

**Gallatin River Task Force Board of Directors Annual Meeting**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 2:00 pm**  
**Big Sky Water and Sewer District**  
**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

- a. *Rick Donaldson called the meeting to order at 2:28 PM. Board members present included JeNelle Johnson, Rich Chandler, Rick Donaldson, Rob McRae, Heather Budd, and Ennion Williams. Staff present included Kristin Gardner, Ryan Newcomb, Stefanee Lucksley, and Big Sky Watershed Corps Member: Valerie Bednarski. Guests included Jenny Muscat, operations manager from resort tax, and Ennion's mom and dad.*

**2. Board Member Story (Mike J)**

- a. Mike was not present and will share his story at the November meeting

**3. Consent Agenda\*\***

- a. Minutes: September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - i. *No comments*
- b. Fundraising Report
  - i. *See Ryan's handout. F3T is under the Gallatin River Festival. Give Big is under Friend of the Gallatin Membership. For the Gallatin River Forever Capital Campaign, the overage includes multi-year pledges that will be paid over the next few years.*
  - ii. *Suggested changes to Fundraising Report: Where is our spending in relationship to last fiscal year?*
  - iii. *Stefanee and Heather will investigate whether campaign donations should be deposited into a high interest account.*
  - iv. ***Ryan is working on forming the fundraising committee and will meet this month.***
- c. Big Sky Watershed Corps Report
  - i. *Board member timesheets will now be sent out in the board packet. Please fill out all the time you dedicate to the Task Force*
  - ii. *Valerie's last day is November 13<sup>th</sup>.*
- d. ***Rich Chandler made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ennion Williams seconded; motion carried unanimously***

**4. Financial Report (Heather, Kristin, Stefanee)**

- a. July Financials Acceptance\*\*
  - i. *Heather will work with Kristin and Stefanee to develop a budget vs actual report for the board*
  - ii. ***Ennion Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda. JeNelle Johnson seconded; motion carried unanimously.***
- b. August Financials Review
  - i. *No comments*

**5. New Business**

- a. Task Force Top Accomplishments – Board Input (Ryan)
  - i. *How can we communicate our impact to the community better in our next Annual Report? What are last year's highlights?*

- a. *community participation with the Task Force has increased -> more fundraising -> more educated and engaged community*
- b. *Headwaters Alliance leadership*
- c. *Monitoring with a more targeted approach -> the algae study, groundwater studies*
- d. *Gallatin River Clean Up -> largest participation to date*
- e. *Moose Creek -> a tangible completed project*
- f. *Great drive of board and staff even with people cycling through*
- b. Volunteer Party (Valerie/Stefanee)
  - i. *November 7, 4-6pm at Lone Peak Brewery*

## 6. Old Business

- a. Strategic Plan Update (Kristin)
  - i. *Brandy Straub is going to assist with organizing our notes from the board retreat in March 2019. Kristin is forming a strategic planning committee to guide development of our strategic plan update.*
  - ii. *Timeline? Last strategic plan was 5 years, but that seems too long. How does that play into project timelines? Funding commitments are 5 years. The pace of which this town is changing....quicker than 5 years. Suggestion: make a 3, 5, 10 year plan.*
  - iii. *Updated Branding*
    - a. *Name change. Get community to weigh in on the new name!*
- b. Big Sky Watershed Corps Program (Kristin)
  - i. *We will be partnering with The Nature Conservancy to host a Big Sky Watershed Corps Member. A contract will be created between the Task Force and The Nature Conservancy. Cost \$6,250, half due this fiscal year and half due next fiscal year. The budget/finance committee will review the budget and make a determination as to where this previously unbudgeted expense will be appropriated.*
  - ii. ***Rich Chandler made a motion to approve the MOU with the Big Sky Watershed Corps and for the finance committee to decided where the funding comes from, and then later an MOU with The Nature Conservancy. Heather Budd seconded and the motion and was carried on unanimously.***
- c. Zoning Updates (Valerie)
  - i. *The Big Sky Zoning Committee made the following changes to the zoning regulations:*
    - a. *Watercourse definition changed: OLD Watercourse: Any natural stream, river, creek, drainage, waterway, gully, ravine or wash in which water flows either continuously or intermittently and has a definite channel, bed and banks, and includes any area adjacent thereto subject to inundation by reason of overflow. The term watercourse shall not be construed to mean any facility created exclusively for the conveyance of irrigation water. NEW Watercourse: Any natural waterway in which water flows either continuously or intermittently and has a definite channel, bed and banks, and includes any area adjacent thereto subject to inundation by reason of overflow.*

- b. *Building Setback: 100 feet from Gallatin. 50 feet from other watercourses. "All buildings and site improvements shall maintain a minimum setback of 100 feet from the annual mean high-water line of the main branch of the West Gallatin River and 50 feet from the annual mean high-water line of all other Watercourses. Uses within the Watercourse setback shall be limited to the planting of native riparian vegetation, agricultural uses (with the exception of structures), maintenance of existing non-native vegetation, and the control and maintenance of noxious weeds, deadfall, and selected pruning. The removal of existing native vegetation within the setback area is not permitted."*
- c. *Landscaping: must be drought tolerant AND fire resistant*
- ii. *The board had a long discussion about the watercourse definition and suggested adding SWPPP for properties near the Gallatin. Two weeks left to comment, however the zoning regulations are a living document so there is an opportunity to submit thoughtful comments at a later time.*
- d. Nutrient/Algae Assessment Updates (Valerie)
  - i. *Two interns from MSU were selected to help enter and organize data; should have it all entered this month*
- e. Recruitment Update (Kristin/Ryan)
  - i. *Conservation Project Manager*
    - a. *Will be negotiating with top-candidate this week.*
  - ii. *Communications Position*
    - a. *Phone screening is complete. Selection will be made by the end of November.*

## 7. Upcoming Events

- a. **October 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>:** Global Sustainability Tourism Council Training at Bridger Bowl
- b. **October 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>:** Montana American Water Resources Association annual conference
- c. **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am:** The Big Sky Chamber hosts Eggs and Issues at the Wilson Hotel
- d. **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am:** Joint Gallatin/Madison Commissioner Meeting at the Wilson Hotel

## 8. Open Discussion:

- a. **Next Meeting**
  - i. ***Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> of November @ 2pm.***

## 9. Adjournment:

- a. ***Rick Donaldson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:06PM . Ennion Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heather Budd seconded; motion carried unanimously.***

\*\* Agenda Items for Board action