
MINUTES
Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee
January 14, 2016, 1:00 PM
405 Grand Ave., Laramie, WY
Annex Conference Room

The regular meeting of the Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee met at the Historic Carnegie Building, 405 Grand Avenue, 1st Floor Conference Room.

I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Joe Lord, Jason Sherwood, Paul Rechar
Staff Present: Danielle Brewer
Absent: Jayne Pearce, Amy Nagler, Earl Smith, Cal VanZee
Guests Present: None

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Request to move Paula Wilson-Cazier's Open Meetings Act and Public Records Act presentation to April's agenda, and to also add the Hunter Management Plan report to April's agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY Rechar, seconded by Sherwood, to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2015 meeting as sent via email. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Congratulations to all re-appointed members.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Goforth Reservoir Update

Ducks Unlimited is moving ahead to ask for a NACA grant to do this project. Their application has to be in by February 24, 2016, and they will be asking for \$250,000. They would like a commitment letter from the City of Laramie. If the grant is approved, Ducks Unlimited will have the money by June 1 and will have three years to use it. Darren will be presenting to the Council work session February 8, 2016 asking for the \$30,000 needed for the Ducks Unlimited contract. It is scheduled to be voted on February 16, 2016 by Council.

MOTION BY Rechar, seconded by Sherwood, to continue to proceed ahead to work with Fish and Wildlife Service to develop the water fowl habitat. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Lease Negotiation and House Inspection Update – Water Resource Administrator

The Baer lease was signed as presented. Inspection of the houses on the property is included in the new lease. The City will be updating the wiring in the main house and the Hunziker house this year. The Simpson house is now occupied by Stanley's worker Chris McDonald and his family.

C. Feeding Laramie Valley (FLV) Update – Water Resource Administrator

MOTION BY Sherwood, seconded by Rechard, that no further presentations are necessary to MRAC. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The previous MRAC recommendation stands. Feeding Laramie Valley is recommended to do any further negotiating directly with City Council.

D. Standing Report from Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee – Joe Lord

No report at this time pending re-write of Master Plan to conform to the wishes of the County Commissioners.

E. Quarterly Report – Water Resource Administrator

This was a good year as far as water and hay. All the reservoirs were full. We diverted 5,600 Ac-ft. of water out of the river. Last year we had 6,100 Ac-ft., and in 2013 we had 5,100 Ac-ft. We made 1,700 tons of grass hay this year, 1,100 tons last year, and 900 tons in 2013.

The pivot provided very well. It helped to produce 810 tons of oat hay (3.5 tons/acre). This is more than we were expecting thanks in part to the compost provided by the City.

The Ranch equipment storage building quotes came in too high. This project will not go through.

We will be going out in spring with Albany County Weed & Pest to do a complete inventory of the Ranch. This will most likely result in spraying for noxious weeds.

We irrigated from April 7, 2015 to October 6, 2015. We had typical early season and late season timing issues.

F. Titus Survey Update – Water Resource Administrator

HDR has reviewed the records of irrigation data logs. They are pleased with the results.

The draft petition and map are finished and should be sent to us any day. Issues include the fence line with the Bath properties. Darren will review and bring in the petition for the next MRAC meeting.

VI. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is set for Thursday April 14, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. in the Annex conference room.

VII. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

S/ Cindy Williams

Staff Liaison

Date

Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee