

RUBY VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 295
SHERIDAN, MT 59749

MEETING MINUTES – December 6, 2017

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Ruby Valley Conservation District was called to order by Gary Giem, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m. at the NRCS Conference Room, Sheridan, Montana.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Giem	George Trischman	John Anderson
Rick Sandru	Jeremy Miller	Jim Powell
		Shirley Galovic, District Administrator

GUESTS PRESENT:

David D. Stout, Watershed Stewardship Director

Approval of the minutes of last meeting (Nov. 1), motion by George to approve with correction that George did not inspect RV17-34, second by Rick, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for October & November 2017, motion by Rick to approve both, second by Jeremy, motion carried.

Excused absences: Motion by Rick to excuse Neil, second by George, motion carried.

310 BUSINESS: NEW APPLICATIONS
 REVIEW -- DECISION
 SIGN 273
 SET UP INSPECTIONS
 INSPECTION COMPLETE

RV17-08 Central City LLC (Butch Frediani) – Alder Gulch Creek – Nevada City – bridges for 4 wheeler property access. Matt & John & Jeremy inspected 4/5/17. Tabled for design.

RV17-17 Steve Wood – Granite Creek – clean sediment to restore stream flow. David conducted a meeting at the Granite Creek bridge on 8/2/17, at 10:00am, with DOT, Co. Comm., RVCD, Hart Baitis and others. Tabled for design from DOT. See David's written Watershed Stewardship Report for progress on this project.

RV17-24 Riley Malone (Pete Strazda) – Harris Creek – placer mining. Matt & John inspected 9/6/17. Tabled for design.

RV17-37 SRI River Holdings – Jacobs Slough – install two bridges for ranch access. Matt to inspect in Jan. 2018.

Complaint (Lynn Lake) – Ramshorn Creek – construction of bridge, streambed & bank disturbance. Need to contact someone in minerals department at BLM field office to see if we can get assistance in removing the obstruction by hand.

NRCS REPORT:

Kyle Tackett not present. No report for November.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Planning Board – written submission from Ethan.
2. Watershed – David's report – written submission attached. Highlights – David requested approval to buy an NRCS approved computer that can run ARC program. Cost is \$1029 for high performance model and \$969 for a lesser model. John made a motion to purchase \$1029 model, second by Jeremy, motion carried. David is going to put together a proposal for a grant to purchase an RVCD owned pickup truck.
3. Carcass Management Program – Wildlife Conservation Society (Harder Fdn. Gt) – David is working on having the pick-up program set up for 2018 calving season. He's working with Kris Inman at Wildlife Conservation Society. Will need to hire a pick-up driver in mid Jan. or Feb. Need job announcement for either employee or contractor; 16 hrs/week; rate (\$20/hr?). Madison County has the dump truck from FWS Fish Hatchery. David will talk to Madison Valley Ranchlands to see if they would want to have the same person do both sides – 2 days in Ruby; 2 days in Madison; dump truck parked in V.C. Would need to add Madison County as additional insured on our liability policy. David would like to finalize at January meeting.
4. BLM Monitoring Grant – in progress

5. RDGP Grant for Flood Hazard (Channel Migration) Mapping of Missouri Headwaters streams – grant being extended to 3/31/2018.
6. HB223 Grant – Smith Slough Fisheries Enhancement Project – in progress – grant extended to 12/31/17. Jim Olsen reported construction began in Sept. and will submit an invoice prior to grant expiration.
7. 2016/2017 RAC Grant submitted, partial funding received, revised budget, no administrative funds
8. DEQ 319 Grant – Ramshorn Creek – (David) – in progress
9. DEQ 319 Letter Agreement – Ramshorn Creek – (David) – in progress
10. DNRC Watershed Management Grant – (David) – in progress
11. HB223 Grant – Upper Ruby Weed Management & Carcass Management Program – in progress
12. DNRC Drought Grant (WM-RVCD-167) – in progress
13. U. S. Forest Service Gravelly Landscape Collaborative Group – USFS in process of NEPA on Greenhorn Project area, public comment period.
14. Strategic Alliance – next meeting TBD

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rick reviewed the situation in the Upper Ruby regarding RVCD, Madison County & Gravelly Working Group's partnership with Forest Service on weed spraying and the removal of an access gate. John made a motion that RVCD send a letter to USFS regarding our concerns with the situation, second by Jeremy, motion carried.
2. Boat Ramp Policy – Shirley hopes to start process to add to RVCD Model Rules at Jan/2018 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. MACD Montana Conservationist – December 2017 – copies available (emailed)
2. Ruby Watershed Council – Dec. 13, 2017, 5:30pm potluck, 6:30pm meeting, Moraine Center.

“OPEN MICROPHONE” - Other comments from the public. No comments from public.
With business completed, the meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved and Signed,

Shirley Galovic
District Administrator

Gary Giem
Chairman