



MONTANA ASSOCIATION of CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

We're growing Montana's future.

MACD BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2019
APPROVED MAY 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Suta at 7:33am. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Suta (PRES)	William Bernard (1)	Bob Petermann (2)	Steve Schanaman (4)	Mike Hansen (6)
Jim Simpson (VP)	Dean Rogge (1)	Steve Hertel (3)	Don Youngbauer (4)	Rick VanDyken (6)
Gary Giem (TREAS)	Tony Barone (2)	Steve Hedstrom (3)	Pete Woll (5)	
Jeff Wivholm (1)	Roddy Rost (2)	Judi Knapp (4)	Bill Naegeli (5)	

PARTNER MEMBERS PRESENT: None

FEBRUARY 11, 2019 MINUTES:

- Motion to Approve: Rick VanDyken
- Seconded: Steve Schanaman
- Discussion: None
- VOTE: Motion Carries

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- Motion to Approve: Gary Giem
- Seconded: Pete Woll
- Discussion: None
- VOTE: Motion Carries

OLD BUSINESS: None

1.
 - Motion to Approve:
 - Seconded:
 - Discussion:
 - VOTE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **MMRIC FUND REQUEST - \$400 – MISSOURI RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE – JACK MAJERES (NORTHERN PLAINS REP TRAVEL TO MTGS).** This travel has historically been shared with MRCDC. This expense is captured under memberships in the budget. MACD will pay the fee and MRCDC will reimburse us for their half (\$200).
 - Motion to Approve: No motion necessary as the fee was in the budget.
 - Seconded:
 - Discussion:
 - VOTE:

2. **WATER COMMITTEE – SHIRLEY PARROT APPOINTMENT** – Steve Schanaman replaced Shirley on the Board and on the Water Committee. Shirley would like to continue her involvement in the committee.
 - Motion to Approve: Steve Schanaman
 - Seconded: Dean Rogge
 - Discussion: None
 - VOTE: Motion Carries

3. **BARB BROBERG, KARLI BECHER, and CHERYL MANDICH – NACD BOOT CAMP WITH NRCS APPROVAL** – The approval for submitting is up to the state association according to NACD guidelines. The individual is required to send the association their name and submit a letter of recommendation from their CD. MACD will need to submit the individual information to Kimberly Ulrich with NACD. Barb is with Glacier CD: May 7th or July 23rd. Karli is with Lake CD: May 7th. Cheryl is in the Miles City NRCS office under a partner position: May 7th or Sept. 10th. Barb is working on her pre-requisite training. Karli is looking into the pre-requisites to make sure she can have them complete. Cheryl has some of the pre-requisites completed. All applicants need to have the pre-requisites completed before attending. Dan recommends priority be given to Barb and Karli first since they are represented by member districts. Those present support all three and agreed with recommendation; to be affirmed next board call. Cheryl and Karli were approved. Barb is waiting for her LINC pass to be approved.
 - Motion to Approve: Don Youngbauer
 - Seconded: Roddy Rost
 - Discussion: None
 - VOTE: Motion Carries

4. **SPRING BOARD MEETING TOPICS** – The Executive Committee suggested the following items: Strategic Plan (probably a revisit of the work plan for the coming year since this is a multi-year plan), Insurance Initiative, Organizational Architecture, Dues Synopsis, Annual Meeting Update. The meeting will be held at the Doubletree in downtown Helena. June 10 (1/2 day), 11, 12 (afternoon). The room cost is \$600 and there will be a block of rooms setup.
 - Motion to Approve: Roddy Rost
 - Seconded: Dean Rogge

- Discussion: Steve Hedstrom will be going to the Northern Plains meeting on the 12th. Mark Suta indicated we have historically been at the capitol and they do not allow coffee or food; it has been a point of concern and it make sense to go someplace else.
 - VOTE: Motion Carries
5. **SWEET GRASS DUES LETTER - ? EXCEPTION REQUEST:** The CD only sent last year's amount as the dues this year took up ½ of their mill increase.
- Motion to Approve: Dean Rogge motioned to accept their dues letter as an exception request and include them as a member is good standing.
 - Seconded: Pete Woll
 - Discussion: Dean Rogge thinks we should just have a set % for dues and the Sweet Grass CD is a good example. Gary Giem thinks this is a good way to approach. Jeff Wivholm indicated this was a good topic for the Spring Board Meeting. Mark Suta suggested that the decision be held off until we are finished collecting dues.
 - VOTE: Motion Carries – Dan will send Guelda a letter requesting an exception request signed by their Board Chair.
6. **LEWIS AND CLARK DUES LETTER – ? EXCEPTION REQUEST**
- Motion to Approve: Willie Bernard motioned to discuss this subject at the Spring Board meeting.
 - Seconded: Dean Rogge
 - Discussion: Jeff Wivholm indicated this was giving them the exception before the fact. Mark Suta said it seems wrong because they could not pay fully and then drop off after voting. Mark Suta suggested we discuss this at Spring Board Meeting. Dean Rogge reminded the group they paid \$5,000 toward last year's strategic planning. Dan reminded the group that their dues are \$9,500. Jeff Wivholm indicated they would not need to vote at Spring Board so we should discuss it there. Pete Woll thinks it should go onto Spring Board Meeting; we should discuss that both of these letters are signed by the administrator – shouldn't the letter be signed by the Chair of the Board. Gary Giem indicated they need to decide if they are with us or not. Dan indicated the board needs to be careful about setting precedent for districts to pay partial throughout the year. Roddy Rost agreed with Dan's comment. Mark Suta didn't feel the stipulation was not appropriate. Dan suggested the board take up the partial payment method at the Spring Board Meeting. Dan will send a letter to L/C that their letter will be used as a discussion topic.
 - VOTE: Motion Carries
7. **CSKT COMPACT AG GROUPS LETTER:** The group has asked MACD to sign on as a proponent for the CSKT compact in their letter to our congressional delegation. Dan indicated this issue needs to be addressed by the Board because he is not sure that all districts are in favor of the compact.
- Motion to Approve: Rick VanDyken motioned to not sign on to the group letter and let the individual districts decide their position.
 - Seconded: Steve Schanaman
 - Discussion: Dean Rogge indicated that even their group memberships are not in favor. Jeff Wivholm suggested that there are divisions between the districts. Mark Suta indicated that the

MACD position has been to stay out of the conversation. Dan suggested that all the districts be aware of the situation and they send their approval or disapproval to the congressional delegation. Don Youngbauer wants more information. Dean Rogge indicated that during the CMR issue, each district and county made their own comments. Dan suggested he put something together for Spring Board Meeting.

- VOTE: Motion Carries

8. **RESOLUTION PROCEDURAL POLICY** – District Operations took the policy under consideration per the Board’s request. The process was really engaging and the committee came up with a really good document. First, they took into consideration the district’s need to meet their open meeting laws, they considered the timeline and reduced the submission to June, and added an emergent clause. The emergent clause was crafted after what the Montana Association of Counties (MACo) uses for the same situation. The other change is that the legal review is completed by the districts to make sure there are no liability or constitutional issues.

- Motion to Approve: Judy Knapp moved to adopt the policy
- Seconded: Jeff Wivholm
- Discussion: Steve Hedstrom is still not going to vote for procedure; still too long and too many steps.
- VOTE: Motion Carries

9. **INSURANCE AD-HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Meeting on 3/21 with presentation from Summit. \$534 premium with 2500 ded/7900 out-of-pocket and co-pays. Pinnacle handles all administration. The ad-hoc committee recommends MACD sponsoring the insurance. The question is how the Board wants to move forward: do they want a presentation from Summit at the Spring Board Meeting to understand all the parameters before they make a decision to be the sponsor, interim web call, or make the decision now. Kudos to the ad-hoc committee for all of their hard work.

- Motion to Approve: Jeff Wivholm motioned to take the subject up at the Spring Board meeting with a presentation from Summit and Q/A.
- Seconded: Willie Bernard
- Discussion: Willie Bernard thinks we need to wait for the Spring Board meeting before we make a decision. Jeff Wivholm asked if we need to make a decision earlier instead of waiting. Dan indicated that as soon as the board accepts, Summit will work with the districts to start implementing the insurance. MarkSuta didn’t think it would hurt to wait for the Spring Board meeting so we have all the information and can ask questions; too important of a decision.
- VOTE: Motion Carries

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

- **CONVENTION UPDATE** – Convention planning is well underway. The theme is “Our Lands Our Future”. The committee has been divided into subcommittees with members chairing the various groups. Dan and Heidi Fleury are the leads on organizing the development. Suggested topics for consideration will be going out to the districts for consideration at their upcoming board meeting and results input into a survey monkey.

- **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW** – SEE COPY of what Dan worked out with Gary Giem to improve financial transparency with districts.
- **LEGISLATURE UPDATE** – DNRC BUDGET was heard in Senate Finance and Claims on 3/26; Mark Suta, Jeff Wivholm and Dan represented MACD. The budget has since gone to the Senate floor; the CD funding has remained intact.
- **MONTANA FOCUSED CONSERVATION** – NRCS is moving in the direction of Long Range Planning and Target Implementation Plans for the use of EQUIP funding. Tom Watson wants to make sure the money targeted for resource concerns or TIPs that make a difference for conservation. By 2020, all counties will be required to have a Long Range Plan. The districts are being looked toward to bring together the Local Work Group partners to engage in the NRCS local discussion and planning.
- **NACD RESOLUTIONS** – Dan forwarded the NACD resolutions to the Board. Is there any further action necessary? Steve Hedstrom indicated we do not need to do anything with the NACD resolutions.

PARTNER COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: MAY 13, 2019 - 7:30 AM CONFERENCE CALL

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING: Dean Rogge

SECONDED: Roddy Rost

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:39 am