

# **GGWC Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 9, 2018 7:30-9:30 am**

Meeting called to order by Kyle Mehrens

In attendance: Lilly Deford, Leanne Roulson, Michelle Pond, Tammy Swinney, Mark Story, Chris Mahoney, Kyle Mehrens, Peter Brown, Susan Duncan, Holly Hill

## Administrative Updates (Kyle M.)

1. January Meeting Notes - Holly agreed to take notes
2. December Meeting Minutes
  - Once quorum was met (about half way through meeting) and some minor spelling mistakes were corrected, Peter Brown motioned to approve December meeting minutes
  - Leanne Roulson seconded
  - Motion was passed unanimously
3. Guest Introduction
  - Doug McCarty - 2017 Stream Team volunteer, considering serving on GGWC Board, PhD from Dartmouth and MS from University of Montana in clay mineralogy, serves as President of the Clay Minerals Society, just retired from Chevron, lives on Sourdough Creek right off Graff Park near an old headgate, involved in a project to remove headgate at end of summer 2018
  - Michelle Pond - new Big Sky Watershed Corps member with GLWQD and Environmental Health - graduated from Berkeley with a degree in Environmental Engineering
4. February Meeting Location and Date - location and time still works for everyone, next meeting February 13th at 7:30am

## 7:35-7:50 Contractor Update (Holly)

1. December Work Summary
  - Completed final invoice and submitted to DNRC for the DNRC Watershed Management Grant, working on final report
  - Completed end of year newsletter highlighting projects and sponsors and sent out to GGWC email list, posted on social media and added blog post on website

- Met with Chris Mahoney and began compiling information needed to complete DEQ 319 final report
- Continued planning and coordination for Annual Meeting in collaboration with Ed&Outreach committee, sent out press releases, coordinated speaker presentations, hung up posters, visited Weaver Room to plan setup, coordinated meeting donations

#### 7:50-8:00 Treasurer's Report (Leanne)

1. Leanne presented a summary of GGWC finances, income included payment from DEQ 319 grant, donation from Mark Story, expenses included Verizon Wireless bill, Deposit to Emerson for Annual Meeting, bank fees
2. Summary of finances can be found on Google Drive here:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qLywmL\\_jOrgLrzTMZHFDq8PV6jJxqJSe9Y5AXNFYqIs/edit#gid=1083502986](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qLywmL_jOrgLrzTMZHFDq8PV6jJxqJSe9Y5AXNFYqIs/edit#gid=1083502986)

3. Guest, Doug McCarty asked about where GGWC gets funding - short discussion of GGWC's current grants, public and private funds

#### 8:00-8:30 Special Presentation (Tammy)

Tammy provided background info and update on the Gallatin Stream Teams program.

- Stream Teams started out as a one year pilot project in 2008 with a successful \$20,000 Laird Norton Family Foundation Grant
- GGWC and GLWQD partnered with GGWC handling recruitment, organization and outreach and GLWQD handling technical resources, long term monitoring and data repository
- 22 sites have been monitored and over 3500 data points collected
- Goal is to provide framework for citizens to connect with watershed, educate residents, gather scientifically credible data and to supplement GLWQD planned stream monitoring network for long term trend analysis
- Program integrity - developed quality assurance project plan (QWAP) - outlines monitoring program framework - needs updating - developed by GLWQD and DEQ in 2008 and was first one approved by DEQ in state
  - Developed sampling and analysis plan - developed specific projects undertaken by stream teams
  - Allows data to be included in MT water quality database
- Program Overview - GGWC - recruitment - REI, SIMMS, Social Media
- Annual Training - classroom and hands on field session last weekend in June

- YSI Meter use, water sampling, how to take site photos, streamflow measurements and staff gage reading, pebble counts, proper site visit documentation, macroinvertebrate collection and preservation
  - Standard Operating Procedures - SOP accompany each volunteer to make sure they're collecting data properly
- Each team usually has 2 monitoring sites - upstream and downstream sites
- Sampling events occur one day/month in July August and September - include water grab samples, YSI measurements of instream parameters (PH, DO, SC, TEMP), stream discharge, pebble counts, macroinvertebrates, benthic algae collections in past have been not very well received
- Field leader for each stream team - in past it's been GGWC Board members or returning volunteer, more recently it's been a BSWC member
  - Chris mentioned opportunity for piggy backing other work and grants and monitoring into Stream Teams
- Monitored Streams Timeline
  - 2008-2011 - Bozeman Creek, Bridger Creek, Mandeville Creek, Thompson Creek (1 Yr. only) Hyalite Creek (added in 2009)
  - 2012-2013 (Urban Stream Network Established) - Bozeman and Mandeville Creeks, Matthew Bird and Catron Creeks - Urban Core network established by GLWQD - office got two year grant to establish this network
  - 2014-2017 - Bozeman Creek and East Gallatin River - limited sites as part of GGWC Story Mill Grant
  - 2018 - return to urban stream network site
- Urban Stream Monitoring Network - expands capacity by integrating citizen stream monitoring into the district's monitoring network, established supported by and epa grant district received in 2012 -
  - Bozeman Creek expanded from 2 to 4 stations
  - Catron Creek 2 stations
  - Matthew Bird Creek 2 stations
  - Mandeville Creek expanded from 2-4 stations
- Transition to BSWC role - 2012-17
  - Annual recruitment and training coordination
  - Preparing sampling and analysis plan for season
  - Pre and post sampling event preparations - field gear, YSI calibration, forms
  - Audits each team for data collection integrity
  - Field Form QA/QC
  - Volunteer communications and social events coordination
  - BSWC member has been the face of stream teams the past 5 years

- 2018 GLWQD BSWC member (Michelle) managing program - opportunity to partner with watershed coordinator on recruitment, social media etc.
- 2019 transition back to GLWQD & GGWC Coordinator Partnership?
- 2017 program highlights - BSWC member
  - BSWC member recruited long-term local residents - improved potential for return in 2018
  - Developed partnership with SIMMS
  - Worked with SIMMS to develop a Stream Teams logo
  - Held several local events with volunteers to keep them engaged
  - Survey of current/ past volunteers
- Volunteer retention survey - volunteers wanted to make new friends, wanted to improve themselves, interested in topic
  - Wide range of knowledge in watershed issues
  - Majority of volunteers had increased to significant increase in knowledge after being a volunteer
  - People wanted to continue volunteering because of social aspect, feel like making difference in community
  - Most people actively employed
  - Majority of people said they wanted to return
- Brief data overview - overall urban streams experiencing excess nutrient levels - 03 Tuckerman Park, Upstream of Bogert Park, Downstream of Bogert Park, Gold and Bond Street
  - Bozeman Creek - upstream to downstream - nitrogen levels exceeding state levels on both sites - 2008-2012
    - All four sites on Bozeman Creek - 2012 - 2013 all four sites exceeding state levels
    - Phosphorus - levels are below state levels
    - Kyle mentioned interest in macroinvertebrate
    - Tammy has hunch that Matthew Bird Creek may have big impact on nutrient levels to Bozeman Creek - (goes through lots of residential yards, septic systems)
    - Not taking into account stream discharge, etc. just point in time grab samples, non-point source
    - Chris mentioned interest in overlaying drinking water quality analysis
    - Monitoring sites are determined by lots of factors like ease of parking, ability to access for volunteers
    - Michelle may be able to do some more data analysis of volunteer monitoring
  - Mandeville Creek - All sites exceeding total nitrogen and phosphorus - runs through MSU campus - goes underground at College Street for 10-15 blocks before it daylight again at Bozeman High School - total nitrogen 3-4x levels in Bozeman

Creek, Mandeville smaller creek, less flow than Bozeman Creek - data isn't normalized to volume - (total load carried)

- 2 sites on MSU campus, one by High School and one out on Redwing Drive on Frontage Road - after Farmers' canal goes in, macroinvertebrate community impacted really badly - sedimentation and muck prevalent downstream
- Matthew Bird Creek - a lot of septic systems and big golf course, sod farm, private residence with large pond that is stocked with fish and overrun by Canadian geese, nutrient sink and source - 2 sites Peace Pipe Drive in Sundance subdivision, and Langhor by Peets Hill - exceeding total nitrogen and close to exceeding total phosphorus
- Doug - where is phosphorus coming from - soaps, detergents, septic waste water, bird poop, horse poop, fertilizer
- Future Outlook short term 2018-2019
  - Funding right now is unsecured - GLWQD has not dedicated any money to lab costs - \$1300-\$1500 for 8 sites monitored 3x/year ends up being 10 samples - GLWQD doesn't go after small funds like this has to be over \$5000 - good opp for GGWC for applying for small amounts of money
  - Volunteer training site not secured - historically have been able to use city hall and bozeman creek - changed last year
  - Volunteer retention activities are lacking - schwag, food, beverages
- 2018 plan is to return focus on urban stream networks again (Bozeman, Mandeville, and Matthew Bird Creeks)
  - Resolve volunteer retention issue - help to provide opportunities for social networking to stay connected throughout the entire year
  - Volunteer involvement activities through GGWC throughout year
  - GLWQD surface water monitoring network - focus on long term trend analysis - hoping to be approved by district board and begin implementing in 2019 - could include stream team volunteer assistance as well
- Long Term Outlook - what's long term outlook for GGWC, what roles does GGWC want to play, GLWQD capacity for long term program management - current in kind effort 280-320 hours/year
  - Integration into GLWQD surface water trend monitoring program on some level
  - Time commitment - could be easily .5 time staff person time put towards stream teams just for coordinating not even for doing sampling
  - Kyle - Water Resources Committee needs to discuss GGWC level of involvement - how do we engage in 2018, how do we want to move forward in 2019 and beyond, how do we use data to our advantage

- Chris - would totally support moving watershed group toward looking for grant opportunities to continue involvement
  - DEQ water monitoring program available for \$3000\*\*\*\*
- Susan - importance of data outreach - communicating data to public
- Doug - city regulations? City stormwater is highly regulated, county is not at all regulated

### 8:30-8:45 Committee Updates

#### 1. Water Resources Committee

- Chris M. reported that the last of the work on the Camp Creek Restoration project has been done, all of the receipts from the landowner have been submitted, Chris and Holly working on completing the final report to DEQ.
- BOR Drought Planning - Holly is reviewing the BOR contract and remaining deliverables and plans to complete work with Madison Boone as potential subcontractor, GGWC plans to extend Holly's contract to complete this work.

#### 2. Education Committee

- Discussed Annual Meeting preparations including chili cooking details, final follow up with speakers and registration table which will be handled by Susan

#### 3. Development Committee

- Waiting to hear back from Montana Trout Foundation on pending grant decision - should be mid February response

#### 4. Executive Committee

- Current second contract extension with Holly is for 40 hours in December and 80 hours in January
- Considering a third extension to complete the BOR drought grant work
- 2018 workplan - not much progress, Board terms and leadership elections to happen in February Board meeting
- Meeting time - Holly will put together survey to see if Board members are in support of changing the Board meeting time - plan is to maintain second Tuesday of each month but potentially change time to evening meeting

5. Lilly mentioned the MWCC Annual Meeting - coming up on Friday in Helena from 9-4, Michelle and Torie from GLWQD planning to go, Leanne planning to go and Lilly planning to go.

8:45-9:00: Closed Session

1. Contractor Term Extension

- Action: Discussion
- Items:
  - i. BOR Drought Grant Tasks
- Consider the motion: n/a

2. Board Terms and Leadership Elections

- Action: Discussion
- Items:
  - i. Board Terms
  - ii. Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, and Sub-Committee Chairs
- Consider the motion: n/a

3. Board Member Solicitation

- Action: Discussion
- Items: n/a
- Consider the motion: n/a

\*\* 9:00 Meeting End\*\*