Haskill Basin Watershed Council
Draft Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2017
Riverside Plaza Conference Room

Attendees: Paul McKenzie, Cynthia Ingelfinger, John Phelps, Glenda Gehri, Chester Powell, Craig Workman

John P. called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made

Minutes of the May 18, 2017 meeting were reviewed. One correction proposed, Pg 2 number 4, last bullet change last word in sentence from "proposals" to "report". **Glenda G. made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, second by Chester P. Motion passed unopposed.**

Old Business

1.) Reservoir Dam Management Plan
   - Craig provided some data regarding the volume of reservoir overflow from 2012-2015. He also provided an excerpt from the management plan that talks about water quality and the beneficial effects of overflow on the various elements of water quality, including temperature, pH, conductivity and dissolved oxygen.
   - Craig led a good discussion about the management of the reservoir.
     i. He committed that the staff is to be open minded in review of the current, past and future management practices. He encourages new ideas and exploring options for management.
     ii. He stressed the benefits of consistent water characteristics in the treatment process.
     iii. He said either Neil or himself would be regular participants in HBWC meetings.
     iv. He wants management practices to be science based and defendable.
     v. John P will share the "list of questions" we had previously provided the city regarding management practices. Craig said he would review.
     vi. Craig mentioned the need for dilution water on the backwash filters, which we question.
     vii. Craig had to leave at 6:30pm
2.) Whitefish Municipal Watershed Project USFS
   - Michael was not present, but sent a message that things are moving forward with both commercial and non-commercial treatments.
3.) Forest Plan Revision Update:
   - Draft Record of Decision is in the Regional Office and Washington Office for review. Administration change has affected timing slightly.
   - Expect draft out to public in September.
4.) Replacement of Culverts on Haskill Basin County Road:
   - Discussion of the engineering report provided by RDG and RPA. Very detailed, hard for lay folks to understand.

- Paul had provided a list of questions to Cynthia. John had talked with Ryan and had a few answers
    i. FWP did confirm that they want this crossing to pass fish.
    ii. FWP wanted a crossing that will maintain the full creek width through the crossing. Engineer stated it was best to prevent plugging or damming in high flow.
    iii. Box culverts are most common installation and therefor the more economical option.
    iv. Haskill Creek is non-navigable, so the stream bed is owned by the adjoining landowners. Engineer was not aware of any liability issue, but HBWC needs to explore more. Paul stated we needed to have this issue well vetted prior to approaching any of the adjoining landowners regarding the stream restoration work. Suggest a meeting be held with all affected parties
    v. Ryan confirmed that the stream restoration was critical to the installation and long term success.
- There was a discussion of funding options and 319 grants. It was decided that a $50,000 grant on a $300,000 proposal may not be sufficient to motivate the county. Suggest we wait until we have a clearer path forward to submit a 319 application.
- Paul stated that the report certainly is the best way to improve this crossing, but we need to be mindful of budgets. Is there an option that may not be "the best" but would be a significant improvement over what we have, yet is affordable?
- Paul suggested we ask the County what they would do if the current crossing blew out in a big storm. What would they do to replace it?
- Discussion of alternate access routes was had. The group asked Paul to develop a map of various routes showing landowners etc so folks can get a good handle on the issue.

5.) <u>New Business:</u>

- None

6.) <u>Public Comment:</u>

- No public comment

<u>Next Meeting September 27, 2017. Riverside Plaza conference room, 6pm.</u>

- 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 7:20 pm