

**Blue Water Task Force Board of Directors Meeting
January 22, 2009 3:45 PM
B.S.O.A Conference Room**

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jon Holtzman, at 3:50. Also in attendance were directors Sue Barton, Eric Becker, Jack Crowther, and Mindy Nowakowski. Absent were directors Ron Edwards and Mike Richter.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Eric moved and Mindy seconded to approve the minutes from 10-19-2008. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Financial Report:** Jack moved and Mindy seconded to approve the financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **New Business**
 - a. New Board Member: Kristin reported that Dax Shieffer, Big Sky resort's public relations manager, recommended Madeline Bressire from Big Sky resort's "Green Team" for a position on the BWTF board. Jon advised Kristin to meet with Madeline. Kristin agreed to meet with Madeline to discuss a possible position on the board.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. TMDL update (Kristin)
 - i. TMDL/Annual public meeting (Kristin)
 - ii. Agenda: Kristin presented the board with a proposed agenda for the annual meeting. Presenters include Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (Gallatin groundwater assessment update), Montana Department of Environmental Quality (West Fork sediment study), Kristin (BWTF update), Jon (WWSF update), Gallatin Local Water Quality District (District expansion to Big Sky), Ophir 4th grade (seasonal study on the Gallatin River, and Ophir 6th grade (Didymo study in the West Fork. The board advised Kristin to keep the total time of the meeting under 1.5 hours. Kristin asked the board if Cassie Munson, the Ophir School Spanish teacher, who is starting a catering business but does not have her license yet, would be able to cater the event. The board recommended that Kristin go with a licensed caterer. Kristin reported that she received 2 Big Sky Resort Tickets for the annual meeting. Eric suggested that she give them away in a free raffle.
 - a. Press Release: Kristin asked the board if they would like a press release and ad in the local newspapers. The

board recommended that Kristin pursue both a press release and an ad in the local papers.

- iii. TMDL study update (Kristin): PBS&J has completed two draft TMDL reports: 1) the Water Quality Summary Report, and 2) the Flow Monitoring Report. Kristin has reviewed both documents and is waiting for Pete Schade to review the documents before she sends them out to the Technical Advisory Committee.
- iv. TMDL match money (Kristin)
 - a. Flow project: Kristin reported that Simon is interesting in conducting the stream gauge project to install 4 permanent stream gauges to replace the MTDEQ gauges, which have been removed. Simon will also work on getting the stream data online on the BWTF website.
 - b. Laptop: Kristin would like to purchase a laptop so that she can work, while not in the office. Mindy stated that she would like to see the specs first before approval. Mindy made a motion and Jack seconded that Kristin can purchase a laptop contingent on approval of the specs by the board.
- b. Greater Gallatin Watershed Council Board Member (Kristin): The GGWC is interested in having a board position filled by a member of BWTF. The board recommended that Kristin fill this position if she has time in her schedule.
- c. Middle Fork Interpretive Trail (Kristin): Kristin reported that the Big Sky Institute is interested in collaborating on an interpretive sign project for the community trail along the Middle Fork near the community park. GK-12 fellow, Monica Bruckner, who is working with the Ophir 4th grade, had obtained money for 2 of the signs- one focused on geology and the other on water quality.
- d. Insurance update (Kristin): Payne financial sent a proposal for general liability insurance for \$778.13. Jack stated that \$778.13 sounded like it may be too much. Kristin will follow through with First West to see if they can come up with a cheaper quote. Mindy suggested that Kristin contact the Montana Nonprofit Association to see if there might be a discount for nonprofits. Eric made a motion and Sue seconded to spend up to \$778.13 for general liability insurance.
- e. WWSF update (Jon/Ron): Jon reported that the next steps of WWSF is to 1) implement a public outreach plan, which includes 1 on 1's with targeted canyon residents, and 2) continue to pursue snowmaking as a viable option of wastewater disposal.
- f.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. January 28th - Wastewater Solutions Forum Meeting, 1pm at Big Sky Water and Sewer Meeting Room.

- b. January 28th, 7:30 pm at the Emerson: “Flow” a film about the privatization and scarcity of water
- c. February 9th Missouri Headwaters Partners Luncheon
- d. February 12th: 7pm at Ophir School Library: BSI Climate Series Talk “Climate Change in the Greater Ecosystem”
- e. February 19th, 6pm at Ophir School – BWTF Annual Meeting
- f. Next board meeting date: February 19th at 5pm.

7. Open Discussion

GGWC Meeting: Jon mentioned that at the GGWC annual meeting someone brought up the possibility of Big Sky depleting water from the Gallatin. Jon suggested that Kristin pursue a High School or College science project, in which students analyze water quality data from the Gallatin Gateway gauge to determine if there have been any streamflow trends since resort development. Sue recommended that Kristin contact Paul Swenson, the newly hired Lone Peak High science and math teacher. Jon reported that the Resort Tax pool will most likely be less than years past due to the slower economy.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm