki Marquis, MR CDC Coordinator and Carie Hess, Secretary.

Approval of October 28th, 2009 Minutes: John moved to accept the Executive Committee minutes with the change of Jim Beck being listed as Immediate Past Chair instead of Upper Reach, Jim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Financial report and approval of bill payments: The committee looked over the financial report and travel expenses were discussed for the quarterly meeting at convention. It was discussed that Dean Rogge, Dick Iverson, Paul Gies, Bill French, and Buzz Mattelin had not returned their claim forms for travel reimbursement. Paul stated that he would fax his into Carie later on that day, John Chase stated that he did not need reimbursed and Buzz was looking at RCAC for travel reimbursement, Dana had forgotten to put round trip and needs to be reimbursed for 90 more miles. Carie let the committee know that she had made a mistake in the mileage rate and that the council members would get the difference on their next check. John moved to approve the unpaid bills (Check Detail report) and Ron seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

State Water Plan: Jim Beck reported that Ann Schwend had been contacted and that she talked about what is expected of the council which was different than what was talked about at the quarterly meeting. Ann was trying to set up a meeting date in early January. Jim and Vicki were going to attend and any others were welcome. Dana Darlington brought up contacting Don and Nichole from the Yellowstone Council and keeping each other informed and about possibly working together. It was noted that the Yellowstone Council has a technical advisory committee and RAC to look at things like this as they come up. John Chase stated that in order to do this the council would need to hire someone to handle the work as Vicki is already overloaded. Jim Beck thought that a temporary employee to work on the day to day stuff could be hired as the work for the water plan needs to have someone with a background in water issues.

DC Trip Arrangements: After the convention Dean Rogge mentioned that he would like to go to DC with Dana and Vicki. Dana thought that this would be a good idea to have Dean go, and Ron agreed that if he would like to go the council should help send him. Ron moved to send Dean Rogge along with Dana Darlington and Vicki Marquis to Washington D.C. in January and Paul seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Approval of MRERP Comment Letter: Vicki mentioned that the comment deadline for the MRERP is 12/1/09 and that she had drafted a letter containing MRERP comments as well as comments from the sheets she had received at convention. John Chase moved to approve the comment letter and send it to Jennifer Switzer, Ron Garwood seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

---

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

Council Involvement in Bovin Brucellosis Program: Vicki asked if the council wants to get involved as a council on this or to send out to individuals to comment. John stated that he was not qualified to comment and Ron stated that he had not attended the meeting at the MACD convention. Paul and Buzz attended the huntable bison meeting and Buzz stated that it would hurt the livestock industry and that it is the CD's place to comment on how the lands are used. It was discussed that the individuals send their comments to Vicki and that she would draft a council comment letter.

Press for Resolution: There was a draft press release that was reviewed and Vicki wanted to know about comments or if anything needed to be added to it. Vicki talked about the lawsuit and what Intervener Status was and asked if the council wanted to be included. If so they needed to get a hold of Hertha Lund the attorney that has been hired by the Missouri River Stewards and the four counties. Initial cost would be \$1,000 to be put on the list of interveners and then the court sends all correspondence to them just like they were a party to the lawsuit. Buzz asked if they could put comments in through the 4 counties that are already filing for intervener status. It was thought to ask Don McIntyre since the MACD passed the resolution and to talk with Laurie Zeller to see if there is any money for legal. Vicki said that she would talk with the BLM, Laurie and Don and will forward any information that she gets. Dana's letter was reviewed and Jim thought that something should be added to the paragraph about the cottonwoods. Paul stated that a lot of damage is done by ice scours and not cattle and Dana added that there has been talk about spring flows to spread the seeds. It was also noted that in some areas the beavers are doing a great deal of damage as well.

CMR CPP Update: Vicki stated that she had forwarded an email that stated the timeline had been altered. She talked about the draft document will have to be gone through fairly fast as they will have about a month to go through the 500 pages. The committee talked about splitting the document up by sections or chapters and having 2 people from each reach go through a section/ chapter. Buzz thought that Lance Vermeer, a fire specialist at Fort Keough, might help go through the fire section.

Other Business: Vicki mentioned that the council was out of pens that she hands out with the display and that they are on sale right now for \$0.80 per pen. Ron moved to have Vicki purchase the pens and John seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Buzz mentioned the tours with the legislative aides and Steve Guertin and thought that they should be set up like the Holter Lake Tour. CCP will not be final until 2011, so there is still time for comments. Dean has a folder with letters from local producers that talk about items from over the last 50 years. It was noted that at the convention Dean and Monte did not want free range bison. In the last legislative session there was a bill to remove the dual status from the bison and make them strictly wildlife but it failed although not by much. It was noted that if the bison stay a dual status animal that the brucellosis will continue to be a point of interest

With no additional business being brought before the Committee, the call adjourned at 10:13 AM.

Submitted by:

Approved by unanimous vote on December 28th, 2009

---

Carie Hess, Secretary

---

Dana Darlington, Chairman