

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District
Technical Advisory Committee**

**Draft Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 5, 2014 – 1:00 pm**

Meeting was held at Fountain City Hall
116 S. Main Street
Fountain, CO 80817

- 1. Call to Order**, a quorum was established and meeting called to order at 1:03 p.m.

In attendance were the following designated members of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Technical Advisory Committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
John Chavez,	Chair-El Paso County, Stormwater
Jeff Bailey	City of Pueblo
Tasha Brackin	El Paso County Parks
Pat Coffee	Pueblo County Public Works
Duane Greenwood	City of Fountain
Nancy Keller	Pueblo Wastewater
Rich Muzzy	Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
Fred Williams	US Air Force Academy

Additional members of Watershed District Board/Committees:

Larry Small	Executive Director, Watershed Board of Directors
Irene Kornelly	Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)
Joan Armstrong	Pueblo County Planning/CAG

Members of the audience:

Kim Gourtz	Colorado Springs Utilities
Corey Elliot	FEMA
Greg Langer	NRCS
David Longrie	Colorado Springs Utilities
Dave Mau	USGS

- 2. Approve Agenda:** Mr. Chavez added to the agenda an update from Colorado Springs Utilities regarding work on the Front Range Trail through Clear Spring Ranch. Motion to approve agenda as amended made by Fred Williams, second by Nancy Keller, approved by unanimous vote.
- 3. Approve Minutes:** Request made to amend February 5, 2014 meeting minutes to add Nancy Keller to the attendance list. Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Tasha Brackin, and second from John Chavez, approved by unanimous vote.

4. Reports

a. Governing Board

L. Small provided a brief summary of actions take at the Board meeting:

- Board approved to proceed without a contract on watershed restoration grant activities; contract is in progress; kickoff meetings will be scheduled
- No liabilities will be incurred prior to effective date of contract
- J. Chavez asked about question raised at previous meeting regarding the assignment of alternate members to attend TAC meetings
- L. Small reported that the issue is being researched by Cole Emmons; process appears to be simple amendment to bylaws to authorize alternates;
- Next meeting of Board is March 28th at Fountain City Hall.

b. Citizens Advisory Group

Irene Kornelly reported activities of previous CAG meeting February 14 and Outreach Group meeting February 18th:

- The CAG reviewed two presentations; one from Judith Harrington of Palmer Lake requesting letter of support for a fire mitigation grant and possibly funds to make 25% match (currently have raised \$10,000 themselves);
- Second presentation from Graham Thompson on the Frost Ranch Demonstration Project currently underway
- Outreach group discussed several items including the upcoming childrens' water festival with CSU Pueblo and will do an activity with children using crumpled foil to illustrate what a watershed is
- Next meeting of the CAG is March 14, and the outreach group will meet March 17.
- J. Chavez mentioned that the Graham Thompson presentation on the Frost Ranch Demonstration project has been requested for presentation to the TAC.

c. Updates from Members Regarding Waldo Canyon Flood Prevention Efforts:

- J. Chavez stated that the Watershed has received a funding amendment agreement from NRCS for \$1.9 million for Manitou Springs to carry out phase one of their Williams Canyon Flood debris mitigation effort; in addition \$187,000 for additional technical assistance funds which do not require a match, also for Manitou Springs
- J. Chavez also noted receipt of a funding agreement for September 2013 flooding for \$2 million to cover three emergency projects; should be appropriated by Board toward the end of this month. EPC is sponsor and working with Manitou Springs.
- J. Chavez also noted additional funding for flood mitigation project in Cascade for \$160,000 to do slope stabilization atop Pyramid Mountain
- County to begin work on \$1 million involving 3,000 linear feet of channel stabilization in Cascade using funding with State OEM, to begin in April
- J. Chavez will work with Tim Mitros for joint presentation to Board
- David Mau updated the group about a project being conducted by USGS working with CDOT for Williams Canyon early warning system for Manitou

- d. USGS Alternatives Analysis Final Report:
David Mau gave a presentation of the final report on potential flood mitigation alternatives for the Fountain Creek watershed that were evaluated using an existing model (developed by URS) that measures peak storm events and the impact of mitigation measures upon the watershed sediment load. Ultimate mitigation improvements evaluated in the model effectively reduced sediment load by 56%. He noted that comments provided on the draft report will be provided to individual entities that made the comments. He also stated that copies of the final report will be distributed, and are also available on the website.
- e. Colorado Springs Utilities Update on the Colorado Springs Utilities projects:
 - David Longrie and Kim Gourtz presented an update on two Colorado Springs Utilities projects: a fish diversion ladder to slow velocity and encourage fish to navigate around drop structures; and a segment of the Front Range Trail through Clear Spring Ranch; both projects are in the CSU Master Plan
 - Fish passage ladder design is complete, and currently they are in permitting
 - Construction on the fish diversion should begin in September or October, and will be complete by the end of the year
 - GOCO grant initiative identified the trail and access points as well as the Master Plan; plan to construct four miles of trail that will include educational opportunities; parking areas; interpretive loop to address the watershed and habitat; intent to connect under railroad tracks to reach Old Pueblo Road.
 - Design to be complete by end of February; permitting for low water crossings during spring; summer construction with opening in September for phase one.
 - Phase two trail connections may require additional grant funding.
 - El Paso County Parks is working on a GOCO grant application to pursue the 60-acre Wedgewood Farms property for open space, which will assist in trail connections planned for phase two of this trail project.

5. New Business

- a. Assignment of alternate members (discussion tabled until attorney has completed research; issue will be raised again on April agenda).
- b. Discussion of I-25/Cimarron Interchange: Larry Small gave a summary of the ongoing meetings conducted by CDOT regarding Fountain Creek alignment and associated trails alongside and under the interchange; the current position of CDOT is to leave the creek where it exists rather than relocate it to the north or south of the interchange; the confluence will be widened close to its existing location to develop amenities for public use via America the Beautiful Park.
- c. CSU gave a tour to the Watershed Board of their \$3 million sediment control project under construction in Clear Spring Ranch; a wetland depression area was created and the creek was re-established at its previous location (prior to September flood, at which time its alignment was altered); anticipate an additional tour opportunity will be conducted by CSU; L. Small will advise of upcoming tour date once it is scheduled.

- 6. Other Business**
- 7. Public Comment** – none received.
- 8. Executive Session** (If Required) – none required.
- 9. Set Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting** – April 2, 2014, 1:00, Fountain City Hall
- 10. Adjournment** – motion made by Nancy Keller to adjourn, with second provided by Duane Greenwood; motion carried by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:14 p.m.