

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District  
Citizens Advisory Group**

**Draft Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2014**

The meeting was held at:  
Fountain Creek Nature Center  
320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, CO

**1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions**

The April 11, 2014 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (“FCWD”) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Ms. Irene Kornelly, Chairperson, at approximately 9:30 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following members of the CAG in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chairperson  
Richard Skorman - CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board  
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board  
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary  
Mary Barber – FCWD Web Manager  
Jerry Cordova  
Dan Henrichs  
Lois Illick  
Elaine Kleckner  
Ross Vincent  
Allison Plute

CAG Members not present:  
John Chavez – TAC Chair and Representative to the CAG  
Jordan Vana  
Tom Ready

Also in attendance:  
Terry Hart, Pueblo County Commissioner  
Larry Small, Executive Director Fountain Creek Watershed District  
Katharine Guthrie, public  
Sonya Erickson, CDOT

**2. Approve Agenda of April 11, 2014 Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the revised March 14, 2014 Agenda was approved.**

**3. Approve Minutes of March 14, 2014 Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the amended February 14, 2014 Minutes were approved.**

**4. Reports.** Larry Small reported that the Board met March 28, with the following actions.

- The Board approved the Colorado Water Conservation Board grant contract funding a watershed

restoration master plan for Cheyenne Creek and the upper Fountain Creek. At the same time the Board approved a \$337,000 contract with Matrix Design Group to support the work. This is the first work the District has done with the support and cooperation from entities outside the District, including Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Woodland Park, and Teller County.

- The Board approved \$107,175 contract with Aztec Construction for work on the Frost Ranch Bank Restoration. Material and equipment are on site, and work is underway. Larry expects the project to be complete in two or three weeks.
- The request from the Town of Palmer Lake for matching funds toward a wildfire mitigation grant was tabled.
- The Board authorized the CAG Outreach Group to submit an application for the CDPHE education grant.
- Referring to the Resolution before the Board to appoint alternate members to the TAC, Larry is also drafting a similar resolution for the CAG.
- Richard Skorman added that the steering group of the Regional Stormwater Task Force will attend the next Board meeting to give an update on activity and to discuss why the District wasn't chosen as the recommended mechanism for coordination of future Stormwater activity.
- Terry Hart expressed concern over the Task Force's decision to establish a managing body as possibly delaying effective implementation of stormwater mitigation because of the inherent growing pains of a new organization. He referred members back to when the District was first established, and the conflicts and divisions that took time to eliminate. The District and its Board are a smoothly operating unit now. He wishes not to see that time-consuming problem recreated.
- A question was raised about the February 14 community engagement meeting at PPIR. Larry Small said that a report is being prepared, but with the limited resources available, it is not ready yet.
- The next meeting of the Board is April 25.

**b. TAC Meeting. Irene Kornelly reported on the April TAC meeting.**

- The TAC heard a presentation by Graham Thompson of Matrix Design Group on the Frost Ranch Bank Restoration Project.
- The TAC also reviewed the USGS report and responses to its questions. It appeared that the TAC was less than thrilled about some of the answers, but concluded that they are what they are.
- Flood prevention efforts in the Waldo Canyon fire area were discussed.
- Larry said he had prepared a draft presentation for the Board on the next steps following the USGS report. He will send it to CAG members for review.

**c. Outreach Group.**

- Jerry Cordova reported that more information is coming on the CDPHE grant.
- The Pikeview reservoir and Monument Creek clean up is Saturday April 19 from 8:30 to 11:30. Allison and Larry will be there with information.
- There will be a fishing derby at Pikeview May 17, another opportunity for outreach. Volunteers are needed. Information is on the District Facebook page.
- The annual Arkansas River Basin Water Forum Conference is April 23 and 24 at Otero Junior College. Jerry moved the CAG support outreach efforts at his event, with literature, banners, or whatever is available to us at that time. Lois Illich and Ferris Frost will be attending and representing the District. The overall cost to the District would be around \$300.

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the motion to support outreach efforts at the Arkansas River Basin Water Conference was approved. [0.24.0]**

- Ferris reported that the CDPHE grant, which would be for \$5,000, is about to go in. Funds would be used to fund a speakers' bureau, update the website and tools, and produce a media kit.

- Another upcoming event is the CSU Pueblo Children's Water Festival, May 6. The Outreach Group will be showing how watersheds work.

The next meeting of the Outreach Group will be Monday April 14 at Fountain City Hall.

**d. Flood Recovery Efforts.**

- Elaine Kleckner reported that on April 10 Molly Urbina the state's new Chief Recovery Officer and a number of local jurisdictions' representatives toured the upper Fountain Creek Watershed, visiting sites like the channel stabilization work at Rainbow Falls and the accompanying detention structure, CDOT work on the Highway 24 culverts, the Pyramid Mountain development where there has been significant work with detention ponds. Ms. Urbina indicated that additional funding is likely to become available through the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Senate Bill 179 working through the state senate that would provide additional recovery support to local governments.
- Elaine also reported that the county has about \$1.5 million in projects along the main stem and in Bear Creek Regional Park. Final FEMA worksheets have been completed and signed by the commissioners, and the county recently received GOCO money that will be used as matching funds.
- Responding to comments and questions about the overall level of effort and the number of projects to be completed this year, Larry reported that he participates on the Regional Recovery Group, and there are probably 40 different agencies in the group, including National Parks, Corps of Engineers, FEMA, CDOT, Colorado Springs, El Paso County, CUSP, and many more. Larry offered to bring in a spreadsheet of projects and funding currently in the works. He assured the group that interest in flood recovery and mitigation is not falling off and will continue in the future.
- Larry also commented on the CDOT work on Highway 24. It's progressing, and will likely be effective in preventing mudslides on the highway right of way, but has concerns about the uncontrolled release of water and sediment into Fountain Creek and Manitou Springs. He also sees many serious stormwater control issues in Williams Canyon with respect to Manitou Springs.
- Elaine reported that the county has established a relationship with the Army Corps of Engineers, which has resulted in becoming aware of their funding areas. Indications are good for 35 percent match grants in a different categories. Larry commented that unspent funds from other grants are eligible as matching funds in those situations.

**e. Citizens Stormwater Initiative.** Richard Skorman reported the group had received positive feedback from polling. Voters showed preferences as follows.

- Limiting administrative costs to less than 1 percent.
- Voters also wanted a sunset, so that on the capital aspect, the bonding issues should be limited to 20 years, while the O&M would go on indefinitely, similar to the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA).
- The voters also preferred a regional solution.
- They did not want stormwater to be part of a larger capital improvement program.
- They want a master plan and specific projects outlined, like the RTA.
- They definitely want to see emergency needs taken care of.

Richard added that he had had a positive conversation with the mayor on the topic. The mayor seems to be moving toward the opinion that the favored solution is not the one he wants. Richard was hopeful that the mayor will eventually get on board.

- Larry added that the November poll had shown 56 percent opposed to 44 percent in favor

of the initiative. This poll showed 56 percent support for a 'Base Program', then there were add-ons, like the 1 percent administrative costs, capital sunset provision, and the like raised support to 65 percent.

- Larry also mentioned that with respect to the fee, voters showed strong support for up to \$10 per month, but it dropped off sharply above that.
- There would be categories of expenditure: Capital, which would sunset in 20 years, O&M which would continue indefinitely, and emergency, which would likewise go on indefinitely.
- Of significance, every demographic category, whether gender, education, income, etc., showed support. No demographic was opposed.

**e. Website.** Mary Barber reported that she is keeping up with posting news articles, the calendar, and such things. She and Jerry Cordova are looking into software upgrades that will support more interactivity. Larry added that he had just paid the hosting bill for another year.

**5. Old Business.** Irene reported that Terry Hart had seen an excellent presentation by Scott Hobson on the sediment collector and the historic Eastside Park project in Pueblo. The May CAG meeting might feature the presentation.

#### **6. New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **8. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**9. Next Meeting.** The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday May 9, 2014 at 9:30 a.m., in the Fountain City Hall, 116 W. Main, second floor meeting room.

#### **10. Adjourn:**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:36 a.m.**

**Post Adjournment.** Nancy Bernard, of the Fountain Nature Center gave an overview of the new facility and content, followed by a walking tour of the park.