



MONTANA ASSOCIATION of CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

We're growing Montana's future.

REORGANIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE

May 5th, 2020

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Jim Simpson, Steve Hedstrom, Gayla Wortman, Dave Martin, Gary Giem

Other Present: Stephanie Adams.

Gayla discussed the purpose of this meeting which was primarily to gain input about what information should be included in the final Reorganization Study Committee report that will be developed and distributed during the Spring Board meeting (as well as sent to all Conservation Districts for review)

Final results of survey and discussion

The Survey, originally published in February, received responses from a little over half of the Districts (34), out of which, 28 were in favor of the merger, 7 were against, and 1 was undecided.

Provided suggestions for report development:

- The purpose of the Reorganization Study Committee
- Explanation on how input was received (i.e. the merger survey)
- A condensed summary report and a recommendation by the committee
- A general description of how the merger would occur (i.e. accounting needs/changes)
 - *It was noted that all funding received from membership dues will remain in its current bank account, separate from program (currently SWCDM) funding.*
- A recommended timeline for when merger-related activities should occur
- A list of both pros and cons of a MACD-SWCDM merger
 - *Including comments provided by Districts through the survey*
 - *Because many negative comments were directed at SWCDM, Gayla will work with Stephanie to obtain SWCDM input and clarification on the role that SWCDM plays and how to address concerns.*

A continued discussion on the merger will be had during Spring Board and a recommendation will be discussed. If it is recommended that MACD-SWCDM move forward with the merger, Conservation Districts will vote on that recommendation during the 2020 MACD Annual Convention in November.

ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.
/s/ Gayla Wortman