

Madison River Foundation

Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 3/23/2015

Location: Goetz Law Firm, Bozeman

Board Members in Attendance:

J. Montag

J. Goetz

M. Petroni

N. DiMeola

B. Barker (via Telephone)

Board Members absent:

J. Dilschneider

Bruce Richards

Sherri Shows

R. Clark

Others Present:

Liz Davis – ED

Update from Todd Graham

Todd reported on progress on Lower Odell (Granger Ranch) to contain cattle and reduce incidents of cow conflicts with anglers, and to improve the wetland riparian areas. Todd believes the Odell Restoration project is the largest wetland project in the state.

Update from Jan Boyer

Jan reported on her work with mountain Whitefish.

Changes to Minutes

Add Bruce Richards to list of attendees of last meeting. Under New Business, add that Board decided not to participate in ads with Distinctly Montana Magazine (??); Montana Range Tour – MRF decided to support the Tour, particularly if Granger is part of the Tour in 2015.

Executive Director's Report

- New computer is going well, still in transition from the old model. Meetings and outreach with guides are going well. Liz thinks the meetings with Brent Mabbot (April 27 and 28) will bring out a lot of guide interest and help build relationships with that community. Liz was asked questions about a Madison Management Plan. Jeff explains history of Plan and process of two years ago, and is puzzled that a guide would not be aware of this. Board felt this outreach was a positive step to information gathering, but wants to be careful we don't get into a position of "over-promising" in response to the concerns that are voiced. Liz suggests a meeting in June in West Yellowstone to

continue this outreach. This has been done before (although not in West), but the feeling was a bar-b-que and beer gathering might be worthwhile to build good will with this constituency. Discussion followed about how this might fit into the Ennis guide outreach conducted by Joe, and the larger public relations image of MRF throughout the Valley.

- Magic Waters Patagonia is “on.” Liz is working on the details. Eduardo will come to the Gala to promote the trip. Any new ideas for silent auction? Mark suggests a way he can facilitate the auction a tour of riparian areas accompanied by an FWP biologist, as an auction item.
- Liz explains we are a bit frustrated by lack of response at MSU from key individuals regarding the Science Advisory Committee. We are trying to get back with Bill Tietz to ask if there is interest, or do we need to go a different direction? Liz has emailed an entomologist regarding the Hebgen re-start. We are trying to find a topic of interest to these biologists.
- Liz met with Pat Clancy about the Hebgen study regarding stocking the Lake. Money was obtained from PPL and given over to MRF to fund testing of tributaries to understand origin of the healthy rainbows. Are they born in the Lake or in tributaries? MRF spent \$7,000 and has approximately \$32,000 (with some funds from Wigwam Creek) remaining to hire graduate students to complete this study. Pat would continue to oversee this work.
- Jeff explains that PPL wants to enter into a Master Services Agreement with PPL, rather than undertaking projects on a one-by-one basis. This will broaden our relationship and facilitate the administration of these projects, under the oversight of _____ Committee.
- Liz says she has heard about “drought plans” and wants to do more research into this area to see if this is applicable to MRF. The Madison has two dams, so it may not be worthwhile for us, but Mark suggests this could be very important to the Jefferson basin.
- Liz says she is going to the Outdoor Show with Richard and is enthusiastic about this event.
- Festival Plans – Bob Mallard has withdrawn his request for a booth. The Chamber will give him a table.
 - No further word from Prudential.
 - Joe’s tackle swap in May might require help from us.
- Free membership for clients of Fly Shops...it has been approved. Jeff wants more understanding of the fundamentals and to make sure it is consistent with Bruce’s plans for Corporate Sponsors.

New Business

Candidates for open Board position: Jim will stay through the end of his term. He suggests one possible candidate is Kyle Nelson and mentions again the possibility of Don Larson of the Madison Valley Ranch. According to protocol, the Executive Committee is the nominating committee.

Liz feels she is at a point where she can use the help in the office, particularly when she is spending a lot of time out of the field. Pamela Kinney's name came up as a possibility.

The Range Tour will not be including the Odell project this year. However, there will be a dinner associated with the Tour and a table for a short presentation. Liz would like to attend. Are we interested in a \$500.00 donation and participation? Consensus is "yes."

1. David _____ (Name?) is having an event with Mondavi Winemakers and wonders if we would advertise their fundraiser in the MRF Newsletter. Liz did not know whether we would consider this. It was decided this was not appropriate for the Foundation.
2. Liz shows Board a sample pre-Gala Stewards Letter, asking for comment. She welcomes a few suggestions from those present, and she will check with Richard regarding past practices. It will go out within a week.
3. Vandals have broken into our storage area and there could be damage to the sound system.
4. Nancy reported *Mission Mountain Wood Band's* Rob Quist is interested in playing at the Festival, but the dates might not work. Nancy is also working on a band called *One Time Pig*, open on that date, available for \$7,500 plus room and board. However, he may be interested in taking a reduced fee (\$2,000) since it is a fundraiser. One other possibility is *Comstock Lode*, from Bozeman. Discussion followed about whether the band plays during the day as well, but there is potential for conflict with programs underway. Consensus is for Nancy to try and book *Comstock Lode*.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, MEETING ADJOURNED