

Draft Meeting Notes
Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative
October 20, 2014 – 7 p.m.
Board Meeting – University of Idaho Extension Office

Board Members in Attendance:

David Anderson, Mayor, City of Bonners Ferry & KVRI Co-chair
Dan Dinning, Boundary County Commissioner & KVRI Co-chair
Ron Abraham, (Alt.) Kootenai Tribe of Idaho (KTOI) & KVRI Co-chair
Sandy Ashworth, Boundary County Library, Social/Cultural/Historical Interests
Dave Wattenbarger, Boundary County Soil Conservation District
Bob Blanford, Business/Industry
Ed Atkins, Corporate Agriculture
Jim Cadnum, Landowner/Industrial
Kennon McClintock, Conservation

Patty Perry, KVRI Facilitator & KTOI
Janet Satchwell, KVRI Recording Secretary & KTOI

Agency/Others in Attendance:

Kurt Pavlat, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Sid Smith, U.S. Senator Risch
Judy Morbeck, U.S. Congressmen R. Labrador
Karen Roetter, U.S. Senator Crapo
Ben Conard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Dave Gray, KVRI Alternate
Norm Merz, KTOI
Ed Robinson, Idaho Dept. of Lands (IDL)
Laura Roady, Bonners Ferry Herald
Dave Sims, Boundary Economic Development Council
Jillian Sutherland & Cynthia Gibson – New Mobility West

Opening:

David Anderson opened and welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting; introductions followed.

The group approved the draft meeting notes from the July 21, 2014 meeting. In August the group met to put together a booth for the County Fair; the September meeting was postponed until October due to changes in agenda items.

Presentation:

David A. introduced Jillian Sutherland and Cynthia Gibson who are with New Mobility West. They are in Bonners Ferry working with the Boundary Economic Development Council to help community leaders, transportation officials, and the private sector in the community build options for transportation systems that support economic development and great communities. Jillian described their schedule for the remaining time in Bonners Ferry. Dave S., Jillian and Cynthia returned to the community meeting that was still going on. The City's highway committee will meet at the City Hall, November 5th at 4:30 p.m. and officials from the Idaho Transportation Department are fully involved in the community process.

Committee Updates:

Forestry Committee – Patty Perry

Kevin Knauth, District Ranger, was unable to attend this evening to give a full update on the forest projects. The forestry committee will continue to meet on the Deer Creek Project to provide thoughts on the project purpose & need as the Forest Service will develop the document for public scoping. The transportation plan is not totally complete with opportunities and challenges to be discussed. The next meeting for Deer Creek has not been scheduled. (November 12th)

The Bonners Ferry District is getting out more than half of the allowable sale quantity for the entire Panhandle N.F. with funding provided by the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) & includes restoration work that is being accomplished. The Kreist and Twenty Mile Projects have both sold with the Twenty Mile Project being sold for double the appraised price. Industry and conservation have been instrumental in the collaboration process.

The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act (CFLRA) calls for third party project monitoring, and a meeting to discuss this process was canceled & will be rescheduled for November.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Committee – Patty Perry

Patty will be picking up a shuttle from Bob S. at IDEQ which will allow the TMDL committee volunteers to download the information from the monitors to confirm they are working. Some monitors will also need to be cabled so as not to lose them in the early runoff.

Wildlife-Auto Collision (WAC) Committee – Patty Perry

The WAC committee will hold their next meeting November 18th, 8:30 a.m. at the Tribal office. At this time funding is not available to go forward with the project. The grant objectives have been met and the detection system remains up north. Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) was awarded a grant to analyze some of the data, and the Western Transportation Institute will take another look at what we learned from the Doppler radar system and the monitoring that was done. The committee needs to make a plan for the next steps going forward.

ITD thought the Doppler system was valuable enough and they learned enough from the test that they purchased a unit to be placed in the Silverwood area on Hwy. 95.

Kennon McClintock advised that Walt Dinning, Farm Bureau Insurance, awarded The Nature Conservancy \$1,000 toward the project. A picture will be forwarded to Patty for the records. Kennon will get it in the newspaper for this contribution can be more fully recognized.

Correspondence/New Business:

A letter was received concerning the annual public meeting of the International Joint Commission (IJC) Kootenay Lake Board of Control to be held October 30th at 7:30 p.m. at the Kootenai River Inn, Bonners Ferry.

A meeting summary from the National Forest Land Use Gathering held September 22-23, 2014 at the Snyder Guard Station was received.

Patty will be attending the National Forest Management & Collaboration in the Interior Mountain West in Missoula, MT / October 28-30, 2014. She will present a PowerPoint during a panel discussing collaborative fatigue. She thanked the members that offered their thoughts on what keeps them involved in the process.

Tomorrow as representatives of KVRI: Sandy, Ron, Dan, Patty, Brad Smith & Mary Farnsworth will travel to Missoula to receive the Regional Forester Honor Award for Sustaining Forests and Grasslands (Including Partnership and Collaboration). The group had been nominated for the award by Mary Farnsworth, Idaho Panhandle Forest Supervisor. Patty thanked all the agencies, committee members, and board members involved because with everyone at the table it is the new way we work here.

Closing Comments/Meeting Announcements:

Sandy discussed the USDA Rural Development grant that was approved by the Department of Commerce for the Boundary County Library.

Ben was asked about the challenge to the Wolverine decision.....on a national level. He didn't have details to provide a response.

David A. discussed the Kootenai Tribal Council's Twin Rivers Sturgeon and Burbot Hatchery Celebration that was held on October 9th. Senators Crapo and Risch were in attendance and the event was well attended by dignitaries and the community. Patty advised community tours will be given October 25th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The facility will not be open to the public once the fish arrive at the hatchery.

The possibility of a winter tour of the restoration work on the Kootenai River was discussed.

The next KVRI board meeting will be held November 17, 2014 (no meeting in December).

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Janet Satchwell
KTOI/KVRI Admin. Assistant