Flathead Reservation Water Management Board
Meeting Minutes from February 2, 2022
Salish Kootenai College, Late Louis Caye Sr. Memorial Building

- 2 pm – 2nd meeting of the board called to order by board member Clayton Matt, meeting chair of the 1/20/2022 meeting.

- Board members introduced themselves to document attendance:
  - Clayton Matt (in person)
  - Kenneth Pit (in person)
  - Roger Noble (in person)
  - Teresa Wall-McDonald (in person)
  - Shana Radford (soon-to-be appointed ex officio member) (attended virtually on zoom)
  - Board member Noble pointed out that 17 were in attendance on zoom.

- Board member Matt opened discussion on the question of whether it is appropriate to have an opening prayer/invocation at the outset of the day’s meeting and on the agenda for future meetings. There were no objections from other board members.
  - Kenneth Pitt moved to open the meeting with an invocation/opening prayer and to include this item on future agendas > seconded by board member Wall-McDonald > motion passed unanimously.

- Board member Teresa Wall-McDonald gave the opening prayer.

- Board member Clayton reminded the other members of the alternating meeting chair arrangement (i.e., taking turns in the role of meeting chair until board operating rules are approved giving the board a process for officially selected a chair) informally agreed to at the 1/20/2022 meeting.
  - Ken made a motion that Roger Noble be the meeting chair for the day’s meeting > board member Wall-McDonald seconded > motion passed unanimously.

- Adoption of draft 2/2/2022 agenda:
  - Board member Noble invited a motion on adoption of a draft agenda for the day’s meeting > board member Wall-McDonald made a motion to adopt the agenda > board member Matt seconded > motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of 1/20/2022 draft meeting minutes:
  - Meeting chair Noble asked if there were any revisions to the draft minutes provided.
  - Hearing none, board member Matt made a motion to approve the draft minutes > board member Pitt seconded > motion passed unanimously.

- URL / Screen shot of Flathead Reservation Water Management Board webpage, a sub-page of the DNRC Compact Implementation site, was shared by DNRC staff to point out where agendas, meeting minutes, zoom links, and video recordings (of previous meetings) can be found.

- Announcement of tentative next meeting date / location/ time by board member Noble: February 9, 2022 at the Ronan Community Center from 1-4pm.
  - Board member Wall-McDonald proposed that the group have a discussion on meeting time (not date) that might work for everyone. In response to board member Noble’s asking if there was a better time-frame for her, she suggested a 3pm start.
  - The group decided to discuss further after the 5th board member had been selected.

- Public Comment:
  - Nikos Pastos made a comment (via zoom) expressing interest in knowing the date and format of compact approval from tribal membership and also expressed a concern that this information doesn’t

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1 This date is subject to change based on the availability of the 5th board member, once selected.
seem to be easily accessible and transparent. DNRC staff shared a phone number with Nikos and invited him to call and discuss any questions he has about the timeline of compact approval.

- **2:24 pm – Closing of public portion and opening of executive session** for interviews:
  - Before closing, meeting chair Noble cited the Montana Public Meetings Act (MCA 2-3-203(3)) as the law requiring the board to conduct its 5th member interviews in a closed session.

- **2:24 pm to 6:29 pm:** private interviews and board member deliberations regarding the following candidates:
  - Larry Robertson
  - Rhonda Swaney
  - Dennis Devries
  - Georgia Smies

- **6:29 pm –** Meeting chair Noble re-opened meeting to the public:
  - Meeting chair Noble announced that the board members had conferred and were ready to select a 5th member.
  - Board member Pitt made a motion that the board select Georgie Smies as the 5th and final voting member > board member Clayton seconded > motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote of all members.

- Board member Wall-McDonald suggested State and Tribal staff prepare a joint press release to announce Georgia Smies as the 5th member and also draft letters thanking the other three candidates for their interest and time. The other board members agreed.

- **6:32 pm --** Meeting chair Noble moved to adjourn the 2nd meeting of the Flathead Reservation Water Management Board > board member Matt seconded > motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned.