

AGENDA	DIALOGUE	ACTION ITEMS
I. Chair Karin Olsen Billings Welcomes and Opens Meeting	Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM	
a. Roll Call	<p><u>Commission Members Present:</u> In Person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Danette Rector <input type="checkbox"/> Doug Mitchell <input type="checkbox"/> Heather Margolis <input type="checkbox"/> Jackie Girard <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Larson <input type="checkbox"/> Karin Olsen Billings <input type="checkbox"/> Lori Chamberlin <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Nystuen <input type="checkbox"/> Sandra Boham <input type="checkbox"/> Wendy Nicolai <p>Via Conference Call:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Chantel Schieffer <input type="checkbox"/> Julie Seedhouse <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Myhre <p><u>Commission Members Excused:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Adam Vauthier <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Wetherington <input type="checkbox"/> Erica McKay <p><u>Guests and Staff Present:</u> OCS- Dan Ritter, Jim Auer, Marissa Perry, Betsy Miller, Kris MacIntyre, Sunni Hitchcock State Parks- Jean Placko, CNCS- Anna Yeagle</p>	

<p>b. Commission Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>Chair Olsen Billings called for a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Larson moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Girard seconded, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.</p>	<p>9/12/14 meeting minutes approved</p>
<p>c. Announcements</p>	<p>Chair Olsen Billings asked the new commission members present to introduce themselves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Mitchell introduced himself as the new agency representative and deputy director of the Department of Commerce • Commissioner Rector introduced herself as the new public representative and as the CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Missoula • Commissioner Boham introduced herself as the new tribal representative and the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Salish Kootenai College • Commissioner Seedhouse introduced herself as the new public representative and real estate agent for Century 21 in Billings 	
<p>II. Governor’s Office of Community Service Updates</p>		
<p>a. ServeMontana Awards, ServeMontana Symposium, Youth Serve Montana Scholarships, Volunteer of the Game, MLK Day, Governor and First Lady Youth Leadership Council</p>	<p>Marissa Perry provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Award Review Workgroup selections for award winners are due on December 21st. The ServeMontana Award ceremony will take on February 13th at noon in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the State Capitol followed by a private luncheon at the Governor’s Residence. Commissioners are invited to take part in the ceremony and luncheon. • The ServeMontana Symposium will take place from March 11th-March 13th at Carroll College in Helena. The theme of the Symposium is “Building Communities 	

	<p>under Big Skies.” Commissioners are invited to attend and present at breakout sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCS, Student Assistance Foundation, and Montana Campus Compact are teaming up for the tenth year to provide \$1,000 Youth Serve Montana Scholarships to high school seniors who volunteer 100 hours. Scholarships are due April 15, 2015. Commissioners are invited to help promote this opportunity. • The Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service will take place on January 19th. Commissioners will be given information about service opportunities in their area and invited to participate in a service project on or around that day. • A handout was provided with information on the students that were awarded with Volunteer of the Game at five NAIA Frontier League football games with fall • The fifteen middle and high school students on the Governor and First Lady Youth Leadership Council met at the State Capitol in Helena for a full-day retreat on October 25th. Members discussed their ideas to fight childhood hunger with Governor and First Lady Bullock and will be putting together youth-led service projects for Fight Childhood Hunger Week, a Global Youth Service Day project, April 13-19, 2015 	
<p>b. AmeriCorps Update</p>	<p>Jim Auer provided updates on the following AmeriCorps activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently FoodCorps MT, Montana No Kid Hungry, Energy Corps and Justice for Montanans are operating on their 2014 grant • Recruiting has been tough so far, but it looks like everyone is close to having their slots filled. • Montana Conservation Corps, Big Sky Watershed Corps and Montana State Parks AmeriCorps will be starting 	

	<p>their new program years in January.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a time of year when not many members are actively serving, we will build to a peak of over 300 members in the late spring and early summer. 	
c. Ready Montana Update	<p>Betsy Miller provided updates on the following ReadyMontana activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ShakeOut was held on Oct. 22nd. More than 158,000 Montanans participated, including 52 of the 56 counties. • Our new website, www.respond.mt.gov is up and running. We are gathering feedback and getting ready to launch it in 2015. This site will guide the public on effective donation and volunteer efforts after disasters. • We are partnering with 3 Senior Corps programs to deliver 250 emergency supply kits to low income or rural seniors in the state. These kits will be delivered in Jan or Feb. 	
d. Finance Update	<p>Sunni Hitchcock provided the following updates on OCS finances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AmeriCorps Administrative grant closes December 31, 2014; funds have been spent in its entirety. • Submitted AmeriCorps Administrative application for CFY15. Haven't received award notice, as of yet. Anticipate receiving typical amount of \$250,000 • AmeriCorps program funding on par • Received support from Student Assistance Foundation to carry out Governor's scholarships. • In process of seeking out donations/sponsorships for 2015 Symposium event. • Legislature Update – Submitted office budget for upcoming biennium to Governor's Budget Office. 	

<p>e. CNCS State Office Update</p>	<p>Commissioner Girard provided the following updates on CNCS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a handout on Employers of National Service and explained current efforts to encourage employers to hire National Service alumni • The VISTA 50th Anniversary will be celebrated throughout 2015 with various events including a Community Solutions Summit at the annual ServeMontana Symposium • The AmeriCorps VISTA orientation will take place in January including a swearing-in on January 29th • Senior Corps and AmeriCorps VISTA are currently putting together projects for MLK Day on January 19th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This includes the annual Read for Peace in which commissioners are invited to read to elementary school children about the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. • Mayor’s Day is on April 7th 	
<p>III. FY2015 AmeriCorps State Competitive Funding</p>		
<p>a. Applicant Description</p>	<p>Commissioner Margolis reported two continuation applications from Montana State Parks AmeriCorps and Justice for Montanans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workgroup agreed that both should be submitted to CNCS for continued funding. <p>Commissioner Margolis reported four new and re-compete applications from Montana Conservation Corps, FoodCorps Montana, Montana Campus Compact, and the Domestic Preparedness Assistance Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montana Conservation Corps and FoodCorps Montana applied for re-competing funding. Out of a possible 100 points, these programs each scored 98. Because ties are not allowed, the grant review committee agreed that Montana Conservation corps would be ranked first for 	

	<p>these reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They bring more resources to the state ○ They have a more established track record of impact in the state <p>The final rankings for new and recompetite applications is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Montana Conservation Corps ● FoodCorps ● Montana Campus Compact AmeriCorps ● Domestic Preparedness Assistance Center 	
b. Funding Recommendation	The grant review committee recommended moving all six projects to the national 2015 competitive review with the Corporation for National and Community Service	
c. Public Comment	<p>Commissioner Margolis stated that the national FoodCorps representative was impressed by the open feedback from grant review committee.</p> <p>Commissioner Mitchell asked a clarification question on the difference between members and Member Service Year (MSY) in the Funding Recommendation.</p> <p>Commissioner Girard asked how to increase the score of the Domestic Preparedness Assistance Center. Commissioner Margolis recommended that DPAC work to develop their organization and also look into the possibility of assistance from an AmeriCorps VISTA. She also noted that there is a lot of opportunity in the future for this program.</p>	
d. ACTION ITEM – Competitive Funding Recommendation	Commissioner Margolis moved to advance all 6 projects to the national 2015 competitive review with the Corporation for National and Community Service. Commissioner Larson seconded the motion. Commissioner Olsen Billings called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.	All six applications to be submitted to the 2015 competitive review at Corporation for National and Community Service with the suggested ranking of applicants,

		conditional that applicants work with OCS staff to integrate the recommendations of the grant review workgroup.
V. Commissioner Reports and Updates		
a. Commissioners, please share recent volunteer engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Seedhouse discussed her position on the board of directions for the YWCA in Billings and the assistance they receive from an AmeriCorps VISTA serving in the emergency shelter • Commissioner Schieffer announced that Leadership Montana has been volunteering with statewide organizations on food security issues, including the Montana Food Bank Network • Commissioner Myhre has been continuing his role with Leadership Center Montana program educating young leaders. Currently he is educating young leaders on how to be engaged in the legislative process 	
VI. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Olsen Billings announced that Jim Auer is moving on to a new job with the Department of Agriculture. 	
VII. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jean Placko introduced herself as the new Program Coordinator for Montana State Parks AmeriCorps, and reiterated the sentiments of FoodCorps that the grant review process and feedback was very helpful • Commissioner Girard introduced Anna Yeagle, the Program Officer for CNCS, to the new commissioners 	
VIII. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11 th , 2015 in conjunction with the ServeMontana Symposium in Helena.	

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