

# Estes Valley Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2015

<b>Board</b>						
<b>Black C:</b>	A	<b>Jay Blackwood</b>	X	<b>Jim Sloan</b>		
<b>Big T:</b>	X	<b>Gary Miller</b>	X	<b>Carly Lober</b>		
<b>Fall R:</b>	X	<b>Frank Theis</b>	X	<b>Marcus Snyder</b>		
<b>Fish C:</b>	X	<b>Sue Durnford</b>	X	<b>Chuck Bonza</b>		
<b>At Large:</b>	A	<b>Jim Daugherty</b>	A	<b>Ron Wilcocks</b>	X	<b>Dixie Hendrix</b>
<b>Advisory Group:</b>		<b>Jeff Crane</b>		<b>Katherine Luscher</b>	X	<b>Naren Tayal</b>
		<b>Chris Sturm</b>		<b>Kim Slininger</b>		<b>Curt Gleaves</b>
		<b>Branden Krueger</b>	x	<b>Tina Kurtz</b>		<b>Christy Crosser</b>
	X	<b>Mary Banken</b>				
<b>Non- voting members and visitors</b>	X	<b>Barb May-Fish Creek</b>	X	<b>Phil DuChateau-Fall River</b>	X	<b>Tony Schetzle – Fish Creek</b>

## I. CALL TO ORDER

President Frank Theis called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. The meeting was held at the Estes Valley Public Library in Estes Park, Colorado.

## II. COALITION STATUS

### *Minutes of the March 11, 2015*

Dixie presented the minutes from the March 11, 2015 meeting. Gary made a motion to approve the minutes. Sue seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

### *Agenda*

Gary made a motion to add the following changes to the agenda: add a briefing on a recent Thompson Watershed Alliance meeting; public input comments not on the agenda be added at the beginning of the meeting versus the end of the meeting; add updates on the planning grant and capacity grant; add a 10 minute executive committee meeting to review applicants for the EVWC Coordinator position. Chuck seconded that motion. The motion passed.

### *Public Comments*

Tony Schetzle from the Fish Creek Watershed reported that the Town of Estes Park did vote to support the Fish Creek Master Plan, including the removal of Scot Pond from the Fish Creek Master Plan.

## III. Committee Reports

### *Hiring Committee: Candidate Review & Interviews*

Gary related that the job announcement is out. There have been up to 30 applications submitted. An application evaluation criteria matrix has been developed. 7 candidates have met the tier 1 requirements (meet or exceeds minimum qualifications), and 7 candidates have met the second tier-minimally meet the qualification. The rest do not appear to be suitable. An email acknowledgement has been sent out to all applicants. Follow up contact and a request for additional information to the tier one candidates has been made. Proposed interview questions have been developed but are not yet finalized. Interviews will be planned once references have been checked.

# Estes Valley Watershed Coalition

Interviews will be set up later next week. Interviews will be face-to-face at the EVLT offices, but can only be held after 4 pm. Jim Sloan offered a meeting room at the Black Canyon for the interviews, which then could take place as needed. The committee accepted his offer. Phone and skype interviews are also a possibility. Sue, Phil, and Gary will be on the interview committee. Mary noted that Jeff Crane volunteered to be on the committee as well. The goal is for interviews to be done around April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mary reminded the committee that as things stand now, no offer can be made until the money from the capacity grant is received.

## ***Grants/Projects Committee***

- ***Implementation Grant***

Sue reported that the implantation grant submitted one day early thanks to Mary's help. Letters of support from land owners was obtained, but no letter of support was received from town of Estes Park yet-Frank indicated the town would write the letter. Land owners must also sign a letter of agreement in the next 10 days. The implementation project is structured so that the environmental study is done first, and then bids can be taken. Hopefully the project can start in June or July 2015.

- ***Planning Grants***

A revised scope of work and revised budget numbers was requested by the DOLA committee. Funds were taken out of the budget for planning for the hydro plant, and Scot Pond, Brook/Country Club and the Industrial site was combined into one project. The final budget for this project is approximately \$137,000. Mary Banken and Julie Ash did most of the work, and the grant committee was very grateful for the extra work. Deadline for the shift in this project was last Thursday. Timing of grant awards should be within the next week.

- ***Capacity Grant***

As announced at the last meeting the capacity grant was awarded to the EVWC. Mary noted that reportedly the CWCB is supposedly covering fiscal sponsorships fee, start-up administrative costs, but the process is not clear. Mary has found some new information that seems to indicate that new guidelines for state grants must include 10% administrative costs, but she is still investigating this issue.

## ***Public Outreach Committee***

- ***Logo/ Website***

Marcus introduced several logo possibilities, handing out examples. Mary's neighbor is a graphic designer who came up with several designs. The second page includes designs created by a third party that specializes in water graphic. The brochure in an ongoing work Marcus plans to liberally borrow current content about the EVWC found on the EVLT website. Website options have been decided on but waiting for funding. Current Fish Creek and Fall River Master Plan websites will still be in place for 12-18 month. Those websites require HTML abilities to update, and would be beyond the scope of current volunteers to handle.

- ***Advisory Board***

EVWC members are encouraged to identified prospective advisory board members. Gary got confirmation from Parks and Wildlife (Ben Swigle). Sue will be happy to maintain the spreadsheet of advisory board members.

- ***Thompson Watershed Alliance***

Mary recently attended a meeting of the Thompson Watershed Alliance -TWA- (Big and Little Thompson watershed, EVWC, North Fork watershed and Buck Head watershed). Carly has agreed to be the EVWC representative. She will be able to assess what the other coalitions are doing. Mary stated the TWA fiscal sponsorships is through a new organization called Coalition and Collaborative. Mary feels that the EWVC needs to support and participate in the TWA . Benefits include scientific contacts , information from other coalitions, watershed expertise knowledge that will provide knowledge and support, and the importance of having a built in support network if/when future emergencies happen. The TWA is a new organization that is just now working on

# Estes Valley Watershed Coalition

their mission and vision statements. All watershed coalition board members are invited to a meeting on Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> 6 pm, location TBA. Marcus (Vice President) will attend and represent the EVWC board, along with Carly. Any other board member who can attend should do so.

## **IV. SENATE FUNDS PROPOSAL**

Frank discussed the \$200,000 grant given to the Town of Estes Park last summer for Brook to Country Club area. He noted it may be possible to spread that money to other Fish Creek project, but the Town of Estes Park has an obligation to meet with the Brook to Country Club home owners and discuss options. Frank continues to advocate with the Town of Estes for this meeting. Chuck and Sue will join in this effort, working towards a meeting with all parties next week. Sue related the history of this grant.

## **V. BOARD CHANGES**

Frank noted that he is moving to a different watershed. After legal consultation, some options for retaining Frank as President are: Frank could continue as a non-voting officer; Dixie has offered her resignation, and Frank could be voted to take her at-large member. Dixie noted she must resign by June due to a new job assignment, but may need to leave earlier. Nothing needs to happen immediately, but there are options. Fall River will need another representative when Frank moves out of Fall River.

## **VI. FUNDING SOURCES**

There is a great need for administrative startup costs. The EVWC is building up a debt with our fiscal , closing in on \$200. Sue will begin to look into potential sources for funding and has some ideas. Sue will contact Curt (EVWC lawyer) about some possibilities.

## **VII. CB Update (Sturn/Crane/Tayal/Luscher)**

### *CWCB Update*

Naren reported that phase one of the National Disaster resilience competition (with HUD funds) has been submitted. The second phase section of the competition will start in June and is due in September if the CWCB gets the “go-ahead” to continue in the competition. Then the CWCB will be notified in November if the phase two section has been approved.

## **VIII. TOWN UPDATE (KURTZ)**

Tina related that the EVWC Morton Implementation Grant was not discussed in the town meeting due to time constraints. Tina and Kevin are putting together an application for the HMGP round one money. They have completed an informal pre-applications for Hydro Plant, Fish Hatchery, Scot Pond issues, and were approved to make a formal application for those projects which were due today. Next week there will be an indication of whether these projects will get approval from the review committee.

## **IX. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

Filing for 501 c-3 status is not actively being pursued. Frank wants the board to keep this option in mind.

At 8:30 pm, Chuck made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personal issues.

# Estes Valley Watershed Coalition

## **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Gary discussed the top 7 applicants. Gary will email the potential interview questions-do not share the questions. Send out to them and the board will comment on them ASAP. The question will be sent out by Thursday. Gary noted that the applicants were very qualified, and he is hopeful to hire an excellent coordinator. The executive meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

## **XI. MEETING**

The EVWC board meeting reconvened at 8:45 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm. The next EWVC board meeting will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Estes Valley Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Dixie Hendrix, EVWC secretary