



MONTANA ASSOCIATION of
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
We're growing Montana's future.

REORGANIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE

February 6, 2020

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Committee Chair, Gayla Wortman.

Members Present: Bob Peterman, Jim Simpson, Gayla Wortman, Gary Giem and Roger Hybner.

Other Present: Stephanie Adams, Gene Evan, Chuck Cornillie

The group agreed that the best way to send correspondence, documents, meeting notices, etc. is through the District Dispatch.

Discussion regarding the need to update the by-laws of both MACD and SWCDM was followed by Jim's report that he is working on putting together a by-laws committee.

The "internal structure" of the "new organization" was discussed at some length. The consensus is that there should be some kind of structure in place, engineered/drafted, for Districts to "look" at in order to get their buy-in.

Several members of the committee felt that we were "going too fast" – putting the "cart before the horse." Area Directors were encouraged to call their Area Districts, but they don't feel they understand the proposal or the process well enough to talk to their Districts.

ACTION ITEM: It was decided that a joint meeting of the MACD and SWCDM Boards was necessary to address some of the barriers the committee leadership is experiencing in building the prototype of the new organization. Chuck will work on setting up a meeting. [partially complete]

Some members felt that the joint meeting could be done during the Spring Board Meeting, but others felt that we would lose momentum and District interest. Chuck said he felt that there is an expectation that this is going to happen and putting things off to the Spring Board Meeting would unnecessarily stall the process.

Stephane felt we should slow down and make sure the SWCDM concerns are fully addressed.

ACTION ITEM: Gayla will produce a table of some kind that will recap District comments and questions with responses for general distribution. [complete; updated as needed]

Chuck reported that about 95% of the roughly 30 Districts that responded to the survey indicated a favorable vote for the reorganization.

Everyone agreed that the launch date for the new organization of January 1, 2021, was too aggressive; the target is now sometime after January 1; perhaps 18 months from now.

ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: April 6, 2020 7:30 a.m.

/s/ Gayla Wortman