

Rocky Mountain Front Ranchlands Group Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

14 August 2024 / 6 PM / Buffalo Joe's, Dupuyer

ATTENDEES

Trina Bradley, Colleen Gustafson, Jim Hodgskiss, Ali Marshner, Megan Terry, Lori Rosenberger

AGENDA

June 2024 Minutes

- Trina read the minutes from the June 13, 2024 meeting. Jim moved to approve, Colleen seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Report

- Trina gave the financial report. RMFRG has a bank balance of \$9,274.06. Colleen moved to approve, Jim seconded. Motion passed.

Guest Speakers

- Ali Marschner from Pheasants Forever gave an update on her NRCS partner position and the Choteau Bear Smart project she has been working on. Ali gave a short overview of the RCPP grant with NRCS that will provide cost-share funding for conflict prevention practices for grizzly bears and wolves. Ali also gave an update on Choteau Bear Smart. The group meets once per month, and has been working toward raising funds for conflict prevention and education, and has held a few educational workshops in Choteau. The group is still working on an official plan, and is still taking suggestions on projects/ideas.
- Megan Terry and Lori Rosenberger of Western Landowners Alliance gave an update on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant that was awarded to RMFRG. The grant allowed us (through WLA) to hire Lori for producer outreach to assist Front producers with NRCS and FSA program applications. Lori just finished a week of NRCS training, and is almost

ready to begin meeting with producers. We will be hosting a number of workshops to introduce Lori to Front producers and make as many connections as possible.

Executive Director's Update

- RMFRG received a \$10,000 grant from an anonymous foundation. This funding will be used for capacity for our ED.
- Trina gave an update on the Montana Conflict Reduction Consortium. The MTCRC published a Grizzly Bear Situation/Challenge/Solution document in conjunction with the West-wide Conflict Reduction Consortium that should be a good resource for everyone living with grizzly bears.
- Trina was invited to Chelan County in Washington to give three presentations on living with grizzly bears in September.

Other Business

- The Montana Stockgrowers Association Board of Directors has requested a Zoom meeting with RMFRG. Trina will organize for sometime this winter.
- Fundraising discussion was tabled until more board members can be present for the discussion.

Next Steering Committee Meeting

The next RMFRG Steering Committee meeting will be Oct. 9, 2024 at Buffalo Joe's in Dupuyer.

Colleen moved to adjourn the meeting, Jim seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.