MEETING MINUTES – 6.25.24
Flood Control District 9 Commissioner Meeting
Blaine County Annex Building - 1st Floor Conference Room
219 S. 1st Ave, Hailey, ID 83333

CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM: Meeting called to order by Hovencamp at 9:01AM. Commissioners Dean Hovencamp, Bryan Dilworth, and John Wright present.
Also present:
Molli Linnet—FCD9 admin
Cory McCaffrey, Jori McCune – Wood River Land Trust
Amanda Bauman – Project Bigwood
Larry Shoen – former Blaine County Commissioner, FCD9 Consultant
Tom Richmond – Blaine County Resident
Dawn Cieslik – Blaine County Land Use and Planning

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM): Approve Minutes from 5.22.24 ~~and 6.17.24~~ (Linnet did not have 6.17.24 minutes completed, so they could not be approved at this meeting time). Hovencamp moved to approve 5.22.24 minutes, Wright seconded.

FINANCIALS: - ACTION ITEM(S):

Paid Bills to Approve Since Last Meeting:

- Molli Linnet Invoice #809
- Molli Linnet Reimbursements
- IME Invoice
- Becker, Chambers Invoice
- SIF
- PO Box Renewal

Bills to Be Paid:

- Molli Linnet Invoice #810
- John Wright Invoice
- IME Invoice
- Biota Invoices #19415 and #19459

SAP UPDATES: none

ACTION ITEM: (New Business)
Follow-up Letter to Zinc Spur Residents – Bryan Dilworth
Linnet received a call earlier in the month from Sammis, a Zinc Spur resident, who was fairly disappointed with the lack of follow-up on their donation to the project. She passed this information to the commissioners.
Dilworth: we need to create a receipt for the donors. I think their donations are tax deductible. How many?
Linnet: about 7
Hovencamp: we need 2 different documents – a thank you letter and a receipt
Decided that Dilworth will draft the thank you letter and Linnet will draft the donation receipt, all to be completed within a week.

ACTION ITEM: (Old Business)

Website Update – Molli Linnet

Linnet: I didn't get to the website this month.
Hovencamp: can you get it started by the next meeting?
Linnet: yes

Gimlet Reach Update – John Wright

Wright: we completed and approved outreach letter at 6.17.24 meeting. Materials are ready
Linnet/Bauman: they will be sent out by end of week
Wright: we made a decision on the reach of the project in a separate meeting. Are there minutes from that smaller meeting, McCaffrey?
McCaffrey: I don't think so. But project reach was determined to be from Sheep Bridge to Boxcar Bend.
Bauman: the new name for the "Gimlet Reach" project is "Bridge to Bend Project"
Wright: would it be reasonable to include Linnet in pod meetings so we could have minutes?
McCaffrey: to be economical, one of us at the meeting could take them
Bauman: I'd be happy to rotate through that
Wright: what are we waiting on now?
Bauman: waiting for residents' feedback. Answers to the survey, and information gathered from neighborhood meetings.
McCaffrey: neighborhood meetings will be July 22nd & 25th (2 meetings on each date). McCaffrey and Bauman will be present, Ryan Colyer for 25th, Shoen is welcome as well.
Hovencamp: I called an executive meeting, but I'm going to cancel that because there's more work to be done. I'm concerned that we're going to only have residents' input and we won't be talking. What I've learned is that unless someone's on the river they don't care. I'm concerned that no one will return those surveys.

Hiawatha Update – John Wright

Wright: we agreed to pay $10k to expand scope to see impacts of flooding. In my opinion, there's been a misunderstanding from very beginning of project. I sent a letter to Kuehn, Phillips, Nick and FCD9 with questions. Kuehn wanted to know how they will get $10K reimbursement from us.
Shoen: you need copy of invoice from service provider, and then invoice from them AFTER the fact that will be given to FCD9 – both invoices
Wright: we have to review the work done before we pay, correct?
Shoen: you didn't retain any conditions around work done
Wright: I'll call Kuehn with details of payment. Waiting for new survey to be done.

PL566 Update – John Wright

Wright: had a core group meeting, also with Jones and Demille. My main question was what is our level of commitment when we sign the Ws4. McCaffrey, could you give us an update/overview?
McCaffrey: went over sponsorship agreement in that meeting. We had 2 questions: 1) how have other stakeholders operated under this program? 2) how does FCD administer this funding opportunity? They felt it was a little early to be having those discussions because we don't even know what kind of money will be coming through. I think FCD9 has capacity to administer

funding. Once we get grant funding, we're going to have 5-6 projects going and we're going to have to have someone managing funding for all of those at the same time – which could be a huge lift.
Shoen: find out under which program any work can be done? If it's a watershed project – approval could be 7-8 years.
McCaffrey: I don't know if that's correct
Shoen: they were recommending ag approach. Do this process and find out where this fits before you talk about projects happening soon, because it isn't. I understand why McCaffrey is pursuing this on your behalf, but I suggest approaching others too. I'm just concerned about putting all eggs in one basket and if you'll qualify. Just my perspective. Look at other programs – Bureau of Reclamation, Army Corps, etc. Looks like chances of qualifying are 50/50. I'm not saying don't do it, I'm just saying don't be overly optimistic
Wright: project started around ag project in Bellevue – it doesn't specifically have to do with Gimlet Reach/Bridge to Bend. J&D are going to point us towards other options for these things – they will advise. As far as admin task, are you intimidated by it, Bauman?
Bauman: I think we'll find ways to address it as it comes up
Shoen: I apologize – I was thinking mostly about Gimlet Reach/Bridge to Bend project. You're right, there are other projects that seem more appropriate.
Hovencamp: we could decide later if we don't have admin capacity
McCaffrey: a couple smaller flood administration projects. Made me think this program may not be best sponsored by FCD9 – maybe ag. Let's go through PFFR process and see what projects are approved and see if it belongs under FCD9 or county or irrigation, etc.
Wright: they just want us to sign WS4 so steps can move forward.
Hovencamp: what's the downside.
McCaffrey and Wright: none
Shoen: I agree with McCaffrey and Wright. No risk here – you should do it.
Wright: did not start around Gimlet Reach/Bridge to Bend project. Started many years ago.
Bauman: confusion of conflating Gimlet Reach/Bridge to Bend and PL566 makes sense because PL566 was resurrected right around the time that we started talking about Gimlet Reach/Bridge to Bend Project.
Wright: I make a motion for FCD9 to sign the WS4
Dilworth seconds and Hovencamp will sign.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
(Tom Richmond brought and distributed copies of a letter he wrote to local legislators)
Richmond: myself and Dick Fairfield developed Riverside Subdivision in Bellevue. This dike is grossly oversized. At North end of Zinc Spur. Archie Bautier was plugging holes in that dike up until he died. It's diverted the river 90 degrees right at the 45 canal. Homeowners came up with $70k for Biota project (Bellevue Side Channel) last year. Doing nothing now - plugged. Getting tired of it. We went to Kristine Hilt at the County after flood of '17 and appealed to County and seemed like things would be done. She admitted after 5 years that she didn't agree with doing anything. Planning and Zoning has been gross failure. Don't like putting trust of properties in IDWR because they're doing nothing.
McCaffrey: we did Bellevue Side Channel project last year. Levee's not gonna go anywhere anytime soon – it's huge. I agree with that. It's very inaccurate that the side channel is plugged –

it IS flowing. I've heard this narrative 5 or 6 times and it's just not true. Wouldn't be possible without your donations, but it's not true to say it's plugged.
Shoen: comments should be made to chairperson or it will get confrontational.
Richmond: IDWR should have enforced and stopped Archie from building up that dike.
Hovencamp: what do you think we should do?
Richmond: open up some of those old channels that he blocked.
McCaffrey: would need to go to Drinkers of the Wind, County, IDWR. Would be great to remove levee and return river but not our purview.
Shoen: it's not a FCD9 constructed dike, and I don't know if it was it created with permission/permits. Mr. Richmond asks good question. I do know BC is only County that has stream protection program that gives County jurisdiction on river. Long history of building up that dike. Have adjacent sloughs been blocked? I hear him calling for investigation into what's been done in that reach that may negatively be affecting river flow. I've heard that it's hard to get on property to look. There's no question this neighborhood is under constant flood risk.
Dilworth: Bellevue Side Channel does a good job diverting water that hits top of levee.
Wright: Does anyone know where subdivision project stands now? I suggest we open up some investigations into these historic side channels.
Dilworth: Archie had a huge file of aerial photos of this area. If they're trying to subdivide that with funding of FCD. Why am I paying 10 times more in taxes to Bellevue Cemetery than FCD9?
Bauman: at water meeting we heard a lot of lawsuits and state ruled in favor of historic riverways.
Hovencamp: I don't think we can deal with homeowners private issues
McCaffrey: we try to work with greatest reach possible. Which is what we did – had a few land owners that didn't want to work with us. I think it's between you, Drinkers of the Wind and State.
Wright: I live in that neighborhood and I know owners we could go to to do some research. I think we stop discussion for now and I'll do some research.
McCaffrey: I know Brooke and Kyle and they would claim all that work was permitted. They're drained on this conversation.
Shoen: Mr. Richmond is raising complex and important issues. They do relate to chronic flooding. I support approach to investigate. Unpermitted work could have been done. I think it's worth everyone being on the same page.
Hovencamp: Wright, your point's very well taken. Wright and Richmond can you work together to do some investigation?
Yes
Linnet: 2 housekeeping items: 1) we scheduled our budget hearing for August 21, which is coming FAST. Talked about getting legwork of budget done at July's meeting, so all that needs to be done in August is to approve the budget.
Hovencamp: add budget to July's agenda.
Linnet: 2) Hovencamp, your term ends July 7.
Hovencamp: what needs to be done for me to continue?
Shoen: you need to get on this, because after July 7 you have no authority on this board. Tim Luke retired, contact IDRW for process. Matt Weaver maybe?

Dilworth: I didn't step up to be chairperson at the time because I was thinking about stepping down but couldn't find anyone to be my replacement. Hovencamp was thrown in double fire of being on the board and being chairperson.
Linnet will contact IDWR and look into state statutes for next steps.

NEXT MEETING: The next FCD9 meeting is set for Wednesday, July 21 at 9:00AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: ~~**Discussions with Gimlet Residents**~~ (Hovencamp cancelled this planned executive session during the meeting because more work needs to be done before executive session is needed).
(Closed to public): the Board may decide to go into executive session for confidential discussions, including discussion with council per Idaho Code Section 74-202 and Section 74-206.

ADJOURN: Hovencamp moves to ajourn meeting. Dilworth seconds. Meeting is adjourned at 10:14AM.