

Blue Water Task Force Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 16th, 2011 4 PM
Big Sky Water and Sewer District
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order Chairman** Jon Holtzman called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. Also in attendance were directors Ron Edwards, Sue Barton, Jack Crowther, Eric Becker, and Mike Richter. Absent was director San Schwalbe.
2. **Approval of Minutes** Jack moved and Sue seconded to approve the minutes from 10-18-11. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Financial Report** Sue moved and Ron seconded to approve the financial report from 11-18-11. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **New Business**
 - a. Annual Meeting/Public Meeting (Kristin): The board decided that the Annual Meeting should be in the early spring before the off season to allow time to obtain the results from the snowfluent project and for the Ophir 4th and 6th grade to be ready to present their service learning projects. Other suggested presentations for the annual meeting include 1) the State of the Gallatin River, 2) the Upper Gallatin Watershed Restoration Plan, 3) Ellie Quackenbush's science fair project on Beaver Creek, 4) the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Groundwater Study, and 5) the results of the West Fork Nitrate Monitoring Project. All presentations will be brief (@ 5 minutes) with the opportunity to learn more about each presentation though reading materials and/or discussion after the meeting.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. 319 Grant (Kristin): MTDEQ will recommend the EPA to fund the West Fork Nitrogen Reduction Project \$50,000. BWTF will receive final notice of intent to fund in the spring.
 - b. Snowfluent Sampling (Kristin): Sampling for the snowfluent project will begin Thursday, November 17th. Effluent and fresh snow will be sampled for the first round of sampling.
 - c. West Fork Nitrate data (Kristin)
 - i. October data: The October data from the West Fork Nitrogen Monitoring project showed similar patterns to May and August, with the exception of the mainstem West Fork site upstream of the western bridge at the Bunker parking lot. Nitrate and Chloride concentrations were significantly less in October.
 - ii. Isotopic data: All samples have been sent to the UC Davis Isotope Laboratory for analysis
 - d. Beaver Creek Data (Kristin): The only site along Beaver Creek testing positive with E.coli was the site upstream of Highway 191. The nutrient results have not been received yet.

- e. Gallatin Conservation District Meeting (GCD) (Kristin): Kristin attended the October GCD board meeting. The GCD seemed interested in the Big Sky Watershed Corps program but concerned about the lack of time to formulate an appropriate project. There was no motion by the board on participation in the BSWC program. Kristin will attend the December GCD board meeting.
- f. Alicia's work (Kristin): Alicia has begun work on the rain garden project with the 4th grade and the septic outreach project with the 6th grade. Kristin will send the board an updated work plan for Alicia.
- g. Recent Press Releases (Kristin): Both the Lone Peak Lookout and the Big Sky Weekly have written recent articles about the snowfluent project and the Big Sky Watershed Corps program.
- h. Fundraising Training (Kristin): No update on the board fundraising training.
- i. Wastewater Solutions Forum Update (Jon/Ron): No update from the Wastewater Solutions Forum.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. November 16th to 18th: Montana Association of Conservation Districts annual conference in Helena.
- b. December 6-8th: Big Sky Watershed Corps Training
- c. Thursday, December 15th at 10am: Gallatin Conservation District Board Meeting
- d. December TBA: quarterly water quality sampling event
- e. Next board meeting date: January 11, 2011.

7. Open Discussion

- 8. Adjournment** The board adjourned the meeting at 5:05.