

**Coal Creek Watershed Coalition**  
**Board of Director's and Steering Committee Meeting**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: December 8, 2010, 4:00 PM**

**Time: Town Hall in Crested Butte**

**Attendance:** Anthony Poponi, Nicki Devanny, Mike O'Loughlin, Robin Wehmeyer, Rodney Due, Steve Glazer

A sign-up sheet was passed around to record attendance.

Announcements: Both newspapers will be including stories related to the Mt. Emmons Project this week.

1. Diversion Structure Redesign - Preliminary Design and Cost Estimates (4:05 - 4:42)

Jeff Crane came to report on his designs and costs to reconstruct the Halazon and McCormick ditches to make them more efficient and to avoid seasonal maintenance.

The objective of the redesign for the Halazon Ditch is to move the existing barrier and install a new structure needing less maintenance. The current barrier will be replaced with a non-intrusive low head diversion made up of four foot diameter boulders with three inches exposed above the channel floor to prevent head-cutting (a hole that erodes upstream). The design was created at a low flow of five cfs, high flow was anticipated for by creating as low a head as possible and calculating sheer stress based on density of the rock, allowing the design to hold up in high flow. Currently there is no grouting in the design plans, Jeff designed the structure far enough below the channel that grouting should not be needed. In September there will be low enough flows that the diversion can be built right in river, there would be no need to build a coffer dam to get into the stream. Rodney said the town will provide in-kind donations of equipment, and will check to see if town has boulders to use as well. Another cost that may be necessary to include in the funding requests is an excavator with a hammer in case they hit bedrock. The budget numbers do anticipate a large track hoe with a thumb, but preliminary research needs to be done to find where the bedrock begins.

**BUDGET:** Preliminary costs total \$21,821. We need to add a line item for construction oversight. These numbers do not include in-kind service, so a lot of these numbers could be brought down. Before we submit the grant for this project, the numbers need to be revised.

The McCormick ditch plans are similar to that of the Halazon, but will require narrowing of the channel and reconstructing a peninsula with riparian plantings. The diversion will include filter fabric with  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch gravel and a bed of willows, this will allow the willows to migrate up through the rocks and encourage growth. The designs use logs as toe structures on both banks, and behind the logs there will be more riparian plantings. This design is 95 ft long, and avoids property owners who have specified they will not allow

access through their property.

BUDGET: Preliminary costs total \$30,234. Again, these costs do not include in-kind match. This design is slightly more expensive due to the plants. The Town views this diversion as equal priority to the Halazon ditch. For their in-kind donations they would prefer not to have both diversions redesigned in the same year due to limited staff and financial resources.

Jeff Crane and Associates have designed eight irrigation diversions in the Gunnison and North Fork basins that have all been successful. CCWC would like to submit these plans to the Colorado Water Fund grant that is due in January.

**Steve moved to approve the design and reconstruction of the Halazon ditch diversion submitted by Jeff Crane and Associates, and to have Anthony submit a grant to the Colorado Watershed Restoration Program for this project. Robin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## 2. Slate River Watershed Plan Update (4:42 – 5:29)

There has been no specific ask of CCWC to take on the Slate River project, but there is some expectation of individual members involvement in this group. Anthony talked with Lucia Machado who believes the NPS 319 grant application would be stronger if CCWC was the fiscal sponsor, instead of the Colorado Watershed Assembly. This means CCWC would be the responsible entity for the fiscal needs, oversight and administration of the Slate River Stakeholders. They will be requesting approximately \$70,000 from this grant with less than 10% of which would be for administration. We need to decide if we have the capacity for this. It is agreed CCWC must consult with Harvey Castro, who as the treasurer would help manage the funds and distribute payments. The grant works on a reimbursement basis, and CCWC would have a responsibility to spend money to cover grant expenses before the grant money is received. They have already established startup funds from CTU (\$2,000) and DRMS (\$15,000), this would help cover the delay for expense reimbursement. Anthony is still unsure of his individual commitment, we need to consider the possibility of hiring another person for this work. Other potential sources for funds could come from the Forest Service Resource Advisory Council or the NRCS farm bill would provide a 75/25 match. Steve is willing to commit to being the coordinator of this group. We need to consider the conflict of interest in going after the same grants. Currently there is no conflict. It would be best to merge groups as one, instead of separate competing groups, and the Slate River Stakeholders could be a sub-committee of CCWC. By making them a committee, we don't have to go through the name change.

**Steve moved, conditioned on Harvey's agreement, to approve being the fiscal agent for the NPS 319 grant for Slate River Stakeholders by forming a sub-committee within the CCWC.**

## 3. By-Law Revision (5:29 - 5:38)

This topic will be postponed to January. A new revised copy will be sent out, with

particular attention to our mission and bylaws to add subcommittees as needed.

4. Board Recruitment – Presentation of Matrix and Initial Findings (5:38 – 5:46)

There are a couple gaps in the board matrix that was developed. The significant gaps being board development and fundraising. Additional accounting expertise would be helpful on the board as well to help with fiscal management of grants. We will be losing Robin as the informal head of the technical committee. She still plans on participating in the field helping with outdoor volunteer work. We will put an ad in the paper to solicit new Board members. It will advertise a vacancy on our Board, along with what the expectations are.

5. Strategic Planning Update (5:46 – 6:04)

We would like to focus on strategies and identify specific goals, with a facilitator which would allow everyone to be subjective. The Board believes we do not need a facilitator for this. Instead they would like Anthony to draft a strategic plan to review, and then board members will lead separate parts of the discussion. We will need someone to help specifically with developing our fundraising strategies. Anthony asked to delay this discussion until after the Board has seen a proposal from Janice Welborn to see if it changes their thoughts on whether a facilitator is needed or not.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04.

**Next Meeting Date: January 26, 2011 at 4PM**