

Gallatin River Task Force Board of Directors Meeting
June 18th, 2019, 3:00 pm
Big Sky Water and Sewer District
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** *Rick Donaldson called the meeting to order at 3:03PM. Board members present included Ron Edwards, JeNelle Johnson, Rick Donaldson, Rich Chandler, and Ennion Williams. Staff present included Stephanie Lynn, Kristin Gardner, Brandy Straub, Ryan Newcomb, Big Sky Watershed Corps Member: Valerie Bednarski, and summer intern Isabella Vendramin. Guests included Sierra Harris, Julia Nave, and Nathan Korb from the Nature Conservancy; Karen Filipovich, and Auditor Scott Holton.*
2. **Board Member Story (Ron)**
 - a. *Ron made a video. He attended the University of Montana for undergrad. He made his way to Big Sky when his mother-in-law mailed Ron a newspaper clipping for a job at the water and sewer district. In December 1995 took the job in Big Sky. **Mike Jaquard will share his story at the July meeting.***
3. **Consent Agenda****
 - a. Minutes: May 21st, 2019
 - b. Fundraising Report: *no comments*
 - c. Education & Communications Report
 - i. *Holly at Greater Gallatin Watershed Council (lower Gallatin watershed group) is interested in working together for the clean up. Pros: increased marketing, recommend have 2 BBQs in two locations. Rotary and REI would like to participate in a cleanup. Board suggested future coordination with groups who have adopted stretches of the highway to pick up trash. Harvey's Plumbing cleans the whole canyon in the Spring. MDOT will pickup and dispose of the trash from road clean ups.*
 - d. Water Conservation Program Coordinator Report: *no comments*
 - e. Big Sky Watershed Corps Report: *no comments*
 - f. ***Ron Edwards made a motion to approve. JeNelle seconded; motion carried unanimously.***
4. **Financial Report (Rick, Kristin)**
 - a. April Financials Acceptance**
 - i. ***Ron Edwards made a motion to accept. Rich Chandler seconded; motion carried unanimously.***
 - b. May Financials Review: *no comments*
 - c. Draft Audit Report (Rick/Scott)
 - i. Recommendations review
 - a. *Scott reviewed the audit documents. The recommendations the Task Force received are extremely common. The Task Force must first close financial year before starting the next audit. An audit is not required every year, however an independent audit does provide verification as to the accuracy of the organizations*

financial statements, which can be viewed positively by potential donors and the public.. The board can decide how often the Task Force conducts a full audit. The Task Force will post the audit and 990 without donor information on the website. The recommendations letter and the of governance will remain internal documents.

- b. ***Rich Chandler made a motion to accept the audit report. Ennion Williams seconded; motion carried unanimously.***
- ii. Fiscal Policy and Internal Control Manual**
 - a. Still being revised

5. New Business

- a. Water Fund Development Update (Karen, Sierra)
 - i. *See attached presentation on the Big Sky Watershed Fund. Water resources are being pressured so The Nature Conservancy and the Task Force are creating a partner-led model that will provide flexible, long term, transparent funding. The creation of a water fund is a 5 phased process: feasibility, design, creation, operation, and maturity. **Send name ideas for the fund to Sierra sierra.harris@tnc.org***
- b. Brandy Resignation
 - i. *Brandy is grateful for her time with the Task Force but she can no longer continue working with the Task Force.*
- c. New Board Member (Kristin)
 - i. *The new prospective board member is Heather Budd who is a CPA for Highline Partners. **A super majority of board members was not present to vote, so an email vote will be sent out.***
- d. Board Treasurer (Rick, Kristin)
 - i. *Heather is willing to be Treasurer if nominated at the Annual meeting. Per bylaws, new board members can be Treasurer-Secretary or Vice-Chair.*
- e. Fundraising Committee Members (Ryan, Kristin)
 - i. *Ryan is looking for members to sit on a fundraising committee that would oversee fundraising program activities and short and long-term goals. **Need new board members and people outside of the board to seat the Fundraising Committee. JeNelle indicated interest and we also discussed the prospect of Bill Collins joining as well.***
- f. Annual Meeting (Rick)
 - i. ***July 23 @ 2PM***
 - ii. ***At the annual meeting, we will nominate/elect officers, and change bylaws to separate Secretary/Treasurer position and update our mission statement. Officer positions are a year-long.***

6. Old Business

- a. FY2020 Budget
 - i. Resort Tax Allocation (Kristin)
 - a. *The Task Force's Resort Tax Allocation was significant trimmed, \$200,000 off requested amount. We received \$490, 803 . Kristin*

*will be working with the finance and fundraising committees to revise budget. JeNelle noted that environmental groups received 7% of the resort tax allocations. Ryan will be attending all of the resort tax board meetings going forward. **PARTICIPATE in the communicating vision survey <http://ourbigskymt.com/>***

- b. Gallatin River Festival (Ryan)
 - i. *140 banquet tickets have been allocated, however want to sell 6 to 10 more tables, which is another 60-80 tickets. 200 tickets is the goal. Online bidding via BidPal, but can also bid verbally if present. **Please encourage attendees to pre-register on the app, SmartPay Anywhere by BidPal Network.***

7. Upcoming Events

- a. **June 19th, 2 pm:** Headwaters Alliance: Gallatin Canyon Meeting at the Big Sky Chamber.
- b. **June 28th:** Pesca Fiesta, details coming soon
- c. **June 29th, 4-8 pm:** Outdoor Fair in Town Center Park.
- d. **June 30th, 5 pm:** Hooked on the Gallatin Banquet at the Gallatin Riverhouse Grill
- e. **August 29th:** Save the date for the Upper Gallatin River Cleanup
- f. **Set July Board Meeting:**

8. Open Discussion:

Isabella: Wild and Scenic. *Encouraging business endorsements in Big Sky and Bozeman for the Headwaters Security Act to demonstrate support and encourage Tester to introduce a bill this summer. Show support by calling in, online comments, and write letters to representatives. A letter to the editor will be written by Isabella and signed by Gallatin River Guides.*

- 9. **Adjournment: Rick Donaldson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 PM. Ron Edwards made a motion to adjourn. JeNelle Johnson seconded; motion carried unanimously.**

** Agenda Items for Board action