

Estes Valley Watershed Coalition Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2015

Board					
Black C:	X	Jay Blackwood	X	Jim Sloan	
Big T:	X	Gary Miller	X	Carly Lober	
Fall R:	X	Frank Theis	X	Marcus Snyder	
Fish C:	X	Sue Durnford	A	Chuck Bonza	
At Large:	X	Jim Daugherty	X	Ron Wilcocks	X Dixie Hendrix
Advisory Group:	X	Jeff Crane		Katherine Luscher	Naren Tayal
		Chris Sturm		Kim Slininger	Curt Gleaves
	X	Branden Krueger	X	Tina Kurtz	Christy Crosser
	X	Mary Banken	X	Amy Johnson	
Non-Voting Members	X	Phil DuChateau (Fall River)		Joe Hernan	A Barb May (Fish Creek)
	X	May Born	X	David Born	

I. CALL TO ORDER & Board Member

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

II. COALITION STATUS

A. Minutes of the February 25, 2015

Dixie Hendrix presented the minutes from the 2-11-15 EVWC Board meeting. Jay made a motion to accept the minutes. Marcus seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

B. Committee Reports

1. EVWC Coordinator Hiring Committee

Frank noted that the capacity grant to hire a watershed coordinator (salary and dollars toward benefits, office supplies, and rent) of \$154,000 was approved. The hiring process was covered by Phil who notes that early next week Sue Gary and Phil will begin to look at the 18 current applicants. It is possible the first interview will be within two weeks. The goal is April 1st for the selection of the EVWC coordinator. Advisor Jeff Crane has provided a hiring matrix to assist in the process. An EVWC assistant will be hired later this year with the help of the new EVWC Coordinator. The interview committee will be Gary, Sue and Phil, with possible assistance from President Frank and Vice-President Marcus. The interviews will be held at the EVLT office either in person or by skype. Plan is to select top 2-3 and then circulate the candidates among the EVWB

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board members. Although we have received a letter outlining the grant, an offer cannot be made until we have the money from the grant is actually in hand. Dixie will be able to provide temporary housing for candidates if needed.

2. Grants/Projects Committee

a. Implementation Grant

Sue related that the implementation grant is well on its way. Sue thanked Jim for his hard work completing this grant that is 90% finished. Plan is to provide it to Mary by March 14th, and apply on March 15th. The proposal will be for \$305,000. The committee has been coordinating with the Town of Estes Park. With this multijurisdictional coordination with the town the project could reach 15% of the Fall River master plan. The Town project includes 4100 feet from the Rocky Mountain National Park border to fish hatchery. The EWVC project will be from the fish hatchery to the end of Morton's reach. The Fishing is Fun deadline has already passed, but the application comes out in November, which Sue pointed out was a definite possibility for future funding. Tina requested an email regarding a request for a letter of support from the Town of Estes Park. Jim noted the difficulties that the committee overcame to complete the grant. Western Ecological Resources (Julie Ash) and Cornerstone and Frank Theis provided assistance is putting together the bid for this project.

b. Planning Grant (7 projects)

DOLA is returning with more questions regarding projects on this grant on Friday, March 11, 2015 at 1pm to discuss clarifications. Two of the town projects may be removed, but this will not be known by Friday. The meeting will be held in the conference room at the planning department at the Estes Park Town Hall.

3. Public Outreach Committee

Committee Chairman Marcus reported on the status of the brochure for the EVWC. Work continues on the brochure He will present an example at the meeting in two weeks. Logo issues continue- both professional made and individual artists on this graphic issue. Examples will be provided for EVWC Board approval. Website has no funding yet, but work continues on procuring website creation, domain service, updating, and hosting. Website security will need to be important in making choices for the EVWC internet presence. More information will be presented at future meetings. Public announcements of meetings will begin to be placed in local media as well as special announcements when certain projects are to be discussed. Jay encouraged the EVWC to set up a table for the Duck Race in Bond Park for education about the EVWC. Jay will check on what might be the best venue for an information booth. The EVWC may need to educate the Duck Race folks about the importance keeping woody material and willows intact in the Fall River watershed. Jeff offered training on outreach for the EVWC once an EVWC coordinator is

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hired. Sue noted at some point all the various river corridor representatives should reach out to their watershed population to let them know what is going on with the EVWC.

III. ADVISORY BOARD

All Board members are encouraged to reach out to their assigned advisory board members and invite them to EVWC Board meetings. Amy Johnson with Colorado Big Thompson Project (CBT) was introduced, and she discussed some of the project the CPT is involved with. A possible Open House for the EVWC Advisory Board will be in the future.

IV. SENATE FUNDS

Frank noted the idea was to get a proposal to the town, but since then there have been discussions about working with the Brook to Country Club area. Once the implementation grants are finished, a meeting with the town regarding the Brook to Country Club will begin to look at what needs to happen there.

V. TOWN UPDATE

Tina noted that multiple projects are ongoing and planned, with special emphasis on the downtown area. There is a quick deadline to present to OEM to use funding. Projects must be completed by March 31st, 2016. The Hydro plant and fish hatchery reach are being considered. Scott Pond has to be worked on (currently the dams are not up to code with a November 2015 plan deadline). After a meeting month ago regarding the Scott Pond area, comments from the meeting were incorporated into the Fish Creek Master Plan. The Fish Creek master plan was updated on the website today with changes to the map regarding Scott Pond. It is possible that an "upgrade" for the dam situation at Scott Pond could be considered if funding is somehow found. A Scott pond "upgrade" will be expensive.

The Town of Estes Board meeting will be voting in support of the Fish Creek Master plan on March 24th, 2015.

VI. CB UPDATE

Jeff Crane noted that the NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Sources) received information from the Governor's office regarding grant distribution and rules. Brandon noted that an application has been made by Colorado regarding watershed resiliency (funded by HUD). He encouraged the EVWC board members to make comments about this application at: Colorado United. The funding could be very helpful for future funding for watershed coalition projects.

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VII. ADDITIONAL BUISNESS

Frank will be moving out of the Fall River Watershed into the Fish Creek watershed soon. Discussion about options for this situation was held. Frank will be meeting with lawyer Curt Cleaves to discuss this issue.

Start-up budget issues continue, with a need to fund raise. Time log sheets need to be completed. Laptop is needed for the coordinator. Dixie will bring a lap top for the new coordinator. Ipad and iPhone will be needed as well. Mary will let the EVWC board know what else is needed.

VI PUBLIC INPUT

Mary and David Born (Fish Creek/Scott Pond) wish to be on the email list of the meetings and minutes.

VII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at the Estes Valley Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Dixie Hendrix, EVWC Secretary