

# Rocky Mountain Front Ranchlands Group Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

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10 April 2024 / 6 PM / Buffalo Joe's, Dupuyer

## ATTENDEES

Trina Bradley, Mark Hitchcock, Clayton Gernaat, Diane Collins, Colleen Gustafson

## AGENDA

### Zoom Call with Nate Owens, Heart of the Rockies Initiative

- Nate gave information about the America the Beautiful (\$5 million for grizzly bears) and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (\$6.5 million for grizzly bears and wolves) Grants that are coming to Montana for conflict prevention practices.
- The America the Beautiful grant will provide funding for electric fencing, carcass management, range riding, bear resistant infrastructure, and capacity for local groups. Funding should be available May 2024, and will continue through July 2027. Projects will require a 25% cost share.
- The RCPP grant will provide funding for electric fencing, range riding, and carcass management. Signup will begin in October 2024 and funding will continue through 2029.

### December 2023 Minutes

- Trina read the minutes from the Dec. 15, 2023 meeting. Clayton moved to approve, Diane seconded. Motion passed.

### Financial Report

- Clayton gave the financial report. RMFRG has a bank balance of \$5,524.06. Colleen moved to approve, Mark seconded. Motion passed.

## **Executive Director's Update**

- Trina attended the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Information, Education and Outreach Summit in Idaho in January.
- Trina has also had many conversations with FWP, USWFS, and others regarding grizzly bear activity and management.
- Trina is planning to attend the Bitterroot and Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Subcommittee meetings in April virtually, and will attend the Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak/Northern Continental Divide Joint Subcommittee meeting in Kalispell in May.
- Trina shared a list of upcoming meetings with the board, and urged them to attend.

## **Board Reorganization**

- Mark nominated Clayton as Chair, Diane seconded. Motion passed.
- Mark nominated Colleen as Treasurer, Diane seconded. Motion passed.

## **Other Business**

- The Montana Stockgrower's Association Board of Directors has requested a Zoom meeting with RMFRG. Trina will organize.
- Colleen moved to reimburse Trina for half of her Farm Bureau ACE Leadership Class tuition (\$250), Jim (via email) seconded. Motion passed.
- Trina will be traveling to Miles City for the MSGA Midyear Meeting in May, and asked board members to review the policy and inform her of any policy requests prior to the meeting.

## **Next Steering Committee Meeting**

The next RMFRG Steering Committee meeting will be June 13, 2024. Location to be determined.

Colleen moved to adjourn the meeting, Diane seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.