

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

**Draft Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, August 7, 2013 – 1:00 pm**

Meetings are open to the public. This meeting will be held at:  
Fountain City Hall  
116 S. Main Street  
Fountain, CO 80817

**1. Call to Order**, attendance and Introductions at 1:10 PM.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Joan Armstrong	Pueblo County, Planning and Devel,
Carol Baker	Colorado Springs Utilities
Dan Bare, P.E., Secretary	City of Colorado Springs, Engineering
John Chavez, Chair	El Paso County, Stormwater
Pat Coffee	Pueblo County Public Works
Duane Greenwood	City of Fountain, Public Works
Jim Heckman	Fountain Sanitation District
Jim Houck	Thomas & Thomas
Nancy Keller, Vice-chair	City of Pueblo
Elaine Kleckner	El Paso County Comm. Serv/Planning
Irene Kornelly	CAG
Larry Small	FCWD, Executive Director
Fred Williams	USAFA

**2. Approve Agenda** for a August 7, 2013 Meeting, unanimously approved by vote

**3. Approve Minutes** of July 3 Meeting, motion to approve as amended was unanimously approved by vote with the following amendments:

- J. Houck needs to be added to the Attendance list.
- N. Keller noted that Fountain Creek should be identified as expected to be temperature listed on the 303d list. (pg 4, Other Business)

**4. Reports**

a. Governing Board

L. Small reported that the Board met July 26<sup>th</sup>. The same USGS study report provided to the TAC was presented by Dave Mau. Also discussed El Paso County 1041 amendments. Two objections were noted by the Board. L. Small presented the objections at the County Commissioners meeting. One was that only the applicant

could appeal, but this had already been revised by the County. The second was a conflict with land use authority within the FCWD's jurisdiction. The Commissioners committed to resolve that issue to be consistent with the Districts authority which controls within the District corridor by state law. The Board also discussed how to present their resolutions addressing proposed funding options. The next Board meeting was schedule for August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 at the Pueblo County court house.

b. Citizens Advisory Group

I. Kornelly reported on the July meeting. (audio recording was faint not allowing full conversation to be documented in writing) CAG discussed the USGS study results. Outreach committee meeting will be on July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup>. The CAG is putting together a budget for 2014 so that funds are available without the delay caused by Board approval. Also discussed having model of the creek to display and communication District plans. This would be something to display in the Pueblo Public Library and similar places. There is a desire to balance efforts between Pueblo and El Paso Counties for creek clean-ups and other events. Discussed getting small \$5-7k grants from the CDPHE. This will require some matching funds, but allows available funds to be increased. Perry Cabot is looking at how grants could be pursued. Next meeting is on August 9<sup>th</sup> at Fountain City Hall. CSU will provide a presentation and there will be a discussion of the 2014 Outreach Plan and possible recommendations regarding the USGS report will be discussed. L. Small noted that he told the Board he will put \$5,000 in the budget for Outreach.

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

J. Chavez provided an update on the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest fires and flood prevention efforts. El Paso Count has hired R. C. Smith as the second fire recovery manager to handle the Waldo Canyon area and Katherine Russell to coordinate the Black Forest fire efforts. J Chavez will continue to be involved. El Paso has hired URS to assist in identifying mitigation efforts. Based on the WARSS study hydrology and priorities were identified. The County is working with Manitou Springs because of recent flooding events, especially in Williams Canyon. The July 12<sup>th</sup> event washed out two houses near the Hwy 24 bridge crossing. One of the house was a complete loss and the other is being assessed. The County will also be working with CUSP and will entering into a contract to reimburse them for their efforts. The County is considering whether this effort could be expanded to the Black Forest area.

The "values at risk" assessment is being completed. A request has been submitted to the State to declare a disaster and make the County eligible for EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection) funding. Based on the "values at risk" assessment mitigation efforts with be identified. Most of the homes are out of the drainageways but several are at risk. The driveway, culverts and roadways are being damaged in addition to the Black Forest Regional Park. The park is closed and all of the structures are at risk. Cost estimates for mitigation will be sent to the State NRCS office for evaluation. After agreement of the mitigation efforts and costs and agreement will be made between the State NRCS and the County and work will begin if funds are available. A visit by the under-secretary Katherine Mills (sp?) for the US Dept. of

Agriculture was held three weeks ago to review flooding event impacts and the effectiveness of the Rosgen mitigation efforts above Flying W Ranch. J. Chavez noted that maintenance of the mitigation efforts will be important. As a sponsor of the EWP funds the County is responsible for maintenance of the structures.

C. Baker asked if there are water quality concerns from the Black Forest area. J. Chavez responded that concerns should not be greater than from the Waldo area. Samples tested by the NRCS from debris in the Waldo area did show the presence of hazardous materials. Because coal burning releases mercury into the atmosphere some pine trees capture this from the environment and this resulted in mercury being detected in the testing. It is fairly easy to violate the standards. The cleanup in Black Forest is being done with debris being placed out of the drainageways.

E. Kleckner noted that potential impact to wells is being assessed since some well heads were damaged.

J. Chavez as reported that the NRCS hydrologist has completed an assessment of expected flows and that Kettle Creek is getting a lot of flow onto the Air Force Academy. There is a lot of erosion associated with this flow.

F. Williams asked if the “values at risk” assessment could be expanded to look downstream. J. Chavez responded that he will ask about that issue. F. Williams noted that the NRCS sited the Kettle Creek pond in the structures at risk list. J. Chavez noted that projects can be added to the list later. F. Williams passed out some photos of the Kettle Creek pond showing sediment accumulation.

D. Bare noted that the City is continuing to assess flooding impact in North and South Douglas Creeks. There is also a study being done to consider alternatives in the Pleasant Valley area in the Camp Creek basin.

d. Fountain Creek Stream Restoration and Realignment Project at Clear Springs Ranch, Alison Moser, CSU –

L. Small noted that the TAC needs to make a recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed project. The recommendation includes options to; approve, approve with comments or disapprove.

A. Moser explained the project location and scope (audio recording was faint not allowing full presentation and discussion to be documented in writing). The project presented was at 90% design. About 3 acres of wetlands will be established. A contractor is involved in the project to provide value engineering and the design will be completed based on their input. CSU is the applicant and Matrix Design Group is the engineer of record with Graham Thompson as the lead. Wildcat Construction is the general contractor. Project is being done under a Nation-wide 27 permit and a “no-rise” floodplain permit is expected to be issued. Substantial completion is February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Operation and maintenance will belong to CSU.

- F. Williams noted that the contractor warranty was for one year and that the 24” riprap seems small. Suggested that a long warranty might be beneficial to see how the rock withstands site conditions. A. Moser responded that designer is comfortable with the size and that the risk was with CSU.
- C. Baker noted that the design for the project will be added to the master plan and that this project was number 5 on the project priority list.
- J. Chavez noted that a construction dewatering permit will be needed. A. Moser acknowledged that this will be part of the permitting process.
- J. Chavez asked if a maintenance plan has been done. A. Moser responded that one is being prepared.
- J. Chavez expressed serious concerns about the size of riprap and the lack of structural support proposed and doubted whether it was adequate. A. Moser offered to have a conversation with the project team to review the design. D. Bare stated that he was not concerned about that size of the rock and that the downstream riffle structure is toed in 18 feet where the project is most vulnerable.
- J. Chavez noted that the wetland area grading was flat and that it should have a “corrugated bottom”. A. Moser noted that there are small depressions in the grading plans.
- J. Chavez expressed concern about the timing of planting and the construction schedule not allowing plants to grow over the winter and in time for substantial completion. A. Moser explained that stabilization measures will be placed such as erosion blankets to stabilize the areas until the wetlands are established.
- J. Chavez asked about the use of “bull rush” and seriously discourage the use of it because it is very aggressive and can overtake the other species within 10 years. A. Moser stated that this would be taken under consideration with the project consultants.
- J. Chavez has also noted that he observes someone working in the channel at times. A. Moser responded that it is Mr. Frost who is cooperating with CSU as a private land owner.
- D. Greenwood asked whether sheet-piling would be beneficial. A. Moser responded that this was considered and may be used temporarily during construction.
- J. Chavez requested a motion: D. Bare motioned to approve the project as proposed, Jim Heckman seconded the motion. The vote passed with one opposing vote by J. Chavez.

## **5. Unfinished Business**

- a. Redefine memberships on Sub-Committee to Review/Discussion on Chapters 1-5 of City of Colorado Springs Drainage Criteria Manual and Spin-Off Projects (to prepare recommendation to the Board regarding District Adoption of DCM)

E. Kleckner and J. Chavez proposed that the Sub-committee reconvene and bring a recommendation back to the TAC for discussion. J. Chavez will contact R. Muzzy to discuss organizing a meeting with D. Bare, R. Muzzy, J. Armstrong, and J. Chavez.

- b. Redefine membership on Sub-Committee to create District Land Use Review Checklist.

J. Chavez noted that the sub-committee is not necessary he is working on getting the checklist finalized and will report back at the next TAC meeting.

- c. Define team approach to review USGS Study – A sub-committee of D. Bare, J. Chavez, R. Muzzy and J. Heckman will meet to compile review comments and provide them to L. Small to be incorporated into the letter to the USGS.

## **6. Other Business**

J. Chavez reported that he contact Fort Carson about a replacement on the TAC for Ms. Frank and that he was told to send information to Mr. D'Argullara (sp?) since they do not expect a replacement to be named for at least 3 to 4 months.

L. Small noted that the Wedgewood Farm Preserves Properties GOCO Open Space grant application is being submitted. The Board has approved a \$25,000 matching contribution with Pueblo County providing an additional matching amount of \$55,000. The grant will be submitted on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The request is for \$560,000 to purchase the property for open space which will be combined with the County's 16.2 acres.

L. Small reported that the side-detention substitute water supply plan was approved by the Office of the State Engineer. This could provide a "base-line" for future side-detention projects. This will require some minor acre-feet per year augmentation based on consumptive use. Consideration is being given to sponsoring legislation that would provide clear rules on how these projects could be augmented.

**7. Public Comment** – None made

**8. Executive Session** (If Required) – none required

**9. Set Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting** – September 4, 2013, 1:00, Fountain City Hall

**10. Adjournment** : Meeting was adjourned by consensus at about 3:00PM.