

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 622 • Terry, Montana 59349

Montana Grass Conservation Commission

Zoom Meeting Agenda

April 10th, 2023 – 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order – Chairman, Richard Stuker

- A. Minutes from Montana Grass Conservation Commission previous meeting on December 21st, 2023 in Terry. – Action Item **Public Comment**
- B. Elect Vice Chairman for the Montana Grass Conservation Commission – Action Item **Public Comment**
- C. Solicit Attorney General Opinion – Action Item – **Public Comment**
- D. Fink Transfers from Indian Butte Coop State Grazing District – Action Item **Public Comment**
- E. Proposed Procurement qualifications for Montana Grass Conservation Commission Projects – Action Item **Public Comment**
 - 1. Uniform Policy Frame work for Counties and State Grazing Districts
 - 2. TGA Reserved Grazing State Grazing Districts and Hearing Districts (Maps, Legal Descriptions, and Purpose).
 - 3. Demarcation of LU lands from Public Domain Lands (Maps, Description and Purpose)
- F. New lead person to represent Montana Grass Conservation Commission for the Cooperative Agencies MOU's – Action Item **Public Comment**
 - 1. Development of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Associated Resource Management Plan Amendments for Utility-Scale Solar Energy Development on Public Lands.
 - 2. Development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Amendment of Resource Management Plans for Greater Sage-Grouse management.
 - 3. Conduction and an environmental analysis and preparing an Environmental Impact Statement to disclose the potential effects of updating the Federal regulations for grazing, exclusive of Alaska.
- G. Budget for Montana Grass Conservation Commission – Earmarked money – Action Item **Public Comment**
- H. Identify any New Legislative Issues – Action Item **Public Comment**

Sandra K. Brown – Executive Secretary

P.O. Box 622 Terry, MT 59349 (406) 635-5868 pcgd@middrivers.com

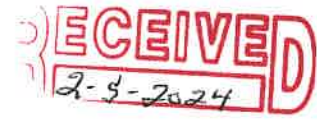
- I. Evaluation Process for Montana Grass Conservation Commission Executive Secretary. **Public Comment**
- J. Montana Grass Conservation Commission Executive Secretary Report – **Public Comment**
- K. Public Comment or any other business that comes before the Montana Grass Conservation Commission Board

Indian Butte CSGD

73530 Hwy 191 N

Roy, MT 59471

January 30, 2024



MT Grass Conservation Commission

Box 622

Terry, MT 59349

Please consider the four enclosed Applications for Transfer of Grazing Preference and supporting documentation. If approved, please send the approved Resolutions back to Indian Butte CSGD.

Thank you.

Cathy Whitney, Secretary

Indian Butte CSGD

Cathy Whitney

Certified copies to:

Jeff Willmore *Roy, MT*

Kirk Donsbach *Roy, MT*

Mark Robbins *Roy, MT*

Phil Schuman *Roy, MT*

Rod McClure *Roy, MT*

Robert E. Fink *Custer, MT*

Peter Taylor *Bozeman, MT*

Bureau of Land Management, Lewistown, Mt Office

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF GRAZING PREFERENCES

TO: Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District
Roy, Montana

Robert E. Fink, as permittee, hereby makes application to transfer his preference in said State Grazing District based upon the ownership or control of dependent commensurate or commensurate property described as follows:

89 Preference (210 BLM AUM's, 132 district furnished AUM's)
T20N R22E Sec 22 SE4 Sec 23 S2N2, S2 Sec 24 W2 W2
Sec 26 All

Fergus County

T21N R22E Sec 26 S2 Sec 35 All
to other property which is of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T20N R22E Sec 26 SE4

Fergus County

Said permittee represents that he owns or has the control and use of the first described dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the preference attached thereto. And said applicant represents such transfer will not interfere with the stability of the livestock operations or with proper range management and will not effect adversely the established local economy, and said transfer does not effect any owner or encumbrancer whose consent is necessary hereto, except as herein stated. In any transfer of grazing preference from dependent commensurate or commensurate property controlled but not owned by the applicant, the applicant must have had control and use of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the grazing preference appurtenant to the property for 5 consecutive years and must have established and maintained the livestock operation upon which the dependency was established by use or priority immediately prior to the application for transfer.

Dated: 12/26/23

Robert E. Fink
Applicant

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Robert E. Fink of Custer, Montana, as permittee under the undersigned

cooperative state grazing district, has made and presented his application to the board of said district to allow his preference in said district which is based upon ownership or control of dependent commensurate property described as follows:

89 Preference (210 BLM AUM's, 132 District Furnished AUM's)
T20 N R22 E Sec 22 SE4 Sec 23 S2N2, S2 Sec 24 W2W2
Sec 26 All
T21 N R22 E Sec 26 S2 Sec 35 All Fergus County

to be transferred to other property of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T20 N R22 E Sec 26 SE4 Fergus County

Now, therefore, pursuant to the direction of the board of the said grazing district, notice is hereby given that the directors of the said grazing district will on 1-29-2024 at 7:00 PM in Roy Fire Hall at Roy, Montana, shall fully hear and determine such application and the objections thereto if any.

Indian Butte
Cooperative State
Grazing District

Date: 1-5-2024 By: Cathy Whitney
Secretary

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 622 • Terry, Montana 59349

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

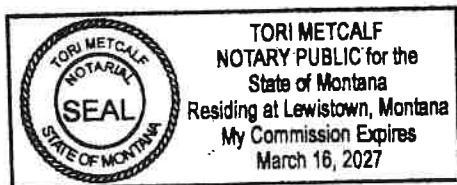
STATE OF MONTANA)
) SS
County of Fergus)

The undersigned of said county, being duly sworn, says that he/she is the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District; that he/she is over the age of 21 years; that on the 9th day of January, 2024, he/she posted true and correct copies of the notice hereto attached in three of the most public places within said grazing district, to-wit:

One of the said copies on the Roy Post Office; one on the Roy Grocery; and one on the GS Oil, in said county.

Cathy Whitney
Secretary - Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, THIS 9th DAY OF January, 2024.



[Signature]
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Bank of the Rockies, Montana
My Commission expires March 16 2027

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



RESOLUTION

The application of Robert E. Fink, a permittee under the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District, duly presented to the Board of said District for the transfer of preferences in said District from the lands described as follows: 89 Preference (210 BLM AUM'S, 132 District Furnished AUM'S) T20N R22E Sec 22 SE4 Sec 23 S2N2, S2 Sec 24 W2W2 Sec 26 All T21N R 22E Sec 26 S2 Sec 35 All *Fergus County*

to lands described as follows and which are of sufficient commensurability: T20N R22E Sec 26 SE4 *Fergus County*

and the Secretary of the Board, pursuant to the direction thereof, has given notice of said application and the time and place of hearing thereon as fixed by the Board, and a copy of said Notice, having been given to the applicant and having been published once a week for two successive weeks prior to such time and place of hearing in a newspaper published and generally circulated within the District and said Notice having been posted at least two full weeks prior to said time and place of hearing in three (3) public places within said District and the date of hearing being at least fifteen (15) days from the first publication of said notice, and due hearing having been had upon said application, and the same having been fully heard and determined and there being no objections thereto except as follows:

See attached

and the said application being found true, and there being no other owner or encumbrancer of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property from which the said transfer is sought, the said application is granted as applied for.

Dated: 1-29-2024 Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District

By Jeff A. Willman President
By Cathy Whitney Secretary

APPROVED: MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By _____ Date: _____
Chairman
Montana Grass Conservation Commission

Objections and comments concerning Fink Applications to transfer grazing preference

Mark Robbins said the transfers will affect the control of livestock water in the West Indian Butte Common Pasture. Indian Butte CSGD has water rights and development in West Indian Butte Common. Mark Robbins said Indian Butte CSGD does not control all of the water rights in West Indian Common. Kirk Donsbach said if the livestock water is inadequate, Indian Butte CSGD can reduce livestock numbers to utilize less water. The reduction would be on equal percentage and apply to all West Indian Butte Common permittees. Deanna Robbins said the problem is distribution of water in order to use the pasture properly. Indian Butte can adjust livestock numbers, but can't control private water.

Kirk Donsbach asked to see the consents to transfer grazing preference signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins and signed by Grant Munro. Mark Robbins objects to the consent to transfer signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins. Peter Taylor asked how these transfers are different and why the consent to transfer is not valid. Deanna Robbins asked if the Secretary had to accept new applications to transfer preference for this Hearing. The Secretary affirmed that was true. Peter Taylor said the legal descriptions were exactly the same as the previous transfer applications. Deanna Robbins said these are new transfer applications. The Secretary previously contacted Attorney Bryant Martin to ask if we needed to send the consents to transfer back to Mark and Deanna Robbins. Bryant Martin called the Secretary and said the consents to transfer are still valid and don't need to be sent back to the Robbins. Mark Robbins objection only applies to the Mark and Deanna Robbins consent to transfer.

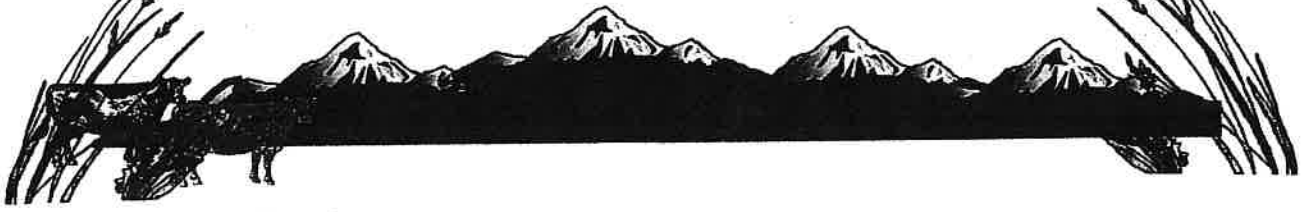
Peter Taylor said the consents to transfer are still valid. The previous Fink applications to transfer were denied by the MT Grass Conservation Commission because of procedural violations, not the substance or nature of the transfers.

Mark Robbins said these are new transfers and the Robbins consent to transfer does not apply to these new transfers

Peter Taylor asked if Robbins had ever objected to the Fink permit in the past. Robbins have never received a permit for the Fink permit. Robbins have never received a non-use permit for the Fink permit.

Mark Robbins objected to transfer #1A based on the water situation in West Indian Butte Common. Mark Robbins objected the validity of the Robbins consent to transfer signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins. Peter Taylor said that the livestock water situation in West Indian Butte Common is not specific to this transfer. It is an issue that pertains to all grazing permittees in West Indian Butte Common.

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF GRAZING PREFERENCES

TO: Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District
Roy, Montana

Robert E. Fink, as permittee, hereby makes application to transfer his preference in said State Grazing District based upon the ownership or control of dependent commensurate or commensurate property described as follows:

11 Preference (42 district Furnished AUM'S)
T20 N R22 E Sec 22 SE4 Sec 23 S2 N2, S2 Sec 24 W2 W2
Sec 26 All
Fergus County

T21 N R22 E Sec 26 S2 Sec 35 All
to other property which is of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T20 N R22 E Sec 26 SE 4
Fergus County

Said permittee represents that he owns or has the control and use of the first described dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the preference attached thereto. And said applicant represents such transfer will not interfere with the stability of the livestock operations or with proper range management and will not effect adversely the established local economy, and said transfer does not effect any owner or encumbrancer whose consent is necessary hereto, except as herein stated. In any transfer of grazing preference from dependent commensurate or commensurate property controlled but not owned by the applicant, the applicant must have had control and use of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the grazing preference appurtenant to the property for 5 consecutive years and must have established and maintained the livestock operation upon which the dependency was established by use or priority immediately prior to the application for transfer.

Dated: 12/26/23

Robert E. Fink
Applicant

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Robert E. Fink of Custer, Montana, as permittee under the undersigned cooperative state grazing district, has made and presented his application to the board of said district to allow his preference in said district which is based upon ownership or control of dependent commensurate property described as follows:

11 Preference (42 district Furnished AUM's)
T20N R22E Sec22 SE4 Sec 23 S2N2, S2 Sec24 W2W2
Sec26 A11

T21N R22E Sec 24 S2 Sec35 A11

Fergus County

to be transferred to other property of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T20N R22E Sec26 SE4

Fergus County

Now, therefore, pursuant to the direction of the board of the said grazing district, notice is hereby given that the directors of the said grazing district will on 1-29-2024 at 7:00 PM in Roy Fire Hall at Roy, Montana, shall fully hear and determine such application and the objections thereto if any.

Indian Butte
Cooperative State
Grazing District

Date: 1-5-2024 By: Cathy Whitney
Secretary

2A

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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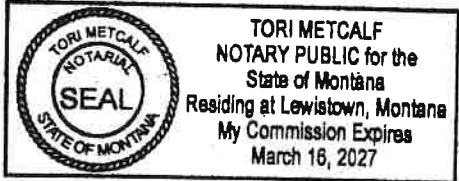
STATE OF MONTANA)
) SS
County of Fergus)

The undersigned of said county, being duly sworn, says that he/she is the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District; that he/she is over the age of 21 years; that on the 9th day of January, 2024, he/she posted true and correct copies of the notice hereto attached in three of the most public places within said grazing district, to-wit:

One of the said copies on the Roy Post Office; one on the Roy Grocery; and one on the GS Oil, in said county.

Cathy Whitney
Secretary - Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, THIS 9th DAY OF January, 2024.



JMF
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Bank of the Rockies, Montana
My Commission expires March 16 2027

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



RESOLUTION

The application of Robert E. Fink, a permittee under the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District, duly

presented to the Board of said District for the transfer of preferences in said District from the lands described as follows: 11 Preference (42 District Furnished AUMS)

T20 N R22 E Sec 22 SE4 Sec 23 S2 N2, S2 Sec 24 W2 W2 Sec 26 All

T21 N R22 E Sec 26 S2 Sec 35 All

Fergus County

to lands described as follows and which are of sufficient commensurability:

T20 N R22 E Sec 26 SE4

and the Secretary of the Board, pursuant to the direction thereof, has given notice of said application and the time and place of hearing thereon as fixed by the Board, and a copy of said Notice, having been given to the applicant and having been published once a week for two successive weeks prior to such time and place of hearing in a newspaper published and generally circulated within the District and said Notice having been posted at least two full weeks prior to said time and place of hearing in three (3) public places within said District and the date of hearing being at least fifteen (15) days from the first publication of said notice, and due hearing having been had upon said application, and the same having been fully heard and determined and there being no objections thereto except as follows:

See attached

and the said application being found true, and there being no other owner or encumbrancer of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property from which the said transfer is sought, the said application is granted as applied for.

Dated: 1-29-2024

Indian Butte

Cooperative State Grazing District

By Jeff A. Willmon President

By Cathy Whitney Secretary

APPROVED: MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By _____ Date: _____

Chairman

Montana Grass Conservation Commission

Objections and comments concerning Fink Applications to transfer grazing preference

Mark Robbins said the transfers will affect the control of livestock water in the West Indian Butte Common Pasture. Indian Butte CSGD has water rights and development in West Indian Butte Common. Mark Robbins said Indian Butte CSGD does not control all of the water rights in West Indian Common. Kirk Donsbach said if the livestock water is inadequate, Indian Butte CSGD can reduce livestock numbers to utilize less water. The reduction would be on equal percentage and apply to all West Indian Butte Common permittees. Deanna Robbins said the problem is distribution of water in order to use the pasture properly. Indian Butte can adjust livestock numbers, but can't control private water.

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MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF GRAZING PREFERENCES

TO: Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District
Roy, Montana

Robert E. Fink, as permittee, hereby makes application to transfer his preference in said State Grazing District based upon the ownership or control of dependent commensurate or commensurate property described as follows:

89 Preference (210 BLM AUM's, 132 district Furnished AUM's)
T20N R22E Sec 26 SE4 Fergus County

to other property which is of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T18N R23E Sec 17 S2NE4, S2 Less Road
Sec 20 N2N2 Less Road Fergus County

Said permittee represents that he owns or has the control and use of the first described dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the preference attached thereto. And said applicant represents such transfer will not interfere with the stability of the livestock operations or with proper range management and will not effect adversely the established local economy, and said transfer does not effect any owner or encumbrancer whose consent is necessary hereto, except as herein stated. In any transfer of grazing preference from dependent commensurate or commensurate property controlled but not owned by the applicant, the applicant must have had control and use of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the grazing preference appurtenant to the property for 5 consecutive years and must have established and maintained the livestock operation upon which the dependency was established by use or priority immediately prior to the application for transfer.

Dated: 12/26/23 Robert E. Fink
Applicant

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Robert E. Fink of Custer, Montana, as permittee under the undersigned cooperative state grazing district, has made and presented his application to the board of said district to allow his preference in said district which is based upon ownership or control of dependent commensurate property described as follows:

89 Preference (210 BLM AUM'S, 132 district furnished AUM'S)
T20N R22E Sec 26 SE.4 Fergus County

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T18N R23E Sec 17 S2NE4, S2 Less Road
Sec 20 N2N2 Less Road
Fergus County

Now, therefore, pursuant to the direction of the board of the said grazing district, notice is hereby given that the directors of the said grazing district will on 1-29-2024 at 7:00 PM in Roy Fire Hall at Roy, Montana, shall fully hear and determine such application and the objections thereto if any.

Indian Butte

Cooperative State
Grazing District

Date: 1-5-2024

By: Cathy Whitney
Secretary

1 B

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 622 • Terry, Montana 59349

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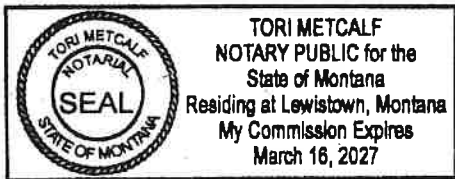
STATE OF MONTANA)
) SS
County of Fergus)

The undersigned of said county, being duly sworn, says that he/she is the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District; that he/she is over the age of 21 years; that on the 9th day of January, 20 24, he/she posted true and correct copies of the notice hereto attached in three of the most public places within said grazing district, to-wit:

One of the said copies on the Roy Post Office; one on the Roy Grocery; and one on the GS Oil, in said county.

Cathy Whitney
Secretary - Treasurer

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, THIS 9th DAY OF January, 20 24.



Jmg
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Bank of the Rockies, Montana
My Commission expires March 16 2027

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



RESOLUTION

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T20 N R22 E Sec 26 SE4 Fergus County

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T18 N R23 E Sec 17 S2 NE4, S2 Less Road
Sec 20 N2 N2 Less Road Fergus County

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and the said application being found true, and there being no other owner or encumbrancer of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property from which the said transfer is sought, the said application is granted as applied for.

Dated: 1-29-2024 Indian Butte
Cooperative State Grazing District

By Jeff A. Willman President

By Cathy Whitney Secretary

APPROVED: MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By _____ Date: _____
Chairman
Montana Grass Conservation Commission

#1B

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MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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TO: Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District
Roy, Montana

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11 Preference (42 district furnished AUM's)
T20 N R22 E Sec 26 SE4 Fergus County

to other property which is of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T4 N R34 E Sec 31 SE4 Lot 1
Great Valley Subdivision Yellowstone County
Document # 3171911

Said permittee represents that he owns or has the control and use of the first described dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the preference attached thereto. And said applicant represents such transfer will not interfere with the stability of the livestock operations or with proper range management and will not effect adversely the established local economy, and said transfer does not effect any owner or encumbrancer whose consent is necessary hereto, except as herein stated. In any transfer of grazing preference from dependent commensurate or commensurate property controlled but not owned by the applicant, the applicant must have had control and use of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property and the grazing preference appurtenant to the property for 5 consecutive years and must have established and maintained the livestock operation upon which the dependency was established by use or priority immediately prior to the application for transfer.

Dated: 12/26/23
Robert E. Fink
Applicant

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

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11 Preference (42 district furnished AUM's)
T20N R22E Sec26 SE4 Fergus County

to be transferred to other property of sufficient commensurability and described as follows:

T4 N R34 E Sec 31 SE4 Lot 1
Great Valley Subdivision
Document #3171911 Yellowstone County

Now, therefore, pursuant to the direction of the board of the said grazing district, notice is hereby given that the directors of the said grazing district will on 1-29-2024 at 7:00 PM in Roy Fire Hall at Roy, Montana, shall fully hear and determine such application and the objections thereto if any.

Indian Butte
Cooperative State
Grazing District

Date: 1-5-2024 By: Cathy Whitney
Secretary

MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION



RESOLUTION

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T20N R22E Sec 26 SE4
Fergus County

to lands described as follows and which are of sufficient commensurability:

T4N R34E Sec 31 SE4 Lot 1
Great Valley Subdivision Yellowstone County
Document #3171911

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See attached

and the said application being found true, and there being no other owner or encumbrancer of the dependent commensurate or commensurate property from which the said transfer is sought, the said application is granted as applied for.

Dated: 1-29-2024 Indian Butte
Cooperative State Grazing District

By Jeff A. Willmor President
By Cathy Whitney Secretary

APPROVED: MONTANA GRASS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By _____ Date: _____
Chairman
Montana Grass Conservation Commission

Objections and comments concerning Fink Applications to transfer grazing preference

Mark Robbins said the transfers will affect the control of livestock water in the West Indian Butte Common Pasture. Indian Butte CSGD has water rights and development in West Indian Butte Common. Mark Robbins said Indian Butte CSGD does not control all of the water rights in West Indian Common. Kirk Donsbach said if the livestock water is inadequate, Indian Butte CSGD can reduce livestock numbers to utilize less water. The reduction would be on equal percentage and apply to all West Indian Butte Common permittees. Deanna Robbins said the problem is distribution of water in order to use the pasture properly. Indian Butte can adjust livestock numbers, but can't control private water.

Kirk Donsbach asked to see the consents to transfer grazing preference signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins and signed by Grant Munro. Mark Robbins objects to the consent to transfer signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins. Peter Taylor asked how these transfers are different and why the consent to transfer is not valid. Deanna Robbins asked if the Secretary had to accept new applications to transfer preference for this Hearing. The Secretary affirmed that was true. Peter Taylor said the legal descriptions were exactly the same as the previous transfer applications. Deanna Robbins said these are new transfer applications. The Secretary previously contacted Attorney Bryant Martin to ask if we needed to send the consents to transfer back to Mark and Deanna Robbins. Bryant Martin called the Secretary and said the consents to transfer are still valid and don't need to be sent back to the Robbins. Mark Robbins objection only applies to the Mark and Deanna Robbins consent to transfer.

Peter Taylor said the consents to transfer are still valid. The previous Fink applications to transfer were denied by the MT Grass Conservation Commission because of procedural violations, not the substance or nature of the transfers.

Mark Robbins said these are new transfers and the Robbins consent to transfer does not apply to these new transfers

Peter Taylor asked if Robbins had ever objected to the Fink permit in the past. Robbins have never received a permit for the Fink permit. Robbins have never received a non-use permit for the Fink permit.

Mark Robbins objected to transfer #1A based on the water situation in West Indian Butte Common. Mark Robbins objected the validity of the Robbins consent to transfer signed by Mark and Deanna Robbins. Peter Taylor said that the livestock water situation in West Indian Butte Common is not specific to this transfer. It is an issue that pertains to all grazing permittees in West Indian Butte Common.

Indian Butte Cooperative
State Grazing District
73530 Hwy 191 N
Roy, MT 59471

December 29, 2023

Bryant Martin
Lucas and Tonn Law Firm
513 Main St
Miles City, MT 59301

Dear Mr. Martin,

I am secretary of the Indian Butte Cooperative State Grazing District. I contacted you in June 2023 with a grazing district question regarding transfer of preference by Robert E. Fink. Indian Butte CSGD thanks you for your opinion and advice.

We are still struggling to get this transfer completed. Indian Butte CSGD Board of Directors held a Hearing on October 16, 2023 and approved the transfers contingent to Lonesome Ridge Ranch (Mark and Deanna Robbins) and Grant Munro (another new owner of original base property) signing consents to transfer of grazing preference. When these consents were received, Resolutions to Transfer were signed on October 31, 2023 by Jeff Willmore, President of Indian Butte CSGD and Cathy Whitney, Secretary. These Resolutions, including all supporting documents, were submitted to the MT Grass Conservation Commission for their approval. The transfers were not approved by the MT Grass Conservation Commission.

Now we are preparing to start the process over with application, hearing, etc.

Deanna Robbins asked me to return the Lonesome Ridge Ranch Consent to Transfer of Grazing Preference. She said it would no longer apply to a transfer of preference by Robert E. Fink.

Indian Butte CSGD is asking you for your opinion. Is the Lonesome Ridge Ranch Consent to Transfer still valid for our upcoming transfer hearing? Do we need to return the Consent to Transfer to Mark and Deanna Robbins?

Thank you for advising us on this matter.

Thank you. My phone is 406-464-2296

Sincerely,

Cathy Whitney, Secretary Indian Butte CSGD

*Phone reply - The consent
to transfer should still
be good for the
upcoming hearing.*

