



MACD Board Meeting: Agenda

Monday, December 18th at 7:30am via Zoom

BOARD MEMBERS

Dean Rogge (PRES)	Jeff Pattison (1)	Roger Smedsrud (3)	Steve Tyrell (4)	Mike Hansen (6)
Gary Giem (TREAS)	Doug Bonsell (2)	Pat Anderson (3)	Jim Simpson (5) <i>Excused</i>	Rick VanDyken(6)
Steve Hertel (VP)	Roddy Rost (2)	Steve Schanaman(4)	<i>Vacant</i> (5)	Kay Webb (EO Associate)
Steve Wanderaas (1)	Ted Woods (2)	Judi Knapp (4)	Bill Naegeli (5)	

PARTNERS AND OTHERS PRESENT: Rebecca Boslough-King, Madi Larson, Tom Watson, Steph Criswell, Robbie Sabelkoul, Mary Hendrix, Chris Evans, Karl Christians, Kyle Tackett, Amy Yoder, Garfield CD (zoom), Molly Masters, Becky Clements, Dona Stafford

Highlighted = present. All white/unhighlighted names are absent. Board members who provided notice are marked 'excused.'

Call Meeting to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Review Governance Calendar
3. Consent Agenda
 - o November 14th Minutes
 - o November 16th Minutes

Motion to approve Consent Agenda, as presented:

- Motion: Judi Knapp
- Second: Steve Hertel
- Discussion: none
- Motion Carries

Partner Reports

4. Partner Reports

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) - Tom Watson and Kyle Tackett

- Continuing on IRA Funding
- Sheridan field office without internet

- Working on big game migration projects/funding
- The Farm Bill was extended until next year. One of the biggest challenges with that was Payment Limitations were not reset. Might be interesting with the Farm Bill needing to be addressed during a major election cycle.

MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) - Steph Criswell

- Can guarantee a \$60k base, including MACD dues.
- Water Reservations RFP - consultant
- On January 18th - Local Government Services - Q and A session on Audits

Montana Conservation Districts Employee Organization (MCDEO) - Chris Evans

- Working on nonprofit status
- Trying to find folks to do training for next year

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) - Karl Christians and Rebecca Boslough-King

- Karl just began his term and he is taking over forestry Committee
- MACD is currently planning for the NACD Annual Meeting and DC Fly-in

Missouri River Conservation District Council (MRCDC) - Molly Masters and Karl Christians

- Test Flows are still a big concern
- Last meeting was at MACD Convention

Yellowstone River Conservation District Council (YRCDC) - Judi Knapp

- Amanda Kaster joined December YRCDC Meeting to learn about the projects

Milk River Watershed Alliance (MRWA) - Jeff Pattison

- They are now working with Terry Profota. They plan to reorganize the Alliance.
- Farmers Conservation Alliance doing a lot with the PL566 funding.

Montana Salinity Control Association (MSCA)

Other key partners present

Financial Matters (Quarterly)

Detailed financials are always available from the Finance Committee and MACD staff, upon request.

5. 2024 Draft Budget

Motion to approve draft budget as presented, noting that it does not include changes to ED pay and may need adjustment

- Motion: Steve Hertel

- Second: Mike Hansen
 - Discussion: Looks better than previous years in terms of funding. The split of dues vs. programs+fundraising is important for clarity.
 - Motion carries
6. Financial Update and Dues Report (as needed)*
 - Will have year-end financial report in January
 - This is the highest amount of dues MACD has ever received.
 - There are three districts not paying any dues
 7. Dues invoices - January
 - Coordinating with DNRC

Executive Director and Operations Report

Monthly provide a short report. Quarterly provide longer updates referencing Operational Plan etc. Staff will update the operational plan quarterly, for their specific work areas.

8. January Meeting: Discussion of proposed 2024 Operational Plan
9. MMIA Health Insurance Update
 - Survey at January board meeting
10. Legislative / Policy Update
 - Comprehensive Water Review - Stakeholder Working Group
 - NACD Fly-In (Federal)
 - Proposed meeting with Ag Groups in January (Dean). This would be a good opportunity for building bridges, while still operating within our resolution process (bylaws).

Motion to participate in group

- Motion: Jeff Pattison
 - Second: Steve Hertel
 - Discussion: We need to ensure we are within the resolutions process.
 - Motion Carries
11. MACD Staff Updates
 - Soil Health Symposium in February, working with Terry Profota on fundraising

Committee and Work Group Business & Recommendation

12. Committees and Work Group Reports (Resolutions and Policy Committee + subcommittees, Education Work Group, Programs Work Group, Legislative and Advocacy, etc)

- Education Work Group: Discussion of 2024 scholarship requirements and eligibility for Montana residents and enrolled in/pursuing courses related to MT natural resources, with an associated change in the essay.

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Education Work Group, as described above

- Motion: Rick VanDyken
- Second: Mike Hansen
- Discussion: none
- Motion Carries

Other Agenda Items

13. Upcoming Meetings and Events

14. Open Mic

- Karl Christians - We need to look up Natural Asset Companies and how they could impact conservation
- Steve Tyrrel - Will dues reimbursement come in before they are due? (Yes - deadline will be set after expected reimbursement, and MACD will be flexible.

Closed Session (Board only) - Discussion of ED Review

15. Please leave the zoom if you are not a MACD Board Member.

Move to close Executive Session:

- Motion: Mike Hansen
- Second: Steve Wanderaas
- Discussion: none
- Motion carries

Motion to adjust budget to accommodate compensation decision in closed meeting

- Motion: Mike Hansen
- Second: Jeff Pattison
- Discussion: none
- Motion carries

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

- Motion: Steve Wanderaas
- Second: Mike Hansen

- Discussion: none
- Motion carries, Meeting adjourned

Parking Lot

Additional Information:

* - denotes required board action or approval

Committee organizational documents:

<https://macdnet.org/about-us/board-organization-documents/>