

Blue Water Task Force Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, January 13th, 2015, 4 pm
Big Sky Water and Sewer District
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Ron Bowlin called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. Other directors in attendance included Rich Addicks, Mike Richter, San Schwalbe, and Tom Spruance via Skype. Absent were directors Mike Richter, Jack Crowther, and Nancy Sheil. Also in attendance were BWTF staff, Kristin and Andrea, and Big Sky Watershed Corps Member, Stephanie Lynn.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Rich made a motion and Mike seconded to approve the minutes from December 9th 2014. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Financial Report:** Kristin presented the financial report. Mike made a motion and San seconded to approve the financial reports. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **New Business**
 - a. Eric's resignation (Kristin): Eric Becker resigned from his board position in December due to growing work commitments and limited time to participate on the board.
 - b. Community Park Whitewater Feature (Kristin): Kristin was contacted today about a committee forming to build a whitewater feature in the Upper West Fork at the Big Sky Community Park. Tentatively, the committee plans to hold its first meeting next Wednesday night, January 21st. Kristin will confirm the date/location and send a note to the board.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. New Board Members (Kristin): Mike made a motion and San seconded to approve Ben Almy as a new Board Member. Kristin is going to schedule a meeting with Rich Chandler, the Environmental Manager at the Yellowstone Club, on Monday. She will send a note to the board on the date/time/location of the meeting.
 - b. Board MOU (Kristin): The board reviewed the revised copy of the Board MOU. Kristin will change the requirement to give an annual gift to an annual membership. She will also change the text requesting committee involvement to state interest in specific activities of the BWTF.
 - c. Board Retreat (Kristin): Kristin is meeting with Lori Addicks to discuss the board retreat next Wednesday, January 21st at 8:45 am at Spur Coffee. Ron B. San, and Tom Spruance are interested in attending.
 - d. Wild and Scenic Business Leaders Roundtable (Kristin): Montanans for Healthy Rivers has organized a business leader roundtable discussion of the Wild and Scenic designation on the Upper Gallatin on Tuesday, January 27th at 7pm at Lone Mountain Ranch. The organizers initial reaction to BWTF board members attending the meeting was no unless they are business owners, which would include San. San will not be able to attend the meeting so Kristin will revisit the topic with the organizers and get back to the board. Rich Addicks is interested in attending the meeting.
 - e. Microplastics Project: Kristin attended a brainstorming session to plan the microplastics project with Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation. At

the meeting, the group decided to collect initial samples in the Gallatin to determine the ballpark range of microplastics. Kristin and Nancy collected replicate samples on the Upper West Fork at the BWTF Community site. These samples had microplastic counts of 134 and 27 pieces per 1.5 L and were the highest of all of the initial samples collected on the Gallatin. Microplastic sources include cosmetics, industrial cleaners, plastic debris degradation (e.g. plastic bags).

- f. Fundraising report (Andrea)
 - i. Gift Membership Campaign: Ron Bowlin won the gift certificates to Olive B's and the Corral for the most gift memberships sold and most money raised. Andrea will work on other incentives for the end of this year.
 - ii. Business plaques (Kristin): Ron Bowlin has offered to add/remove business sponsorship plaques from the stream signs.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. Wednesday, January 14th, 3 pm: Meeting with the Gallatin National Forest regarding stream access project.
- b. Wednesday, January 14th – Friday 16th: Big Sky Watershed Corps Training in Bozeman
- c. Tuesday, January 27th, 7 – 8 pm: Wild and Scenic Business Leader Roundtable
- d. Wednesday, January 28th, 1:30 – 4:30 pm: Watershed Wednesday event at the Capital Rotunda in Helena. This is an event that the Montana Watershed Coordination Council hosts during legislative years for watershed groups to come to Helena and table during the legislature. This is an educational opportunity to share the work watershed groups do with representatives.
- e. Wednesday, January 28th, 5:30 – 8 pm: Greater Gallatin Watershed Council Annual Meeting in Bozeman at the public library.
- f. Tuesday, March 31st – Thursday, April 2nd: Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Workshops (101 & 201) hosted by the BWTF.
- g. Next board meeting date: Since the second Tuesday in February will not work for three of the board members attending the meeting, Kristin will send out a meetomatic calendar to coordinate.

7. Open Discussion

Kristin passed out the water quality graphs for input. The board asked for the following changes: 1) more description in text regarding sources and what the individuals can do to reduce impacts and 2) a graph showing historical nitrogen. Kristin will work on these changes and get back to the board. Ron Bowlin suggested asking Marne Hayes to be a member of the BWTF. She wrote a recent editorial about the importance for businesses to support protection of clean water. Ron asked about the EPA Waters of the US rule. Kristin stated that she believed this was the rule clarifying whether or not intermittent streams/wetlands were protected by the Clean Water Act but will get back to Ron about this.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.