



MACD Board Meeting: Minutes

Tuesday, January 17th at 7:30am

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)	Rick VanDyken(6)
Steve Hertel (VP)	Roddy Rost (2)	Steve Schanaman(4)	Vacant (5)	EO Associate Member
Steve Wanderaas (1)	Ted Woods (2)	Judi Knapp (4)	Bill Naegeli (5)	Kay Webb

PARTNERS AND OTHERS PRESENT: Becca Boslough-King, Kyle Tackett, Steph Criswell, Becky Clements, Chris Evans, Liz Lodman, Scott Brown, Molly Masters, Eric Rannestad, Donna Stafford, Kristen Wing, Mary Hendrix, Robbie Savelkoul,

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

7:30am Call Meeting to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Review Governance Calendar
3. Consent Agenda*
 - a. December Board Minutes
 - b. January Exec Minutes
 - c. January Finance Minutes

Motion to accept consent agenda

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

7:45am Partner Reports

4. Partner Reports

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) - Kyle Tackett

- There is currently movement on a continuing resolution in congress that would go through

MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

- Hailey sent out a request for the number of 310 permits issued by districts.
- CDA Grant cycle is open Jan 1- March 1. The new dues opt-in is available this round. Three districts have applied so far.
- CDAC Meeting on February 16 in Great Falls. There will also be a zoom option. There will be a topic for council reauthorization (sunset at the end of June).

Montana Conservation Districts Employee Organization (MCDEO) - Kay Webb

- Quarterly EO report went out several weeks ago.
- They continue to work with Terry Profota

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)

- Cliff Merriman from Phillips CD will be attending.

Missouri River Conservation District Council (MRCDC)

- Good morning everyone. The only thing new I have to report is our next in-person Quarterly meeting will be February 21 followed by the CMR CWG on the 22nd in Lewistown.
- Woody Invasives Working Group on Feb. 13 in Lewistown

Yellowstone River Conservation District Council (YRCDC) - Dan Rostad

- Nutrient Work Group completing two years on this group (Dan was nominated by MACD as the east of the continental divide CD Rep). CDs will need to be involved in adaptive management under the new management.
- Shared video: [video from PBS on grizzly bears and adjudication of water rights](#)

Milk River Watershed Alliance (MRWA) - Pat Anderson

- Working with Terry Profota on revitalizing MRWA. Terry will be doing interviews about the future of MRWA.

Montana Salinity Control Association (MSCA) - Scott Brown

- Moving office to new Cascade CD Office
- Waiting on NRCS Agreement for RCPP

Other key partners

- Liz Lodman from MISC did not give a partner update.

8:00am Financial Matters (Quarterly)

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

5. Financial Report (Reviewed by Finance Committee on 1/10 - Some changes and additions recommended) - Workmosis is finalizing the 2024 Financial report
6. 2024 Annual Budget (already approved)
7. Dues Update - Dues will go out in the next week or two
 - a. DNRC is committed to the news dues structure and dues payment opt-in for districts.

8:10am **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. Staff Updates
 - a. Welcome to our 2024 BSWC Member - Solomon Garza
 - b. **Program Manager Brenna Rietmann** - Ranching for Rivers Projects chosen. Education and Outreach funding is available (reach out!). Currently hiring for NRCS Partner positions. Brenna is working on end-of-year invoicing for DNRC Communications Contract etc.
 - c. **Engagement Coordinator Madi Larson** - Soil Health Symposium coming up next month. Madi is now the co-chair of the MACD Education Work Group. The education scholarships are now open for 2024. There is a new Soil Health Week the first week April (Apr, which the Education Work Group is focusing on for the time being.
 - i. Convention 2024 Location - Heritage Inn in Great Falls. Madi will be reaching out to Area 3 districts.
 - ii. Fundraising Plan status - Madi has been working with Terry on the fundraising plan, with different 'buckets' for funding. Madi will be attending Envirothon
 - d. **Communications Specialist Eric Rannestad** - Focus is on Soil Health Symposium (program, nametags, etc).
9. 2023 Operational Plan Review - End of year report presented
10. The following resources will be sent to board members this week: Board Manual (updated for Q1 2024) and updated Operation Outreach Document
11. Legislative / Policy Update
 - a. Comprehensive Water Review - Stakeholder Working Group was in Lewistown last week. The major issues being addressed are exempt wells and
 - b. Interim Session - Water Policy Interim Committee and Environmental Policy Council are this week
 - c. Finalized Drought Management Plan presented
12. NACD Annual Meeting in February and DC Fly-In in March

8:30am **Committee and Work Group Business & Recommendation**

13. Committees and Work Group Reports (Resolutions and Policy Committee + subcommittees, Education Work Group, Programs Work Group, Legislative and Advocacy, etc)
 - a. Education Work Group - Jan. 31st at 9am

8:45am **Other Agenda Items**

14. Upcoming Meetings and Events
 - a. MMIA Health Insurance Info Sessions today at 1pm and tomorrow at 5:30pm
 - b. Liability Insurance Info Session on Thursday Jan 25th at 1pm
 - c. 2024 Soil Health Symposium - Feb 6-8
15. Payment for environmental services - discussion (postponed)
16. Open Mic

9:00am **Adjourn**

Parking Lot

- Payment for environmental services - discussion
- 2024 Financial Report (final version)

Additional Information:

* - denotes required board action or approval

Committee organizational documents:

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