

Flathead Reservation Water Management Board

DRAFT Meeting Agenda with Work Session

October 3rd, 2023, from 10 AM – 5 PM

In-person: Flathead Reservation Water Management Board Office
400 Main Street Southwest, Ronan, MT 59864

Virtual at Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94726358169>

Join via phone +1(669) 444-9171| Webinar ID: 947 2635 8169
Updates and actions are shown in green.

1. Call to Order (FRWMB Chair)

1.1. Opening Prayer

1.2. Attendance Present: Clayton Matt, Georgia Smies, & Roger Noble. Kenneth Pitt joined at 10AM, Shane Hendrickson joined at 1PM. Teresa Wall-McDonald Absent.

1.3. Announce meeting minutes on DNRC & CSKT Websites

1.4. Disclose any potential conflicts of interests no conflicts.

1.5. Adopt Agenda approved with 4 yes votes.

2. Public Comment (for items not on the agenda) Arne Wick; update regarding transfer of state-based suspended and 180-Day registrations. OE and DNRC-CIP will meet to discuss next steps.

3. Board Business (FRWMB Chair)

3.1. Any Board business from past meetings to discuss

3.2. Any Board Committee work to report

3.2.1. Roger Noble announced he has solicited three health insurance quotes and requested we add an insurance update to next board meeting's agenda.

3.2.2. Personnel committee is to engage in resolving job descriptions for three new hires.

3.3. Approve meeting agenda-minutes from September 7th, 2023 Approved with 3 yes votes. Roger Noble abstained because he was not in attendance at the 09/07/2023 meeting.

4. Water Engineer Report Water Engineer discussed:

1. Water Right Applications Progress Report

2. FRWMB IT transition

a. Flying solo for October – security procedures in place

b. Onboarding with First Call start 8/30

c. Savings at full buildout of office staff: approx. \$1,205/mo; \$\$14,460/yr

3. Job Descriptions

a. 3 are drafted: Compliance Tech, Resource Specialist, Hydrologist/Hydrogeologist

b. Discussion

c. Outreach Pending

i. Board Direction

ii. Website

iii. Possibly key personnel policies

4. Website

a. No Board comments, minus Board Member Smies: Query system button

Key: Underline = Action item

- b. Need Roger and Ken bios, but will proceed without
- c. Publishing expected by early next week
- 5. WRIS
 - a. About 65% of Discovery Complete, which is about 60% of the total project
 - i. Drafts for about 35 reports in review
 - ii. Drafts for 200 or so water right remarks in review
 - iii. Determination of all water right types
 - iv. 641 –642 split & sever guidance board suggests we establish an interim MOU with DNRC with the end goal of having FRWMB create and manage their own splits and severs.
- b. Next step is database
- c. Final step is testing: approximately 20% of total WRIS project
- 6. Budget is developing nicely
- 7. Budget info cooperative filing on Teams
- 8. Front door Hanging Sign is in production
- 9. AWRA conference attendance
- 10. Board Member Office Days

5. Discuss Water Right Assessments for DEQ Subdivisions (Form #WRVER) The Board Assigned the Water Engineer to work with legal counsel to develop procedures to verify existing State-based water rights. Board approved changing the filing fee from \$65 to \$150. Passed unanimously.

6. Communication with DRNC about adding FRWMB Logo to WRIS Homepage

- 6.1.** Discussion & Draft Letter
- 6.2.** Public Comment

7. Board Direction on Draft Letter The Board advised the Water Engineer to first reach out to Arne Wick before sending the letter. They also wanted to include an option to have a 'preamble' added in addition to, or in place of, the FRWMB logo.

8. Temporary Emergency Appropriations Report

- 8.1.** Discussion & Draft Form
- 8.2.** Public Comment
- 8.3. Board Direction on Draft Form** Approved by 4 (unanimous) yes votes with one edit to add a geocode field to the form.

9. Communication with Parties to the Compact about Office Space

- 9.1.** Discussion & Draft Letter
- 9.2.** Public Comment
- 9.3. Board Direction on Draft Letter** board requested additional time and would like to discuss this letter at the next board meeting.

10. Working Session: Office of the Engineer Personnel Policies

11. Board Member Updates

12. Public Comment

13. Next Steps/Meetings: Thursday November 9th Georgia Smies will not be available on this date. OE will poll for a meeting time for a personnel policy only Meeting of the Board.

14. End Public Portion of Meeting (FRWMB Chair)

15. Move to Closed Executive Session Regarding Personnel Issue

After the Meeting: Board Group Photograph for website

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