

Flathead Reservation Water Management Board

DRAFT Minutes

November 10, 2022, from 3:00-5:00 PM

Virtual

Virtual at Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92497606235>

1. Call to Order (Board Chair)

1.1. Opening Prayer

1.2. Attendance

In attendance: Clayton Matt, Georgia Smies, Kenneth Pitt, Roger Noble, Teresa Wall-McDonald, Craig Pablo

1.3. Announce meeting minutes on DNRC & CSKT websites

1.4. Adopt agenda

Motion by Roger Noble

Second by Georgia Smies

Vote result: Approved, 5 of 5

2. Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)

No public comment.

3. Board Business (Board Chair)

3.1. Approve minutes for October 27, 2022

Motion by Georgia Smies

Second by Kenneth Pitt

Vote result: Approved, 5 of 5

3.2. Legal updates (Hallee Frandsen)

H. Frandsen: We had our first working session meeting. The draft agenda was on the tribes and DNRC websites. I will bring up our logo later as noted. I have the 2 memos, 1 of the memos is the boards jurisdiction memo. It's for liability insurance purposes needed and describes the boards' role.

Clayton: If the board is comfortable with the memo, then we can get it going before the next meeting so Ethan can use it.

Hallee: Many of the updates are on the memos unless the board would like me to go into detail on anything else.

Clayton: Let's organize a list of the needs of legal between Ethan and the board. We can update this monthly. Hallee is that alright for us to do an updated list?

Hallee: I can do that again and need a more concrete determination on how legal should proceed with the Office of the Engineer.

Key: Underline = Action item

Normal = Discussion, comment, and/or update

Clayton: Yes, this will help initiate that.

3.3. Domestic allowance applications

3.3.1. Applications recommended for authorization (Brooks)

List of applicants for domestic allowances that are ready to be approved:

- Conklin
- Couch
- Daniels
- Howard
- Porch
- Schaeffer
- Schoon

3.3.2. Board action on domestic allowance authorizations

Motion by Kenneth Pitt

Second by Teresa Wall-McDonald

Vote result: Approved, 5 of 5.

3.4. Staffing (Mace)

3.4.1. 1st Water Conservation Specialist start date

E. Mace: I have another staff member starting next week on the 14th. His name is James Frakes. I will introduce him to you at our next board meeting.

3.4.2. 2nd Water Conservation Specialist recruitment

E. Mace: I'm coming to the board to get another approval for a 2nd Water Conservation Specialist. I have been in communication with Aimee Saylor on procedures. I have some recommendations that are the position description, the location of the position. Aimee has emphasized the location before and it didn't change much. 2nd I would like to propose this as an open until filled recruitment so that it's open until we can fill the position. It's a \$600 cost to go back to Indeed, \$300-\$600 for LinkedIn, Jupiter didn't promote any workers. I do recognize that indeed brought some good candidates and some not good candidates but that maybe we do some modifications to the budget to only advertise through indeed. Will there be any board members to participate in the interview and hiring process?

Clayton Matt: As you proceed notify the board members and you can see if there are any interested in recruitment and hiring process.

Ken: Can you add, must be authorized to work in the US, to the advertisement?

Ethan: I will get that added. I will keep everyone involved and up to date this time around.

3.4.3. Public comment

No public comment.

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3.4.4. Board action on 2nd Water Conservation Specialist

Motion by: Teresa Wall-McDonald

Second by: Kenneth Pitt

Vote result: Approved, 5 of 5.

3.5. Budget

3.5.1. Glacier Bank Tri-party agreement

Clayton: Glacier bank contacted me; we get a certain amount of money in our account it goes beyond the FDIC allowable amount and so Glacier would like us to enter into the third-party agreement.

Hallee: After reviewing communications, we would like more information before entering into the third-party agreement. We need to make sure it's appropriate to enter.

Clayton: I would like to get this added to our next meeting. There will be no action taken on this item this week and we don't need public comment since there's no action taken.

3.5.2. Public comment

~~3.5.3. Board action on Glacier Bank Tri-party agreement~~

~~Motion by~~

~~Second by~~

~~Vote result:~~

3.6. Hallee: Logo. There will be some revisions done to the memo for the logo and it will be able to have action taken on it next week. The final version will be available then.

3.7. E. Mace: I have a question-and-answer document that can answer some questions that are commonly asked. Can we talk about the process of getting this document out to the public?

Clayton: Last meeting Ethan brought up that some public members were contacting our office about the court objection meetings.

E. Mace: People have come into our office asking questions about the compact and there is confusion on what our office was implemented to do. This document will show what we do and are based off of questions we are being asked. Hopefully to help get correct information out about people's water rights issue.

Clayton: Did you get any feedback from anyone?

E. Mace: Did get some feedback from tribal employees but not state.

Clayton: Has Hallee gotten to review this?

Hallee: No, I haven't seen this but will and can get back to Ethan.

Georgia: What you are being told Ethan, is most likely what board members are hearing from the community on. We could even put 3 questions in the paper and getting the correct information out there and sharing our success would be great. People in our communities are upset by metered wells and by the board being of just tribal members.

Clayton: I haven't gotten a lot about this, but the nature of the board is funded by the state and tribe.

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Ethan: I have addressed the funding and some typical questions.

Maya: We need to address what official meetings are. People are calling DNRC and stating they've been to official meetings and after speaking to those on the call it comes through that they aren't attending our meetings. They are attending water meetings that are informing the public about the objection process.

G. Smies: One group that was meeting is a homeowner's organization. The organization was referred to call this office and to get more information and they said they were fine because they became aware of what misinformation they were sharing.

E. Mace: We have had press request for our office. They have tried to reach out to the state and tribe, but I don't want to get ahead of you and will do what the board wants me to do.

Roger: What newspaper is wanting to come in to interview you or what type of requests are you getting?

E. Mace: I'm not sure I would have to look for the information.

Clayton: What does everyone think?

Roger: If they want to interview Ethan, let them. Get the F&Q out also.

Teresa: After the F&Q it would be proactive to have Joe Valley from K-pax to come down and do some fair reporting. Sharing our successes with the public would be beneficial.

Outreach (Board)

3.8. Training

3.8.1. Open meeting training – MSU Extension Small Government Training Center

E. Mace: Wants to request training for open meeting laws for the board. The laws are Montana centric. This is a good resource to help us identify the public notice. It's a good opportunity for our office. IT will cost \$700 of our budget and will take up to 3 hours of your time. I sent out information with links on power points to the board.

Clayton: Board members and their wishes?

Roger: I don't think it could hurt.

Georgia Smies: If it is the same training local governments receive then I'm in.

Teresa: I am in.

Clayton: I agree for the training. If the board is only getting direction from one place and our legal BKBH said it's the same information, so I am in. Hallee, do you have any additional comments?

Hallee: No this is up to the board.

3.8.2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3.8.3. Board action on 11/17 open-meeting training

Motion by Roger Noble

Second by Georgia Smies

Vote result: Approved, 5 of 5

3.9. Holiday cards from board.

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Anna: A lot of offices will send out holiday cards. It's a great way to see our faces by us sending out cards and helps us build relationships and network.

Clayton: Do we have consensus to allow the holiday cards?

We have consensus. 5 out of 5.

4. Board Member or Other Updates

5. Public Comment

No public comment

6. Next Steps/Meetings:

6.1. Set next meeting: November 17, 2022 (in-person)

6.2. Other items

Roger: Are we doing training before or after our meeting?

Ethan: Yes, we would meet in person and would start earlier. We could start around 1 and then have our meeting afterwards.

7. End meeting (Board Chair)

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