

Coal Creek Watershed Coalition

MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2009 4:00-5:30PM

Crested Butte Town Hall

Attendees: Steve Glazer, Mike O'Loughlin, Harvey Castro, Wendy Brown, Kimberly Kidd, Richard Stenson, Steve Bogott, Anthony Poponi, Tara Tafi

Housekeeping

4:00 Signup Sheet and In-Kind Reporting

4:00 – 4:05 Announcements

1. Harvey announced that the Coal Creek Watershed Coalition (CCWC) received a tax-exempt certificate for purchases.
2. Steve Glazer announced that High Country Citizens' Alliance lawsuit against the Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety (DRMS) was not dismissed and will move forward with an evidentiary hearing.
3. The Water Quality Monitoring Report is being reviewed by Mike O'Loughlin and will head to the printer after his edits are incorporated.
4. The CCWC will make a presentation to Town Council on June 15th at 6PM.
5. The DRMS will present to the County Commissioners on June 16th at 11:40AM.

4:05 – 4:10 Approval of Minutes – Steve Glazer motioned to approve the minutes from the April and May meetings. Harvey Castro seconded the motion which was approved unanimously without abstentions

4:10 – 4:15 Additions to the Agenda

Agenda Items

1. Treasurer's Report (4:15 – 4:20)

Harvey reported the CCWC bank account had an approximate balance of \$6,500 to date.

2. Tracer Study Discussion (4:20 – 4:30)

At a previous Standard Mine Technical Advisory Group meeting the attendees decided to request a price from Dr. Joseph Ryan to complete the two tracer studies he started. In the request Anthony asked for Dr. Ryan to identify a staff person who would do the work and when we can expect delivery. If Dr. Ryan indicated he could not complete the work we would like to receive the data. Anthony had not received a response at the time of the meeting.

Anthony will follow-up with Dr. Ryan to let him know we are moving forward with finding someone to analyze the data.

3. Stormwater BMP Study Update (4:30 – 4:45)

Anthony indicated the consultants were continuing to determine sampling locations and the specific BMPs to be installed. Dr. Kevin Alexander was helping determine what analyses would be required and was working with Dale Orth of Western State College on the chemical analyses.

To date, two locations were identified for potential study. The reach of Coal Creek upstream of Splains Gulch and a section through Evans basin were being considered, with BMPs to be determined.

4. Forest Queen Mine Update (4:45 – 5:00)

Sixty-five batteries were removed from the Forest Queen Mine with assistance from Wendy Brown, Mark Hatcher, Steve Bogott, Anthony Poconi, and Jalene Szuba. Anthony indicated that sediment sampling would be conducted at the site in the next couple of weeks. These projects were funded by the DRMS.

Anthony announced that Ross Metler will be serving as a second Summer Associate for the CCWC. His project will focus on determining waste pile volumes estimates and he will also support other projects going on in the watershed.

Tara Tafi is developing a hole closure project for Crested Butte and could possibly include some aspects of the Forest Queen Mine in that project. Some cleanup of debris could be included in this project. She will keep the CCWC informed of her efforts.

5. Office Space in Crested Butte (5:00 – 5:10)

Anthony indicated office space is available in the Old Town Hall building on Third Street. The rent is \$150 monthly with all utilities included, with the exception of internet and telephone service (these additional services would cost approximately \$120 a month). The CCWC will also need to provide some office equipment for staff.

Tara suggested Anthony call the Colorado State Forest Service which might offer free office space in Gunnison. Steve Glazer suggested we request the space from the Town for two months for free to determine if we really need office space.

6. Water Workshop Sponsorship (5:10 – 5:15)

The advisory committee determined the cost was too expensive for this sponsorship and would prefer instead to use booth space offered by other organizations for newsletters.

7. Water Wise Program Update (5:15 – 5:20)

Approximately 20 people attended the Water Wise Workshop held on May 28th. Dr. Jerry Frank and Krista Hildebrandt provided an introduction to non-point source pollution and sensible irrigation practices. Amy Weinfurter setup a booth at the Post Office and was able to secure 50 “kit” participants who will receive the kits.

Amy organized the donation and/or secured wholesale prices for the kit's contents, which will include environmentally friendly products and will also include free soil nutrient analysis or an irrigation audit. Amy and Arin will be getting the kits together and delivering them in the near future

8. Additional Agenda Items (5:20 – 5:30)

Steve Glazer requested an update on the Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) Study the CCWC is coordinating with Gunnison County Environmental Health Department. Richard Stenson indicated he was waiting on finalization of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two entities. The letter to be sent to the homeowners has been prepared and the County is ready to move forward with the project but is awaiting the finalization of the MOU. Richard will email Anthony and Mike the MOU and Mike will attempt to draft a MOU over the weekend.

Adjourn - Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 8th, 2009 at 4:00 PM