

## MINUTES FOR CVEPA BOARD MEETING APRIL 21, 2020

At 5:00 CVEPA conducted a ZOOM meeting due to the restrictions on public meetings and in regard to health guidelines for COVID 19.

In attendance were John Armstrong, Dale Will and Suzy Meredith-Orr with John Hoffman joining at approximately 5:20. Kate Freisen joined for several minutes in the absence of Peter Westcott.

John Hoffman reports that CVEPA has \$7,989.68 in the coffers.

Minutes were approved for January 8 2020 with the addition of information that Seth Mason was in attendance as a water specialist representing Lotic, his hydrologic company.

John Armstrong said he would like to continue to use the Opinion Column of the Sopris Sun to further the work of CVEPA and to gain name recognition of our not- so-well recognized 48 year old organization. He has received good feedback from the column's readers. We would like to stay on a 4-6 week schedule for submitting the column. (Anything that bears the CVEPA name should be vetted by at least 2 other board members in the future.) Will Peter Westcott be willing to write the next column ?

John Armstrong and Suzy Meredith-Orr have committed to examine and edit the by-laws to come back to the board with recommendation for improvements. John Hoffman as sent the latest copy around to the board.

Suzy thinks the Crystal Clear publication would benefit being offered as an on-line publication to those who might prefer that. Suzy's husband Denny Meredith-Orr is an IT expert and might be willing to help facilitate that.

John Hoffman would like to archive the Crystal Clear articles and the CVEPA Opinion pieces. John says each Crystal Clear generates new and renewed membership donations.

The Marble Quarry articles by Aspen Journalism were well written and circulated. John asked Heather Sackett, journalist, to always credit CVEPA when we are involved in the information chain of a report.

John said he was very disappointed in both Gunnison County Commissioners Messner and Mason's response to the letter CVEPA sent to them regarding the infractions at the Quarry. Both men seemed disinterested in the information. Commissioner Jonathan Houck, however, seemed extremely interested and well informed in the Quarry operation and the environmental health of the Upper Crystal Valley. Houck also said he would like to have a seat at the table regarding water issues in our valley.

John A would like to represent CVEPA as supporting safer public access to the river at the Satank Bridge. RFTA ROW shows ownership and RFTA has recently installed steps for safe access at another RFTA bridge in the vicinity. Dale recounted complex issues with Garfield County taxing a private party for this property over the years which should be resolved but should not preclude improvements to the site. John A suggested asking Commissioner John Martin for help ( and perhaps Dorothea) and John Hoffman suggested involving Dan Blankenship (RFTA) in the effort.

Dale Will said that the state of the Crystal Conference is on hold due to the pandemic. This has also stalled his access to Gunnison staff who can find information on the potential for buildout in the upper

Crystal/ Gunnison County reach of the valley. Dale would like to re-involve Zane Kessler, PR person for West Divide Water District (?) once things get moving again.

Dale said Ron Leach gave him encouragement for support from Marble for Wild and Scenic designation last fall. Now, it seems that Marble doesn't have a valid board sitting on council. It is suggested that CVEPA inspire sympathetic residents (and CVEPA members) to galvanize to support Wild and Scenic and perhaps get involved in Marble's direction.

Dale asks if CVEPA will endorse Francine Jacober for Pitkin County Commissioner for the Crystal Valley. We will canvas previous board members to see if there is such a precedent and if we want to do so.

Zoom donated an extra 20 minutes for the meeting.  
John A motioned to adjourn at 6:00, Suzy second.

Submitted : John Armstrong