

Gallatin Conservation District Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2017

The Gallatin Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on August 17, 2017 at 4:00 pm. Jason Camp called the 310 meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Supervisors present: John Venhuizen, John Schutter, Mike Hansen, and Bob Logar. Staff: Mary Hendrix Excused absence: Sherwin Leep and Bill Wright

Those present: Chris Mahony-NRCS, Buddy Drake-MFWP, Mike Rotar-RESPEC and Matt Johnson-RESPEC

Public Comments on District 310 Permitting Business: None

310 Inspection Reports: Decision

Inspection Date: 8/8/2017	Application Number: GD 31-17
Applicant:	Mike Rahl, Montana Rail Link
Landowner:	Not given
Perennial Stream:	Gallatin River
Type of Project:	Improvement to Existing Structure
Type of Project:	Temporary Construction Access
Type of Project:	Other: Temporary Diversion Blocks
Purpose:	To rehabilitate Piers 2, 3, and 4 on existing Bridge 155 due to age, condition, and load carrying capacity before capability of safely running trains is compromised.
Description:	Existing Piers 2, 3, and 4 will be encased with reinforced concrete and the bearings will be replaced. Water will be temporarily be blocked/diverted from reaching Pier 3 and, at a separate time, from Pier 4, using precast concrete ecology blocks upstream and downstream as necessary. Pier 2 is outside of the waterway. If necessary, the excavations will be dewatered. The pumped water will be discharged north of the bridge on the channel bank into filter bags.
Inspection Recommendations:	Approval with modifications
Inspection Comments:	Ensure no contact of flow/river water on concrete pours
Discussion:	
	M Johnson: This is a pretty straightforward project in Central Park. The piers are crumbling and calving off. It is good to bring attention to it.
	J Venhuizen: What are the bearings?
	M Johnson: The bearings are the support that has lateral movement.
	B Drake: It's a roller wheel that sits on an I-beam; pinned down on one side.
	M Hansen: Propose start date of January 2018 for one year
	J Venhuizen moved to approve with modifications + effective date of January 2018; M Hansen seconded; motion carries
Board Decision	Approved with modifications + Inspection comments Permit transmittal date January 1, 2018 and expires January 1, 2019

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Inspection Date: 8/8/2017 Application Number: GD 32-17
Applicant: Buddy Drake
Landowner: Kurt Klonsinski
Perennial Stream: East Gallatin River
Type of Project: Irrigation Structure
Purpose: We propose installing a new head gate to get water to the Club's irrigation system.
Description: We wish to install a metal head gate with a metal face and wing walls. The wing walls will be approximately 10 feet long by 6 feet high. The faceplate will be the same dimensions, but with a gate for a squashed 42" x 30" culvert. Two feet of the faceplate and wing walls will be buried in the streambed. The end of the wing walls will be slightly bent back into the bank.
Inspection Recommendations: Approval as proposed
Inspection Comments: None

Discussion:

B Drake: This is the third time the Board has seen this application. Seven year ago, it was approved to install a concrete block and head gate, but during the floodplain permitting, it was determined that the proposed head gate was fifteen feet onto Mr. Dokken's property. After five years of negotiation and monetary compensation to the other party, they now have an easement.

M Johnson: This appears to be a good, permanent spot for the head gate. Saw quite a bit of houndstongue in the area.
J Schutter moved to approve the project as proposed; B Logar seconded; motion carries

Board Decision: Approval as proposed

Inspection Date: 8/8/2017 Application Number: GD 33-17
Applicant: Melvin McKittrick
Landowner: Ruth Parker
Perennial Stream: Rey Creek
Type of Project: Channel Alteration
Purpose: To lower water level flooding septic system.
Description: Dug ditch around plugged culvert. In the area by the old bar, dug tree roots out to the original stream bottom.
Inspection Recommendations: Approval as proposed
Inspection Comments: No water in channel. Hard to determine whether work was done in a ditch or historic overflow channel. Grass is growing on spoils, no further mediation necessary.

Discussion:

M Hendrix: Emergency 310 follow-up

B Drake: Looks like minimal disturbance

M Rotar: There is barely any moving water in the channel

M Johnson: This may have been used historically for irrigation

J Schutter moved to approve Emergency work done previously & accept the project as proposed; J Venhuizen seconded; motion carries

Board Decision Approval as proposed

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Inspection Date: 8/8/2017	Application Number: GD 34-17
Applicant:	Brad Hammerquist
Landowner:	John and Nancy Malo
Perennial Stream:	Unnamed
Type of Project:	Bridge/Culvert/Ford Construction
Type of Project:	Excavation
Purpose:	Construct a driveway crossing a drainage for access to a building site and site development for a single family home on a presently unimproved parcel.
Description:	Construct a driveway extension from the existing driveway serving the 795 Storrs Road residence. The extension will cross a seasonal spring drainage area. A culvert will be installed in the drainage to facilitate the crossing.
Inspection Recommendations:	Approval with modifications
Inspection Comments:	Embed twenty-four inch pipe 6"-8" into creek bottom or use twenty-four inch squashed pipe 1"-2" into creek bottom. Install silt barrier on toe of disturbed soils.
Discussion:	
M Johnson:	This is a pretty small headwater stream to Trail Creek
B Logar:	How long is the driveway?
B Drake:	About 30 feet
M Hansen:	moved to approve with modifications; J Venhuizen seconded; motion carries

310 New Business: RESPEC Contract Renewal & Hourly Rates

The new RESPEC contract was discussed. M Hendrix mentioned that the only change she saw from the previous contract was the vehicle insurance statement that Don McIntyre stated is required for state contracts. M Rotar will check to see if RESPEC's vehicle insurance is in compliance to the new requirements. B Logar moved to approve the new contract; M Hansen seconded; motion carries

The 310 Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm. The Business Meeting convened immediately.

Guest present: Karen Filipovich with Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum

The Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum is a collaborative approach to addressing water resources in the Big Sky Area. The Water Forum is constitutes a diverse group of people representing agriculture, business, conservation, local government, agency, and recreation. This group is working together to identify major challenges facing the Big Sky community. These challenges are ecological health of the river systems, water supply and availability and wastewater treatment and reuse. They are developing recommendations for solutions to address current and future needs for both the natural and human communities. Their goal is to be able to recommend actions to address water resources and develop and implementation plan. For more information, visit: <http://www.gallatinrivertaskforce.org/projects/big-sky-sustainable-water-solutions-forum/>

New Grants/Agreements/Contract Report: None

Consensus Agenda

- a. July Meeting minutes
- b. Staff Reports

J Venhuizen moved to approve the consensus agenda; M Hansen seconded; motion carries

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New Business

The Area 6 meeting will be in Butte on September 27th. If you are interested in attending, let M Hendrix know. As of this meeting, J Camp, M Hansen, M Hendrix & L Miller will be attending.

M Hendrix asked about an idea to have an apiary in the E.O.C. J Venhuizen asked that if we are trying to get people to use the Center, is it a good idea to have bees? M Hendrix will research the topic more and report back at the next meeting.

Old Business: None

Well-Testing Cost Share Program: None

Staff Report: Written Report & Questions

CD Reports: Planning Boards

B Logar reported that the Manhattan City-County Planning Board met on August 16th and approved a subdivision exemption claim on Feddes Ranch. A father is bestowing a few acres upon his daughter to build her home.

NRCS Reports

- Water year to Date Precipitation; % of Normal (as of 8/17/2017)

Gallatin;	109%
Madison;	109%
Jefferson;	106%
Yellowstone;	121%

- Programs
 - Three 2018 CSP renewals (Fall 2017)
 - 36 EQIP apps
 - Irrigation: 17
 - Stock: 5
 - Dryland: 1
 - Unknown: 6
- National Water Quality Initiative
 - Water quality sampling events
 - June 7-8; completed
 - July 18-19; completed
 - August 21-22; planned
 - September 18-19; planned
 - Water quantity sampling events
 - March 24, 2017; completed
 - May 10, 2017; completed
 - August 10, 2017; completed

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- General
 - Bozeman Area field days; Helena August 2-3
 - Camp Creek 223 grant; anticipate work to begin in mid August
 - Photo monitoring for 223 grant set up with MSU extension; Adam Zigler
 - To date; completed 8 HEL determinations since the 1st of the year
 - Fire-wise workshop @ Cottonwood Fire Station

Accounting

Financial reports, invoices, deposit, and the credit card statements were reviewed. M Hansen made the motion to pay invoices; B Logar seconded; motion carries

CD Seminars/Workshops Ideas: None

Other Events: None

Correspondence and Handouts: None

Adjournment of Meeting

J Camp made the motion to adjourn the meeting and everybody seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. The next scheduled board meeting will be Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

Minutes approved by Jason Camp, Chairman

Date