



Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2020

5 -7 p.m. – Via Zoom

Council Members Present: Greg Knott, Travis Thornton, Ashley Thrasher, Andy Hover, Mark Easton

Others in Attendance: Jean Bodeau, Dick Evans (MWF), Curtis Koger, Craig McDonald (MWF) Melanie Rowland (MVCC) Lorah Super (MVCC), Jeanne White (MC)

Minutes recorded by: Sarah Lane, Administrative Assistant

Non-Procedural Motions

Motion #	Short Title	Yeas	Nays	Abstain
9.17-01	Motion to Plan a Facilitated Discussion on Mission and Structure for the Future of the Organization	4	0	1

PART I

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Ashley Thrasher at 5:15 P.M.

2. Introductions –

All Zoom participants introduced themselves.

3. Agenda – Review and Approval

The Chair approved the Agenda as presented.

4. Minutes – Review and Approval

Greg moved to approve both June and July minutes, Andy seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

5. Report from the Chair

Ashley reported that the Give Methow case statement has been created and a video collaboration of multiple nonprofits are underway. The MWC/F will be highlighted during one week of the campaign. All Council members will get Funday Monday reminders and were asked to make a donation. Members reminded to turn in their volunteer time sheets.

6. Ecology Report -Candis shared via email that she was happy with the outcome of Water 2066.

Ashley thanked Sarah for her work.

7. MWF Report

Greg reported that Sarah’s contract was extended through July 2021, or until reorganization was decided. Sandra’s contract was also extended. Both received a small pay increase.



Due to delays with the plumber, Greg, in consultation with Mike, asked Sandra to ask for an extension on the metering grant. Ecology is OK with this.

Give Methow is coming up and Greg hopes we will meet or exceed our budget. (\$4000). Give Methow supports operational expenses. Please contribute!

Board member Wyatt is on leave through the end of the school year due to new obligations.

Initiating Government Reports

Town of Twisp-

Mark reported that the Twisp Council discussed the merger of MWF and MWC and is not in favor.

Town of Winthrop-

Not present

Okanogan County-

Andy reported that the Commissioners discussed the Merger. Andy would like to meet with Mayor Ing-Moody and Mayor Ranzu regarding the topic. Fire relief has taken precedence.

The planning commission has seen a final draft of the comp plan and a public hearing will be set for probably after the next meeting. The next review will be the Critical Areas Ordinance looking for consistency with the Shorelines Plan. Mark said Mayor Ing-Moody wants to meet with the other IG's.

8. Sub-Committee Reports

Technical Review Committee, Chair – Tackman/Fort

No Report

Political Action Committee, Chair – Knott

No Report

Outreach and Education Committee, Chair – Knott

Greg said the newsletter is our current most effective point of contact. If anyone has ideas to share on addressing climate, please talk with Sarah. Ashley said that we won't address it as a political issue, but take the stance that the science is there and that the MWC acts on it in a non-confrontational way. Andy said a way to look at the issue is resilience in the face of change, rather than stopping change, as we don't have a lot of emissions to address. The view is of mitigating change for resilience and adaptation in the urban interface, and addressing wildfire and drought.

Resilient Methow – Lane

Work continues on the plan.

9. **Agenda Item 9.17-01 Water 2066 Final Report:** Ashley reported that the Final Report appendices hadn't been received yet, nor the hard copies that were part of the contract, and that final payment would not be sent until these items were received. The Final Report will be shared electronically, and everyone is encouraged to read the report.



10. **Agenda Item 9.17-02: MWC/MWF Merger: Response from Governments:** Noted that Jeff (Winthrop) said in an email that he feels the same way as Twisp Council about keeping the Council structure the same. Steve (MWF) said he is puzzled how the IG's can make a judgement until possibilities have been discussed.

Ashley encouraged a facilitated discussion with all Foundation and Council Members. Discussion would include our mission and vision; what it is now, and what needs to change. What role does the Council fulfil in the community that other groups do not address? What form does it make sense to move forward in? The recent special session seemed to show support for change. Ashley would like a small group to move forward with hiring a facilitator. Ashley asked for a motion to do so.

Andy thinks IGs need to meet first, and figure out direction from there. Ashley agreed that the group originally served at the pleasure of the IGs, but the group now feels the need for change. Steve noted that the group does not exist without volunteers or IG's, and they need each other to keep working.

Greg moved that the Council plan for a facilitated discussion on mission and structure for the future of the organization. Travis seconded the motion.

Mark (Twisp) would like to see the IG discussion move forward soon.

Ashley noted several processes: MWF becoming an employer, looking for grant funding, and the CRM all benefit from clarity of group structure. The fact that last meeting it seemed clear that restructuring was desired, and now it seems the IGs are not in favor, is a good reason to have a facilitated meeting to sort that out.

Greg noted two points associated with the motion. Does everyone agree we need a more complete discussion than was had at the last meeting? If we are going to have a facilitated discussion, an RFP is needed. We are not obligated to award a contract through the RFP process if we decide not to move forward.

Travis said the process should serve two purposes. One, does having to entities make sense? Two, what work are we doing going forward? The bylaws say the work is to implement the DIP, and that work has not been done. Ecology rebuffed the discussion on opening the rule, and many DIP tasks are not consistent with current water policy. (E.g. unlined ditches.) If the bylaws outline a job to do that can't be performed, the group needs to evolve. MWF and MWC have great volunteer and IG participants ready to be put to work for good water policy, and Travis doesn't believe the current structure serves that work, and would like it to be fixed. Travis supports Ashley's proposal for facilitated meeting.

Ashley asked if a Council member could attend the IGs meeting. Andy agreed with Travis's assessment and will bring it up at that meeting.

Steve would like to see the groups address the initial aspirations; plus, new information raised in Water 2066. Travis note that as soon as the DIP was completed, the statutory purpose was completed, and the MWC is no longer a statutory entity. Andy asked how that changes with



governments involved. Travis said the MWC/F can be whatever it wants to be and the IGs can participate in the best way for them.

Mark said several Twisp Council members would like to hear what the desire for change is and how it could benefit the town. Travis volunteered to attend, and to participate in IG meeting.

Greg asked if the question should be called. Ashley said that the work can be done in parallel. Aa facilitator search can happen as the IGs meet. If the motion is approved, we are now bound to continue.

Mark, Travis, Greg and Ashley voted to approve the motion; Andy abstained; motion carried.

Alyssa, Ashley and Greg will work on the RFP, with Travis's help. Travis will also attend Twisp Council meeting and IG's as desired. Greg stressed that the IGs should get together soon.

11. Agenda Item 9.17-04 Struck

12. Agenda items for next meeting

Discuss impressions of Water 2066
DIP discussion
Letter to County re meters
CRM status

13. Public Comment

Jean Bodeau- Does MWC need to interface with 2020-04? What is the status of CRM?

Curtis asked if there was any comment from Ecology re: adjudication of Roosevelt area. Andy said he had no information, and he thinks its regarding the Columbia River treaty.

Lorah said it is very important to continue with Water 2066 follow up and items that can be pursued even during restructuring conversation.

Dick said he supports restructuring talks.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6.31 P.M.

Travis Thornton, Council Vice- Chair

Approved at the October 15, 2020 Council meeting.