

The Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting

April 13, 2017

4:00-6:00 pm

Field Trip to Western Montana Retriever Club, Lower Miller Creek, Missoula

Committee Members Present: Eric Anderson, Rob Erickson, Alexis Gibson, Gerhard Knudsen, Janet Krivacek, Bert Lindler, Anna Noson, John Smith, Deke Tidwell, Regan Whitworth

Absent: Kevin Verlanic, Daniel Spencer

Others Present: Elizabeth Erickson, Open Space Acquisitions Attorney; Paula Fisher, Admin.

Visitor: Five Valleys Land Trust - Sarah Richey; Western Montana Retriever's Club – June Lederer & Steve Woodruff.

Minutes

Public/Guest comments on items not on the agenda – none

Action Item:

Approve minutes from March 9, 2017 – Alexis Gibson moves to approve the minutes. Deke Tidwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items:

Field Trip and Rough Cut Evaluation of Western Montana Retriever's Club (WMRC) conservation easement open space bond project.

- Five Valleys holds a seven acre easement.
- WMRC has 43 additional acres they want to protect as open space because of its scenic value, riparian land along the Bitterroot River, rare plants on the property and other habitat values.
- The 7 acres were protected under easement before the WMRC obtained the land.
- The land will remain a retriever training area. Light use by 34 member club
- The use of the land is consistent with the broad values of the water rights.
- The request is for open space bond funds to cover the transaction costs for the donated easement.
- The committee scored the rough cut matrices for the project and it scored high enough to proceed to the next step, a final evaluation, possibly at the May meeting.

Motion:

Having completed the rough cut evaluation and field trip, the committee recommends the open space bond proposal, to expend 2006 open space bond funds in an specific amount to be determined prior to the final evaluation, to cover transaction costs to expand the conservation easement on the Western Montana Retriever Club land, move to a final evaluation by OSAC at a future meeting.

Gerhard Knudsen moves; John Smith seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 6:00