

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

MEETING MINUTES – January 4, 2023

The 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, 402 South Main St., Sheridan, Montana.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Gary Giem	Jim Powell	Rick Sandru
George Trischman		Shirley Galovic, District Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Audra Bell, Stewardship Director	Christina Smathers, Assistant Administrator
Matt Jaeger, FWP	John Wagoner, NRCS

Approval of minutes of last meeting (Dec. 7, 2022), motion by Rick to approve, second by George, motion carried.  
Treasurer's Report – None. Motion by Rick to approve hiring Heidi Giem to straighten out QuickBooks, second by Jim, motion carried. Gary abstained.  
Jeremy Miller, Neil Barnosky and John Anderson were absent, motion by Rick to excuse, second by George, motion carried.

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

TABLED: RV22-20 Rob Tipton – Mill Creek – headgate replacement – Matt & Neil inspected Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> –WODesign  
RV22-23 3 Rivers Communication – Several Streams – bury fiber optic cable. Matt inspect? Motion by George to table until Matt can contact 3 Rivers & contractors about cable depth of 42” at bridges, second by Rick, motion carried.

**NRCS REPORT**

John Wagoner, NRCS, discussed Civil Rights. Gary made an executive decision to table signing of Civil Rights until all members are present.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Planning Board – no report
2. 310 Law MOA with Madison CD – Gary still working on resolution of the RVCD eastern boundary line.
3. Watershed – submission by Audra Bell. Audra reported on the following projects: WHIP (has been reported out for the 2022 season); Upper Ruby River Project – Rowe has sent 3 invoices; we are caught up on finances. Guem Consulting sent 1 invoice, waiting for the next to come in mid-January. A contract extension has been requested for July, to do wrap up work on project; Granite Creek Project (permits have been drafted, GW is waiting for permits to be signed by landowners and Gary. MDT has completed the letting for the project. Met with Bobbi Raisland to discuss fish barriers (he seems to be onboard with location); Wildlife Program (met with stakeholders to discuss the dispersion of compost); Duncan District Rd Bank Stabilization Project (project will start on the week of January 16th - contract with R.E. Miller has been finalized - finalized willow harvest around project site).
4. Carcass Management Program – received compost soil test “viable for dispersion in fallow soils”.
5. FWP-WHIP Grant – finalized most monitoring
6. Granite Cr. Preservation & Restoration Grant – RIT-22-8901 - Completed
7. FY22 DNRC Dist. Dev. Gt – Completed.
8. FY23 DNRC Dist. Dev. Gt – application sent
9. Pollinator Grant – Completed
10. DEQ 319 Grant – RVHA, in progress
11. RV Strategic Alliance – next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2023 @ Alder Fire Hall, 10am-2pm

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. RVCD Election of Officers for 2023  
2022 Officers – Gary Giem, Chairman  
Neil Barnosky, Vice Chairman  
Rick Sandru, Secretary/Treasurer  
Motion by George to retain entire slate of 2022 Officers for 2023, second by Jim, motion carried. Elected by acclamation.  
2023 Officers - Gary Giem, Chairman  
Neil Barnosky, Vice Chairman  
Rick Sandru, Secretary/Treasurer
2. Oath of Office for newly elected supervisors: Rick signed Oath, John & Neil to sign next meeting
3. Carcass Composting Lease Agreement \$1/year
4. Potential purchases thru grants – electronic purchases

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. MACD Montana Conservationist – Nov/2022 – copies available (emailed)
2. Montana Soil Health Symposium – Billings – February 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2023

“OPEN MICROPHONE” - Other comments from the public. None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved and Signed,

Christina Smathers  
Assistant Administrator

Gary Giem  
Chairman