

MEETING MINUTES – 6.17.24 at 10:00AM
Flood Control District 9 Special Meeting
Wood River Land Trust Office
119 E Bullion Street Hailey, ID 83333

CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM: Meeting called to order by Hovencamp at 10:00.
Commissioners Dean Hovencamp, Bryan Dilworth, and John Wright present.

Also present:

Molli Linnet—FCD9 admin

Erin Clark – Daverman attorney

Cory McCaffrey – Wood River Land Trust

Larry Shoen (by phone) – former Blaine County Commissioner, FCD9 consultant

ACTION ITEM:

Gimlet Outreach Letter:

Approved Letter

Survey (included with letter)

Hovencamp: inclusion of map is great idea. Letter is too long – won't get read. Can we trim it down to 1 page.

McCaffrey: yes, the faster we can get to the point the better, but if we don't include the why and important points, it will cause confusion.

Hovencamp: good point.

Wright: McCaffrey, Bauman and I have gone over and over this, I represent the average age of who we're sending it to and I don't like a long letter. Reason I chose this version right at the start. It would be very difficult to make it any shorter. My name and phone are at the top and if we don't answer simple questions, people are gonna be calling me. I want to be able to say "answer is in the letter". We have to be careful about pairing down facts. I make a motion to accept letter as is and get it sent out.

Hovencamp: I stand where I am that it needs to be 1 page. I think it's well written and concept is great.

McCaffrey: I don't want to get a bunch of calls either

Hovencamp: I spent 2.5 hours on phone this weekend regarding Daverman property. I say 1 page for letter. Talking only about removing 3 sentences.

McCaffrey: I don't see how I would move the map

Dilworth: I second the motion that we get this sent out as is.

Wright and Dilworth vote aye, Hovencamp votes nay (only because of length of letter, not quality). It passes 2 to 1.

Wright: I make a motion to pay Worth Printing and invoice Project Bigwood

All agree that FCD9 will pay all Biota invoices in full for first phase, and then invoice Project Bigwood and WRLT for their shares. Biota should signal end of first phase. Linnet can send out check to Biota at earliest convenience for \$3,012.50 statement.

McCaffrey: I noticed this letter is a slightly different version.
Wright: this was the version that I felt most appropriate.
McCaffrey: there's some language in the beginning that's a little fluffy. "Come sit down ..."
Wright: I also made a change to have it address YOU before "trout" in first paragraph.
Hovencamp: I don't care. 2 things – I do think we might want to include Trout Unlimited in letter.
McCaffrey: Language from the one I sent out included parties involved. Map is also different. I don't care too much – it's up to the board.
Hovencamp: can we add Trout Unlimited logo at bottom?
Wright: could probably do that in short order.
Hovencamp: Jim Fields needs a copy of this as soon as possible
Shoen: I would encourage you to NOT put a logo on unless it's been authorized by them
Hovencamp: let's not do it then
McCaffrey: there are just 2 versions of the letter. It doesn't include a bunch of the revisions that Shoen made
Wright: that was in our attempts to make it shorter
McCaffrey: our staff all liked the other version. I felt the edits that Shoen made were noteworthy and made the letter more robust.
Hovencamp: can you read those changes?
Cory: [reads from other version]. It does a good job encapsulating who, what, where and why.
Wright: it feels wordy and boring. My version shortens it and keeps attention.
Dilworth: we should have said there were 2 different versions at the beginning of meeting.
McCaffrey: I left town Thursday and didn't see Wright's version. Bauman, WRLT and I all knew about older version.
Dilworth: I don't have an opinion.
Hovencamp: let's keep it with the version we technically approved earlier in the meeting. Differences are not large and no one else would know the difference.

Daverman Permit Response:

Response Email

Clark: (describes project) SAP is to remove logjam and stabilize edge of west bank. Stabilization would be either adding rock or log. Water has been rushing into southern swale. Logjam would be putting river (middle channel) back to what it was 2 years ago. Would not affect downstream owners. Only affect 2 east properties and they are above flood zone.
Wright: we're not resisting this project. Pull logs out and put above high water mark. Our letter shows the work we'd like to do. Brockway does not address why this problem keeps happening – we want to go upstream and find out why. Upstream it's moving too fast. Riverbed is higher than the house. Our project would be much larger scope.
Clark: our application goes through entire history and effects and all of it. Daverman is in complete agreement that it's a bigger problem, AND he needs to address his property in the short term. He's looking at flooding every single spring.

Wright: we're just starting our bigger project, so we're not inclined to stop what you're doing because short term is important too. Our letter was to say we're not in favor of small scope but we're not going to stop it.

Hovencamp: I propose we put off all further convos about this project until after we have the first proposal from Biota

Wright: I spoke at length with Ryan Colyer and he does not have problem with this project either. We will not stop you. Our stance is simply a comment. We could vote right now if we like the letter. IDWR is awaiting our comment. Everyone's waiting on our comment.

Hovencamp: no, I don't want to do anything until we get project scope from Biota

McCaffrey: put something together by the fall, maybe?

Clark: BCC meeting is on July 9. I would hope that your comments would include that you don't object to this project.

Wright: I'm afraid that our waffling is putting you off

Clark: it's better for our application if you submit your comments. Crystal Rigby at the County is trying to check boxes to move forward.

Wright: I move we submit this comment as is.

Dilworth: this is being sent to Aaron (Golart at IDWR)?

Shoen: I think you should submit the comment. Either you're going to follow through or you're not. I don't know why you wouldn't send it in.

Dilworth: I second motion.

Wright and Dilworth vote aye, Hovencamp votes nay. Passes 2 to 1.

Hovencamp: I've not had enough chance to review and I wanted to wait to get full project plan from Biota.

Wright: I'll email it to Golart and perhaps to Rigby.

Dilworth: edit: my name is spelled with a Y. The statutes call for woody and debris removal but that's not going to happen.

Wright: statutes say we should protect infrastructure and so if it's for that reason we could.

Hovencamp: most groups would be against pulling those logs out.

Dilworth: would it be cheaper to just buy houses and restore the river! Cost of this project is going to be astronomical

McCaffrey: potentially, but we gotta remember there's lots of funding options, including folks who live there

Wright: in future I think we should say that you can pull them but please put them somewhere else where they can keep benefitting river

Hovencamp: timeframe on grants?

McCaffrey: IDWR flood management grant – every spring. Missed that one cuz we didn't have a plan, but could submit that next year? I'm less worried about funding and more worried about getting folks on board.

Hovencamp: yes we can – eminent domain

Everyone: don't want to go that road – last resort.

Hovencamp: I now of 2 people who've complained in Gimlet and no one else has – Fields and Daverman. Both folks have had problems bringing neighbors into conversations.

McCaffrey: Kapps. I think that's why this letter is so important. I'd like to get this out

Wright: presents us with opportunity to start the convo

Hovencamp: we need support from residents, no question

Shoen: Hovencamp makes good point. At a certain point you're going to have to weigh costs of reach wide and benefit. Daverman floods every 3 years. There may not be a fix for such a property. If you're spending \$4M for a temporary fix you have to really think about what you're doing. Some properties are eternally vulnerable and some are not.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting is set for 6.25.24 at 9:00AM in the 1st Floor Conference Room at the Blaine County Annex Building at 219 S. 1st Ave in Hailey, ID 83333.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Closed to public): the Board may decide to go into executive session for confidential discussions, including discussion with council per Idaho Code Section 67-2345, Section (1) (c), (d), and (f).

ADJOURN: Hovecamp moves to adjourn, Dilworth seconds. The meeting is adjourned at 10:56.