

Blue Water Task Force Board of Directors Annual Meeting

December 08, 2010 4 PM

Big Sky Owners Association

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Jon Holtzman called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. Also in attendance were directors Ron Edwards, Jack Crowther, and Sue Barton. Missing were directors Mike Richter and Eric Becker.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Sue moved and Jack seconded to approve the minutes from 10-06-10. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Financial Report:** Jack moved and Ron seconded to approve the financial report from 12-08-10. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4. New Business**
 - a. Partnership with Greater Gallatin Watershed Council (GGWC) and the Madison Watershed Partnership (MWP) for volunteer water quality monitoring grants (Kristin): Kristin is meeting with GGWC and MWP to discuss collaborating to fund volunteer monitoring programs.
- 5. Old Business**
 - a. TMDL leftover funds (Kristin)
 - i. Golf course water quality samples: Streamwater samples were collected from the Middle Fork after the Big Sky Golf Course fixed a few sprinkler heads that were spraying wastewater directly into the stream. Results indicated no change in the streamwater nitrate pattern – concentrations increased as the stream traveled from the Bunker parking lot to the pond upstream of Little Coyote Road.
 - ii. Septic maintenance education/ outreach: Kristin will work with Sue Barton on a service-learning project in which the students develop a septic maintenance education piece. Jon suggested that we make a video that would be available on the BWTF website. Kristin contact Hatton Littman about creating a video.
 - iii. Sewer line video (\$3000): The MT Department of Environmental Quality is going to pay for \$3000 of the cost to sewer video sewer lines surrounding the golf course. Ron said this would happen in 2011.
 - iv. Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP): Leftover TMDL money can be put towards the WRP if we need it.
 - b. Watershed Restoration Plan (Kristin)

- i. Examples: Mark Kelly, the MTDEQ grant manager for the WRP grant, sent Kristin three examples of state approved WRPs. The approved WRPs vary significantly in scope and detail. The only basic requirement of a WRP is that it contains the nine minimum elements suggested by the Environmental Protection Agency. Mark recommended that the WRP focus on a 3 - 5 year timeline.
 - ii. Strategy: The board would like Kristin to summarize the recommendations from the TMDL for further discussion at the next board meeting. Once the board has prioritized restoration projects then discussion will move towards a strategy for public involvement.
- c. 319 grant (Kristin): The BWTF 319 grant application to create a nutrient management plan for the Big Sky Golf Course was denied. The MTDEQ decided that the plan should be the responsibility of either the Big Sky Golf Course or the Big Sky Water and Sewer District not BWTF through 319 funds.
- d. Adoption of amendments to Article XIV, XV, and Article 1, Section 2 of BWTF bylaws (Kristin): Ron moved and Jack seconded to adopt the amendments to Article XIV, XV, and Article 1, Section 2 of the BWTF bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Board articles (Jon/Kristin): Kristin and Jon met with Jolene from the Lone Peak Lookout. The Lookout will run the series of board articles that Jon proposed at the last board meeting. Kristin will start off the series, followed by Jon in January, Jack in February, Sue in April, and Ron in May.
- f. New Zealand Mud Snails (Kristin): Wease Bollman from Rhithron associates contacted Kristin to discuss the presence of a low number of the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail in the last macroinvertebrate samples collected from the North Fork in September. The low presence of snails suggested to Wease that they were transferred via the collector's waders or the sampling net. The New Zealand Mud Snail has never been found in the Gallatin watershed. Wease suggested that we collect a few extra macroinvertebrate samples from the North Fork in April both upstream and downstream of the North Fork site.
- g. Wastewater solutions forum (WWSF) update (Jon/Ron): WWSF held a meeting in early December with very good attendance. In the fall, the DEQ visited the proposed test site in the Yellowstone Club. Changes to the initially submitted pilot study were discussed and a revised plan is being prepared by Ray Armstrong for resubmission. According to Ron, the DEQ liked the new plan and gave a green light pending review of the revised plan. The group suggested asking for a 319 grant in 2011 through BWTF to help fund the project.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. December TBD – Quarterly water quality sampling event
- b. January 26th – Greater Gallatin Watershed Group Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn
- c. February 15th – 17th: Nutrients and Water Quality Workshop in Salt Lake
- d. Next board meeting date: The next board meeting will be January 19th at 4pm.

7. Open Discussion

- 8. Adjournment:** Jon adjourned the meeting at 5pm.