

MEETING MINUTES
 Community & Infrastructure Solution Group
 December 7, 2005
 Noon-2 pm

In attendance: Kate Ketschek (Chairperson), Steve Johnson, Kay Reeves, Mary Jane McGarity, Carol Collins, Dave O'Connor and John Holtzman.

Kate called the meeting to order and asked for public comment. There was none.

A discussion of short- and long-term goals and the process to get there was started. After much deliberation and discussion, the following flowchart was established:

- I. MAP SCENARIOS OF POSSIBLE MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARIES
- II. ESTABLISH BASELINE SERVICES PROVIDED BY MUNICIPALITY
- III. DEVELOP BUDGET FOR EACH SCENARIO
- IV. PUBLIC OUTREACH
 - a. Campaign based on direct mail, radio public service announcements, active recruiting, newspaper articles, speaking at various organization's meetings.
 - b. Fact book distributed and discussed at public meetings.
 - c. Question and Answer forum. A.K.A – public meetings.
 - d. New ideas offered, possibly return to the drawing board with some tweaking of scenarios.
 - e. Public meetings
 - f. Informed community/registered electors
- V. PETITION
 - a. Public meetings
 - b. Informed community/registered electors
- VI. COMMUNITY VOTE ON INCORPORATION

Steve provided an update on data collection:

Ron Edwards from the Big Sky Water & Sewer District took the mapping files provided by DTM and helped us begin the process of plotting three different town boundary scenarios. Steve, Kay and Kate had met with him the previous week to discuss some starting points for boundaries.

Scenario A takes in the smallest area, covering mainly the Meadow and the Westfork.

Scenario B takes in all of this area, down to the Conoco and Big Horn Center to the North and the West side of the road to the Ophir School. Ramshorn subdivision is included in this scenario as well.

Scenario C is the most comprehensive of the three and stretches from The Cinnamon Lodge to Karst and from the Conoco to the border of Gallatin County. Essentially, everything in Big Sky that is in Gallatin County.

Each of the mapping scenarios were discussed and new ideas arose. Steve is going to go back to Ron Edwards and modify some of the boundaries. The group felt it was important to include the Gallatin and its forks and drainages in their boundaries. So Scenario A will extend to the Westfork and Southfork. Scenario B and C will both include the main stretch of the Gallatin River that follows Highway 191.

A few holes were also identified while looking at the data plotted on the maps from DTM. We are currently missing financial information for the Blue Mall in Westfork and Hidden Village. Steve is going to contact DTM to collect this information. (Since our meeting, he has set up a meeting with DTM for Tuesday Dec. 13, 2005.) Once the information is gathered, he will bring it to Ron to include in the adjusted mapping scenarios.

In following with our flowchart, the next steps after mapping will require some professional assistance from Ken Weaver from MSU's Local Gov't Center. Steve will contact Ken about the possibility of meeting with the group to help us in these areas. Ken has written the book *Governing Montana at the Grassroots* and has extensive experience helping growing communities with their struggle towards self-governance. (Since the meeting, Steve has contacted Ken and he has agreed to attend our next meeting on Dec. 21.)

Items for discussion with Ken Weaver included a) how to handle existing districts, both those fully within the municipality's boundaries and those that go outside of the boundaries; b) required functions of a municipality; and c) budgets.

Additional homework:

Carol Collins volunteered to contact Shelly Vance and Marty Lambert to get details on the petition process.

Kate Ketschek will contact Sheriff Cashill to ask him how he would see law enforcement handled if Big Sky were incorporated and to obtain some advice.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 21st, from noon-2 pm at the Water & Sewer office. Bring your lunch and be ready to have an open discussion with Ken Weaver.