

Estes Valley Watershed Coalition

Minutes – November 11, 2015

Board					
Black C:	X	Jay Blackwood		Pam Huffman	
Big T:	X	Gary Miller	X	Carly Lober	
Fall R:	X	Phil DuChateau	X	Marcus Snyder	
Fish C:	X	Sue Durnford	X	Lyle Zimmerman	
At Large:	X	Jim Daugherty	X	Frank Theis	
Coordinator:	X	Molly Mills			
Advisory Group:	X	Mary Banken	X	Jeff Crane	Chris Sturm
	X	Tina Kurtz		Christy Crosser	Katy Jagt
		Curt Gleaves		Michael Blazewicz	Kim Lennberg
Guests	X	Leo Weber			

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by President Frank Theis. The meeting was held at the Estes Valley Public Library in Estes Park, Colorado.

2. Public Comment

Leo Weber introduced himself as the president of the Estes Valley Land Trust. He stated that he was here to observe our meeting and get better acquainted with the work of the Watershed Coalition.

3. Meeting Minutes

- i. MOVED (Jay Blackwood /Sue Durnford second) and passed to accept the minutes from the October 14, 2015 meeting, with one correction: Correction was to align with NRCS terminology projects should read as phase 2 and 3;
 1. NRCS phase 1 was the exigent work.
 2. NRCS phase 2 is Fish Creek and Fall River.
 3. NRCS phase 3 will be held until Phase 2 is well underway.

4. Coalition Status

a. Coordinator Report – Molly Mills

i. Fundraising Report

1. Submitted New Belgium Brewing grant application for Water Conservation and Restoration. A copy was distributed with the

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Agenda Packet. MOVED (Jim Daugherty/Sue Durnford second) and passed to approve the grant application to New Belgium Brewing for a Water Conservation and Restoration Grant.

2. Completed Pen to Paper grant writing course.
3. Planning grant applications due November 20th.
4. Received \$1100.00 grant award from the Northern Colorado Community Foundation, received by Molly and Sue on November 5th.
5. Received \$1000.00 grant award from the Town of Estes Park.
6. Capacity Grant - It appears that we could apply for a capacity grant for an assistant to Molly, at this time. The grant would be off-cycle, but DOLA has indicated that they would be receptive to such an application.

ii. Business Status

1. Office space next door to the Land Trust may be opening up at the end of the month. Acquiring this space would give the Watershed Coordinator (and an assistant if funding is found for that position) much better office space. The cost is \$450 per month. The space could be rented directly by the Watershed Coalition or it could be rented by the Land Trust, with part or all of the space used by the Watershed Coalition staff. In either case there would be an additional monthly expense. Several members voiced strong support for the second option, because it would build on our good working relationship with the Land Trust. It is too soon to take any action. The matter maybe taken up by the Executive Committee if a decision needs to be made before the next meeting.

iii. Project Report

1. NRCS Phase 2: priority project plan finals are out with project areas identified and project budget estimated. Details are not finalized and will probably change with stakeholder input and planning. The next step would be planning and 30% design. 100% landowner buy-in is required before planning and design. Landowners must also agree to the final design before any construction work is started.
An Ad hock committee was appointed to prioritize the projects in Tier 1. The committee is Sue Durnford, Jim Daugherty, Phil DuChateau, Frank Theis, Gary Miller and Marcus Snyder.
2. NRCS Phase 3: priorities submitted, won't be addressed until significant work on the Phase 2 projects are completed.
3. Working with CWCB to use Senate bill money on Fish Creek to cover the NRCS 12.5% matching requirement. Will still require financial participation by landowner.

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4. Assisting the Town of Estes with getting the Hydroplant project contractor hired.
5. Planning grant RFP for the Upper Big Thompson master plan is completed, we are holding it so that we can get the priority planning grant RFPs done and posted.
6. Implementation RFPs not started.
7. Planning Grant pre-applications reviewed by DOLA and adjusted accordingly. After discussion, it was agreed that the application will cover:
 - a. Planning for the gap areas to include Bear Claw, Aspen Winds, lower Rockwood to Scott Ave, East Fork of Fish Creek (Little Valley) and the Livingston property on the Big Thompson.
 - b. Master plan for the Black Canyon - this work could be added onto the Upper Big Thompson master plan effort to consolidate funds; will be discussed with DOLA.
 - c. Work on permitting structure with other watersheds will not be submitted

b. Committee Reports

- i. All committee discussions will be held until the December meeting due to time constraints.

c. Agency Reports

- i. Jeff Crane reviewed all of the deadlines coming up in the next 6 months. There is a great deal of work to be done by the EVWC and all of the other coalitions if those deadlines are to be met.

d. Partner Reports

- i. Town of Estes - Tina Kurtz
 1. RFP submittal deadline for Hydrology Study is next week.
 2. Hydroplant project work was awarded last night to OTAK and Flywater.
 3. Floodplain Mitigation Team continues to meet. Molly's involvement is appreciated.
 4. Round 2 Planning grants - Town will submit for a Storm Water Master Plan.
 5. Scott Ponds - the primary bidder for the dam repair and replacement work has withdrawn their bid due to the limited amount of time before the required completion date.

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5. Additional Action Items

a. Duck race

Sue explained the procedure and required number of tickets to be sold in order to be included on the Duck Race form. After discussion, it was decided to not pursue this fund raising option for the 2016 Duck Race.

6. Adjourn Meeting

MOVED (Sue Durnford/Jim Daugherty second) and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.