

**Haskill Basin Watershed Council
Draft Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018
Riverside Plaza Conference Room**

Attendees: Paul McKenzie, Cynthia Ingelfinger, John Phelps, Chester Powell, Glenda Gehri, Joe Krezowski, Valerie Kurth

John P. called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes of the November 8, 2017 meeting were reviewed. **Glenda G. made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, second by Chester P. Motion passed unopposed.**

Old Business

1.) Reservoir Dam Management Plan

- John P has been in communication with the City regarding ongoing requests for information.
- An e-mail from Craig Workman was distributed to the group with answers to questions posed on the Reservoir Management plan back in 2014. Craig provided answers to each of the questions. It was agreed the board members would review the answers and discuss at the next meeting.
- John P also shared some data he had pulled together from the City and WLI that showed stream flow at the Monegan Rd monitoring station as well as city water use and reservoir spillage rates for four years of low flow data. The dates were generally in September, although one was an August date.
- There was a good discussion regarding potential correlation between high water usage and low streamflow. It was decided more information was needed to determine if there is actually a correlation.
- **Glenda G. made a motion for John P to request additional from the City for data on water usage, diversion by source and spillage for the summer dry periods of July 15 – October 15. Likewise, data for stream flow will be requested from WLI for the same time period. Chester P made the second. Motion passed unopposed.**
- Cynthia shared a report from Mike Koopal who is on the Whitefish Climate Action Plan committee that there will be multiple strategies within the Draft Climate Action Plan that address the municipal water system operations and suggest that HBWC closely review the draft plan which should be available in the not too distant future.

2.) Whitefish Municipal Watershed Project USFS

- No USFS Update.
- Paul M shared that Stoltze had won the Stewardship contract for the commercial vegetation management project. Stoltze will likely start operations next summer. It could take 3-4 years to fully implement
- He also shared that some of the non-commercial treatments were started last fall with more to come.

3.) Forest Plan Revision Update:

- No USFS Update.
- Paul M shared that the Objection period has closed and the USFS is in a 90 day objection resolution period.

4.) Replacement of Culverts on Haskill Basin County Road:

- John P. continues to maintain communication with the Fagan's. It was decided to postpone a site visit until later this spring once the snow melts and things can be seen.

5.) New Business:

- Valerie shared that FCD is in the process of filling the assistant Conservationist position vacated when Cynthia went to work for WLI.
- FCD received a 319 grant for bank stabilization on two reaches of Cow Creek. Approximately \$72K. Fencing, bank stabilization and vegetation planting are primary projects. It will be a grass roots project with lots of volunteer help needed.
- Discussion of moving venue for meetings to new City Hall. John P will check with City as to availability of community room for the meeting after next.

6.) Public Comment:

- No public comment

Next Meeting April 3rd, 2018 Riverside Plaza Conference Room 6pm

- Draft Agenda Items:

- i. Review of draft minutes
- ii. City Reservoir Management Plan - Whitefish Area Water Resource Report
- iii. Whitefish Municipal Watershed Project update
- iv. Forest Plan Revision
- v. Haskill Creek County Road Bridge Replacement.
- vi. New Business
- vii. Public Comment

7.) Motion to adjourn at 6:39 pm