

Blue Water Task Force Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, December 9th, 2014, 4 pm
Big Sky Owners Association
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Ron Bowlin called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. Other directors in attendance included Jack Crowther, Ron Edwards, Nancy Sheil, and Tom Spruance via Skype. Absent were directors Mike Richter and San Schwalbe. Also in attendance were BWTF staff, Kristin and Andrea, and Big Sky community member, Ben Almy.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Jack made a motion and Ron E. seconded to approve the minutes from November 12th 2014. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Financial Report:** Kristin presented the financial report. Ron E. made a motion and Nancy seconded to approve the financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **New Business**
 - a. Annual report (Kristin): Kristin is gathering information for the annual report and will send the text for the board to review. She will wait until the end of the year to finalize the financials. The goal is to get the annual report out mid-January along with the water quality report. These reports will be sent to members, donors, and supporters.
 - b. Annual Water Quality Report (Kristin): Kristin and Brandin put together the first water quality report summarizing the data collected by the BWTF over the year. The board had many suggestions for the graphs. Kristin will make those changes and send the document back out to the board for comment.
 - c. Andrea's Contract Renewal (Kristin/Andrea): Kristin presented Andrea's draft contract. Ron Bowlin suggested adding the fundraising goals to the scope and Nancy pointed out a few grammatical errors. Kristin will make those changes to the contract.
 - d. Sage Creek Restoration Project (Kristin): Kristin was contacted by Amy Chadwick from Great West Engineering about a restoration project on Sage Creek that she is planning with Hebgen National Forest Biologist, Courtney Frost. They are interested in partnering with the BWTF as a possible nonprofit avenue to run funds through and a way to engage the public about the project. Kristin will keep the board up to date as the project progresses.
 - e. Montana State University (MSU) Graduate Project (Kristin): Kristin has been working as a local liaison with researchers in the MSU Hydrology and Education departments on a research project studying stream metabolism in Big Sky. As part of the project, the researchers will be installing dissolved oxygen probes at the BWTF stream station sites and are looking to install two additional stream stations in higher elevations that would turn over to the BWTF after the project ends. In addition, an MSU graduate student will develop corresponding curriculum for Big Sky students – possibly 4th grade. Kristin will send Nancy the contact information of the

MSU researchers. This effort is partially supported by unspent Big Sky Institute funds that were attained by the MSU foundation.

- f. Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation Microplastics project (Kristin): Back in October, Kristin met with the Executive Director, Greg Treinish₁ and Marketing and Outreach Manager, Emily Stifler Wolfe₂ about a project that the ASC was hoping to move forward with studying microplastics in the Missouri Headwaters. Microplastics are small plastic pieces < 5 millimeters that are weathered from plastic bags, waders, washing nylon₁ etc. The BWTF would help the project by collecting an extra water bottle during water quality sampling events. ASC received funding and is moving forward with the project. Kristin will attend a project design meeting Thursday, December 11 at the ASC office in Bozeman.
- g. Strategic Planning Session (Kristin): Kristin suggested that the board attend a strategic planning session because the BWTF has never developed a strategic plan and also to bond as a board with the recent significant changes in the board and executive committee. The goals of the strategic planning session would be to develop a strategic plan and to bond as a board. Kristin will coordinate a strategic planning session for the week in April that Tom is in Big Sky.

5. Old Business

- a. Community Survey (Andrea): Andrea has received between 70 and 80 surveys. She will continue to collect surveys until the first of the year.
- b. New Board Members (Kristin)
- c. Big Sky Watershed Corps
 - i. Board Introductions (Kristin): Kristin encouraged board members to meet with Stephanie the first week that she is in Big Sky to get to know her and introduce her to the Big Sky community. Kristin will send Stephanie's contact information to the board.
- d. River Access Improvement Project (Kristin): Kristin met with Dale White, the Forest Service hydrologist and the consultants at RESPEC to discuss the scope of work for the Moose Creek Project. It was determined that the board ramp at Moose Creek would likely cost much more than the budget for Rotary's stand alone project.
- e. Fundraising report (Andrea)
 - i. Major Donor Campaign: Andrea and Tom are working on a major donor campaign.
 - ii. Gift Membership Campaign: Andrea secured two gift certificates for the Corral and Olive B's for board members who bring in the most gift memberships by the end of the holidays.
 - iii. Fly Fishing Festival
 - a. Date: The board suggested keeping the fly fishing festival the same weekend as last year, July 25-26th.
 - b. Committee: Andrea stated that the committee will need additional members from the Task Force since Jon and Jack

have stepped down. Ron B. volunteered to be on the committee.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. Friday, December 12th at 5:30 pm: Big Sky Christmas Stroll. The BWTF will have a booth to promote the community survey, gift memberships, and to sell leftover fly-fishing artwork.
- b. Monday, January 5th: New Big Sky Watershed Corps Member start date
- c. Monday, January 5th – Tuesday, January 13th: Board intros with Stephanie
- d. Thursday, January 8th: Water Quality Sampling Event
- e. Wednesday, January 14th-16th: Big Sky Watershed Corps Training in Bozeman
- f. Tuesday, March 31st – Thursday April 2nd: Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Workshops (101 & 201) hosted by the BWTF.
- g. Next board meeting date: Tuesday, January 13th at 4pm.

7. Open Discussion

- 8. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.