Beaverhead Trails Coalition

Regular Monthly Meeting

June 16, 2015

Those present: Dan Downey, Rick Hartz, Craig Simonsen, Pete Wakeman, Larry Skiles, Ed Mooney, Alan Weltzien, Joyce Connors, Jim Roscoe, Dan Pence

**Old Business**

Previous Minutes: Motion to adopt minutes of last meeting was approved.

Fish & Wildlife Conservation Trust: Feedback from Deb Lane – Lots of good comments, no bad comments. It is looking good for getting the $100,000 recommended by the Citizens Advisory Board. The money will be available soon after we are awarded. We plan to set an October 1st date to complete Phase I purchase. We will look into legal, finance, and insurance now. Management plan can wait a little bit. Pete Wakeman and Jim Roscoe will work on the purchase.

Insurance: We are looking into what kind of insurance coverage we need both now and upon purchase of the Phase I acreage. Initially, we need to look at Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and then we will need General Liability. Ed has talked to Hub Insurance and Payne West, and we will also contact Farmers (Judy Siring) and will check into the insurance offered through the Montana Nonprofit Association. We discussed the rattlesnake issue and decided to ask Max Hansen about warning signs.

Trail Register: Larry now has the trail register. Larry and Dan will meet Saturday at the trailhead to decide on placement of the register.

Contracted Hours: We are increasing Jim Roscoe’s hours to 20 per week, when Jim is able. Probably less during haying season.

Mineral Rights: We talked about the fact that though Otto Miller will pass along any mineral rights he has to BTC, there are others who have mineral rights preceding Otto’s. We can have the BLM do a search on this, but it costs quite a bit, so we are not actively working on this right now.

**New Business**

Signage: We talked about having some sort of standard signage. Fred Bridger was recommended as someone who could make the signs we need. A committee was formed consisting of Ed, Pete, Alan, and Ben. Ed will contact Fred Bridger about signage.

Board Number Increase: We decided to increase the number on the Board to seven, with the addition of Dan Pence and Craig Simonsen to the board. These appointments will be retroactive to January 2015. We will look into the Bylaws and come up with a plan so each Board term is for three years and all terms are staggered, so we do not have everyone up for reelection at the same time.

Tech Grant $ Report: We talked quite a bit regarding using the grant from Future West for buying software for our accounting and member data base. Craig looked at various programs and provided us with a comparison of the two types of programs we will need. He will also check with other nonprofits to see what is working for them. Initially, it seems like Donor Perfect is the likely choice for the member database and Quick Books is the program of choice for the accounting. We approved the purchase of the Quick Books Online version to get started on the accounting. We will do more research on the donor software.

County Road Work: The country is working on Overland Road right now. Next year they plan to work on the dump road and to overlay the road from where the pavement ends (by our parking lot) back to the bridge, adding a guard rail along the river and striping to indicate a walking path.

Weed Spraying: Jim will do some weed spraying on the Town Overlook Trail. The biggest problems are knapweed and toadflax right now.

Pigtail Project: Pete has been trying to contact the person who complained about the Pigtail work. We talked about the work that still needs to be done on the Pigtail Project including revegetation and finishing the work on the trail. Dillon’s Street and Alley Committee is contemplating selling the alley behind the houses to the landowners, but not Jefferson Street itself.

Future West: The board met with Jen Boyer and Jen Downing of Future West. Both Jen’s will be leaving Future West in the near future and we will then be working with Randy Carpenter, who was also at the meeting. We plan to continue our agreement with them for consulting. No details yet.

Kendeda Fund: Dan D. and Joyce will continue working on the Kendeda Fund grant application.

July Meeting: Our next meeting will be held on July 16th at 5:30. Location to be determined.