



Western Montana Conservation Commission Agenda

June 4 - 5, 2024

PURPOSE

WMCC serves as a convening body to facilitate close cooperation and coordination between federal, state, provincial, tribal, and local resource managers to monitor the condition of aquatic and natural resources across Western Montana.



WHY

WMCC was created during the 2023 Montana Legislative Session and effectively combines and replaces the roles and jurisdiction of FBC and UC³.

Tuesday, June 4 - 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM

LOCATION: Hilton Garden Inn Kalispell
1840 US-93, Kalispell, MT 59901

For virtual attendees: <https://tinyurl.com/WMCC-June4-5>
or scan QR Code



11:30 AM

Lunch & Recognition of Water Stewards

Please join us for lunch (provided) and a historical perspective on water quality with Charlie Abell and Bob Brown.

12:30 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call

Overview of agenda

12:40 PM

Indigenous Lands Welcome

12:50 PM

Commission Business

Financials
Staff updates
February Meeting Minutes

Action: Vote on February Meeting Minutes

Action: Vote on FY24 Budget Amendment (if needed)

Action: Vote on FY25 Budget

1:10 PM

EPA Toxics Reduction Lead Grant

Update from Flathead County on the septage facility status
Overview of grant progress

**Action: Vote on Approval to Proceed with Subgrant
for Flathead County Septage Facility**

2:00 PM

Break

2:15 PM

Public Comment

2:25 PM

Adjourn Meeting

Join us for the field trip and the following social hour!

2:30 PM

Field Trip

Owen Sowerwine Natural Area *Please bring boots that can get muddy!*



Western Montana Conservation Commission Agenda

June 4 - 5, 2024

Wednesday, June 5 - 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM



8:30 AM

Welcome

Light breakfast items provided

8:45 AM

Call to Order and Roll Call

8:50 AM

Commission Member Spotlight

Tracy Campbell

Stormwater, City of Missoula

9:05 AM

Stormwater Panel

Tracy Campbell

Stormwater, City of Missoula

Matt Peterson

Senior Civil Engineer, PE, NewFields

Chris Romankiewicz

Water Protection Bureau, DEQ

Frank Revard

Iron Star Construction

10:05 AM

Committee Updates

Executive Committee

Committees-in-Development

Action: Vote Committees into Formation

11:20 AM

Break

11:35 AM

Commission Logistics

Strategic visioning

Action: Vote on Strategic Vision

12:15 PM

Wrap up and Next Meeting

12:20 PM

Public Comment

12:35 PM

Adjourn Meeting

Join us for lunch (provided)



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting/ Project Name:	Western Montana Conservation Commission (WMCC)		
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, June 4, 2024	Time:	11:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Minutes Prepared By:	Stephanie Murphy	Location:	Hybrid: Hilton Garden Inn Kalispell or Zoom/Call In
1. Welcome & Introductions			
Recognition of Water Stewards Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Recognition of stewardship for Montana’s water quality: Bob Brown & Charlie Abell 		
Call to Order Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of agenda Overview of meeting structure and rules 		
Roll Call Attendance	<p><u>WMCC (voting members underlined):</u> Casey Lewis, Emilie Henry, Kelly Hendrix, Stephanie Murphy, Heidi Fleury, Kristen Jordan, Krista Lammers, Clarissa Orton, Mark Bostrom, <u>Mike Koopal</u>, Onno Wieringa, Lech Naumovich, Rich Janssen, Arthur Potts, Duane Braaten, Sandy Beder-Miller, Randy Brodehl, Scott Rumsey, Tracy Campbell, Julie Spencer, Matt Peterson, Phil Matson, Ron Pifer, Sen. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Tom France, Jim Ferch, Tom Martin, Sara Edinberg, Martin Charlo, Melissa Schaar</p> <p><u>Virtual WMCC:</u> Sen. Janet Ellis, Peter Brumm, Kate Wilson</p> <p><u>Absent members:</u> Rae Lynn Hays, <u>Josh Letcher</u>, Rep. Neil Duram, Lindsey Krywaruchka, Tom Woolf, *Galen Steffens, **Jim Elser, Heidi McMaster, Chris Savage, Greg Hoffman</p> <p><u>Partners & guests:</u> Ann Schwend (*for Galen Steffens), Tom Bansak (**for Jim Elser), Bob Brown, Charlie Abell, Caroline McClung, Mayre Flowers, Jennifer Tipton, Durae Belcer, Margarite Thomas, Megan Gilmore, Heidi Desch, Cassie Roberts, Carol Treadwell</p> <p><u>Virtual partners & guests:</u> Whitney Aschenwald, Rodney Olson, Amy Dexter, Brad Koenig, Autumn Coleman, Amy Seaman, Amanda Knuteson, Janelle Housman, Will Meyer, Melinda Horne, Danielle Maiden, Tiffany Lyden, Caroline McDonald, Ella Lunny, Joe Kolman</p> <p><u>Quorum established</u></p>		
Indigenous Lands Welcome Rich Janssen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rich Janssen provided an acknowledgment that this meeting is held on the traditional homelands of the Kalispel people and the importance of building relationships with partners, WMCC, and the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT). 		
2. Agenda			
Presenter	Topic/Discussion		
Commission Business Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair Casey Lewis, WMCC Executive Director Emilie Henry, WMCC Program Coordinator	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mike Koopal called for comments on the February Meeting Minutes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Motion was made by Onno Wieringa to approve minutes; seconded by Arthur Potts Motion passes unanimously by a vote of 14-0 Casey Lewis provided an overview of financials at the end of FY24. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Motion was made by Matt Peterson to not take action on the FY24 budget (no budget amendments were required); seconded by Lech Naumovich Motion passes unanimously by a vote of 14-0 Casey Lewis proposed the budget for FY25. 		

<p>Stephanie Murphy, WMCC Communications Coordinator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discussion and questions on FY25 budget. b. Motion was made by Onno Wieringa to approve the FY25 budget as proposed; seconded Sandy Beder-Miller c. Motion passes unanimously by a vote of 14-0 <p>4. Staff updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Emilie Henry presented an overview of WMCC’s outreach efforts and partner meetings across the region. b. Casey Lewis provided a list of the Commission Member terms c. Stephanie Murphy introduced the new aquatic invasive species (AIS) videos, updates the WMCC website, and the new project request form.
<p>EPA Toxics Reduction Lead Grant Casey Lewis, WMCC Executive Director</p> <p>Whitney Aschenwald, Flathead County</p> <p>Amy Dexter, Flathead County</p> <p>Rodney Olson, Lakeside County Water and Sewer District</p> <p>Brad Koenig, Robert Peccia and Associates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Casey Lewis introduced the \$1 million funding for the planning and design of the Flathead County Regional Septage Treatment Facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A panel of speakers including Whitney Aschenwald, Amy Dexter, Rodney Olson, and Brad Koenig joined the meeting virtually to present updates on the facility and address any questions. b. Mike Koopal opens discussion to any members of the public in attendance. c. Public comment was given by Mayre Flowers and Jennifer Tipton on concerns regarding effluent disposal for the future facility including the permitting process with DEQ. d. Motion by Phil Matson to table this vote until DEQ issues a permit; seconded by Rich Janssen e. Randy Brodehl recuses from vote as Flathead Commissioner f. Motion fails by a vote of 4-9 g. Motion made by Onno Wieringa to approve to proceed with \$1 million Flathead County subaward for planning, engineering, and design of the regional treatment facility; seconded by Sandy Beder-Miller h. Randy Brodehl recuses from vote as Flathead Commissioner i. Motion passes by a vote of 9-4 2. Casey Lewis provides additional grant updates including information about the Community-Based Social Marketing Workshop in November 2024, and a Partner Informational Meeting on June 13, 2024.
<p>Public Comment Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal called for public comment. 2. Seeing none, Mike Koopal closed public comments.
<p>Wrap up & Next Steps Casey Lewis, WMCC Executive Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A brief overview of the June 5 agenda was provided. 2. Emilie Henry provided additional information about the field trip to Owen Sowerwine Natural Area.
<p>Adjourn Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motion was made by Arthur Potts to adjourn; seconded by Matt Peterson 2. Motion passes by a vote of 14-0



Field Trip	1. Tour of Owen Sowerwine Natural Area with Flathead Audubon.
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Meeting/ Project Name:	Western Montana Conservation Commission (WMCC)		
Date of Meeting:	Wednesday, June 5, 2024	Time:	8:30 AM-1:00 PM
Minutes Prepared By:	Stephanie Murphy	Location:	Hybrid: Hilton Garden Inn Kalispell or Zoom/Call In

1. Welcome & Introductions

Call to Order Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal called the meeting to order. 2. Mike Koopal presented an overview of the agenda and meeting structure and gave an Indigenous land acknowledgment.
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Roll Call Attendance	<p><u>WMCC (voting members underlined):</u> Casey Lewis, Emilie Henry, Kelly Hendrix, Stephanie Murphy, Heidi Fleury, Kristen Jordan, Krista Lammers, Clarissa Orton, Mark Bostrom, <u>Mike Koopal</u>, <u>Onno Wieringa</u>, <u>Lech Naumovich</u>, <u>Arthur Potts</u>, <u>Duane Braaten</u>, <u>Sandy Beder-Miller</u>, <u>Randy Brodehl</u>, <u>Scott Rumsey</u>, <u>Tracy Campbell</u>, <u>Julie Spencer</u>, <u>Matt Peterson</u>, <u>Phil Matson</u>, <u>Ron Pifer</u>, Sen. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Tom France, Jim Ferch, Tom Martin, Sara Edinberg, Melissa Schaar</p> <p><u>Virtual WMCC:</u> <u>Rich Janssen</u>, Sen. Janet Ellis, Peter Brumm, Kate Wilson</p> <p><u>Absent members:</u> <u>Rae Lynn Hays</u>, <u>Josh Letcher</u>, Rep. Neil Duram, Lindsey Krywaruchka, Tom Woolf, Galen Steffens, *Jim Elser, Heidi McMaster, Chris Savage, Greg Hoffman</p> <p><u>Partners & guests:</u> Chris Romankiewicz, Frank Rivard, Tom Bansak (*for Jim Elser), Caroline McClung, Janelle Groff, Margarite Thomas</p> <p><u>Virtual partners & guests:</u> Megan Gilmore, Jason Mohr, Tiffany Lyden, Amy Seaman, Caroline McDonald, Will Meyer, Brett Slaughter</p> <p><u>Quorum established</u></p>
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2. Agenda

Presenter	Topic/Discussion
Commission Member Spotlight Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal invited WMCC member Tracy Campbell to speak. 2. Tracy Campbell provided an overview of her background and stormwater management.
Stormwater Panel Casey Lewis, WMCC Executive Director Tracy Campbell, City of Missoula Chris Romankiewicz, Montana DEQ	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Casey Lewis introduced the panel: Chris Romankiewicz, Frank Revard, Matt Peterson, and Tracy Campbell 2. The Stormwater Panel discussed water quality protection efforts in Montana through stormwater infrastructure and policy, and challenges specific to stormwater pollution. 3. Casey Lewis called for questions from the commission and the public for the panel. 4. Casey Lewis concluded the discussion.

<p>Matt Peterson, NewFields</p> <p>Frank Revard, Iron Star Construction</p>	
<p>Break</p>	
<p>Committee Updates</p> <p>Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p> <p>Kelly Hendrix, WMCC Program Coordinator</p> <p>Phil Matson, Flathead Lake Biological Station</p> <p>Lech Naumovich, Greater Than Image, LLC</p> <p>Stephanie Murphy, WMCC Communications Coordinator</p> <p>Kristen Jordan, WMCC Grant Program Specialist</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal provided updates from the Executive Committee. 2. Kelly Hendrix presented an overview of committee development and creation steps. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Phil Matson introduced the AIS Committee. b. Lech Naumovich introduced the Monitoring & Coordination Committee. c. Stephanie Murphy introduced the Education, Outreach, and Communications (EOC) Committee. d. Motion by Onno Wieringa to create the Monitoring & Coordination Committee with Lech Naumovich as Chair, the AIS Committee with Phil Matson as Chair, and the EOC Committee with Kate Wilson as Chair; seconded by Randy Brodehl. e. Motion passes by a vote of 14-0 3. Mike Koopal provided updates on the Onsite Wastewater Committee-in-Development. 4. Kristen Jordan provided updates on the Stormwater Advisory Council which is under development.
<p>Commission Logistics</p> <p>Stephanie Murphy, WMCC Communications Coordinator</p> <p>Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p> <p>Lech Naumovich, Greater Than Image, LLC</p> <p>Emilie Henry, WMCC Program Coordinator</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stephanie Murphy summarized the personal vision responses from the February meeting. 2. Mike Koopal transitioned to the proposed Strategic Vision. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lech Naumovich introduced the intent of the Strategic Vision b. Emilie Henry provided an overview of all Strategic Vision updates based on prior feedback from the Commission. c. Motion by Phil Matson to approve Strategic Vision as presented; seconded by Arthur Potts d. Motion passes by a vote of 13-0
<p>Wrap up & Next Meeting</p> <p>Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal shared plans for setting the next meeting date.
<p>Public Comment</p> <p>Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mike Koopal called for public comment. 2. Public comment was given by Sen. Mike Cuffe on AIS efforts, and by Onno Wieringa to thank Commission and staff. 3. Seeing no further comments, Mike Koopal closed public comment.



<p>Closing Remarks Casey Lewis, WMCC Executive Director</p>	<p>1. Casey Lewis provided closing remarks and reminded the Commission of WMCC’s 1-year anniversary.</p>
<p>Adjourn Mike Koopal, WMCC Chair</p>	<p>1. Motion to adjourn was made by Onno Wieringa; seconded by Lech Naumovich. 2. Motion passes by a vote of 13-0; meeting adjourned.</p>