

Estes Valley Watershed Coalition Minutes – June 24, 2015

Board					
Black C:	X	Jay Blackwood	X	Jim Sloan	
Big T:		Gary Miller	X	Carly Lober	
Fall R:	X	Phil DuChateau	X	Marcus Snyder	
Fish C:	X	Sue Durnford		Chuck Bonza	
At Large:		Jim Daugherty		Ron Wilcocks	X Frank Theis
Advisory Group:	X	Jeff Crane		Katherine Luscher	X Naren Tayal
		Chris Sturm		Kim Slininger	Curt Gleaves
		Branden Krueger		Tina Kurtz	Christy Crosser
	X	Mary Banken		Chris Bieker	
<i>Non-Voting Members:</i>		Barb May			
Guests	X	Todd Boldt		Molly Mills	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Frank Theis. The meeting was held at the Estes Valley Public Library in Estes Park, Colorado.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given at the meeting.

III. COALITION STATUS

A. *Minutes of the June 10, 2015 Meeting*

MOVED (Jay Blackwood/Jim Sloan second) and passed to accept the minutes from the June 10th meeting.

B. *Committee Reports*

1. Hiring Committee

- **Capacity Grant Status:** We are still awaiting the paperwork for the contract, and have been told that we might receive it this week.

2. Grants/Projects Committee

- **Implementation Grant Status:** We have received a letter awarding the full \$300,000 for this grant. We have contacted Ageiss to initiate the Environmental Review.

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- **Planning Grant Status:** Still awaiting the contract for this grant. Jeff Crane has sent some sample RFP's and will send rfp templates for us to use as we generate the rfp's.
- **Senate Funds Project status:** We are still awaiting approval by Chris Sturm for the transfer of the grant award to the EVWC. Gary Miller has volunteered to be the Board rep for this project.
- **CWCB Grant Status:** Have not yet heard a response from Chris Sturm on this grant request.

3. **Public Outreach Committee**

Frank Theis was able to acquire the old Fall River and Fish Creek Coalitions email listings in Excel spreadsheet format. These will provide a foundation for a contact database to be developed.

Marcus is about half done with the new website, and will forward it to others for review before he finalizes it.

II. **CWCB+ UPDATE**

Naren Tayal and Jeff Crane discussed a new program to help support partnerships between local governments and federal agencies regarding federal lands.

Todd Boldt announced that a letter will be coming out with a clarification on the requirements for agreements with local sponsors. Todd also mentioned that the timelines have been pushed back for getting the Disaster Survey Report sites identified and teams into the field. They are now requesting submission by three due dates:

July 31 – submit the highest priorities

August 30 – submit the higher but not highest priorities

September 15 – submit the high but not higher priorities.

Economic impacts of potential disasters for these areas will be an important component of the DSR evaluation, and so the Estes projects should score well. We might contact the Town or the Office of Economic Development (through KC McFerson) to get economic data.

Last meeting, a workgroup was formed to review priorities and develop recommended input to NRCS. That group included: Frank Theis, Sue Durnford, Gary Miller, Tina Kurtz and Mary Banken. The group met earlier in the week and discussed various priorities based on the reaches within the Fall River and Fish Creek watersheds. Since Master Plans have not been completed for Upper Big Thompson and Black Canyon, there was no reliable way to identify priorities in those two watersheds. Banken showed a power point presentation of the eight priority areas that the committee identified. (Copies of that ppt were requested and later sent to Todd and Naren.) Through a consensus decision, the top four priority reaches for EVWC were identified as

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#1 Elkhorn Lodge (Old Ranger Road) to Spruce Street on Fall River

#2 Rivers Edge through the Evergreen pedestrian bridge on Fall River

#3 Scott Drive to Country Club Drive on Fish Creek

#4 Cheley Camp through Lower Rockwood on Fish Creek.

Consensus included the recognition that Fall River had higher priorities due to potential economic impacts in commercial lodging areas, and due to continued uncertainty regarding the work to be completed through the infrastructure project.

III. TOWN UPDATE

Tina Kurtz was not available for the meeting, but Frank Theis offered the information that town staffing capacity is very low currently. The just hired a new staff member in Utilities, and the flood plain permitting is being done through contracting.

The Town is holding a public meeting on July 7 to discuss Scott Ponds options. The Board discussed a draft position statement that had been circulated by Gary Miller, Sue Durnford distributed an amended version of that statement, and the Board decided that they wished to demonstrate a public support of an ecological resilience perspective. Board members were asked to provide input to Frank who would work on another draft and quietly talk to Town staff about the EVWC intent prior to the meeting. Board members also were encouraged to attend the meeting.

IV. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

N/A

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION – TO DISCUSS EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS

N/A

VI. ACTION ITEMS – NEXT MEETING

- A. *Coordinator Contract*
- B. *Start-up budget issues*
- C. *Technology issues*

VII. ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Prepared by: Mary Banken

Approved/submitted by: Jim Daugherty, Secretary
