

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

**Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2014**

The meeting was held at:  
City of Fountain, City Hall  
116 S. Main Street, 2nd Floor  
Fountain, CO

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

The January 10, 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  
John Chavez – TAC Chair and Representative to the CAG  
Mary Barber – FCWD Web Manager  
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary  
Jerry Cordova  
Dan Henrichs  
Tom Ready  
Ross Vincent  
Lois Illick

CAG Members not present:

Perry Cabot – Vice Chairperson  
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board  
Carol Baker  
Jordan Vana  
Nancy Bernard

Also in attendance:

Terry Hart, Pueblo County Commissioner  
Larry Small, Executive Director Fountain Creek Watershed District  
Murkel Mansell, Right of Way Manager, CenturyLink  
Elaine Kleckner, El Paso Community Services and Parks

**2. Approve Agenda of January 10, 2014 Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the January 10, 2014 Agenda was approved.**

**3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the November 8, 2013 Minutes were approved.**

**4. Presentation: CenturyLink Land Use Application – Mr. Murkell Mansell.** Mr. Mansell presented a data package documenting CenturyLink’s application to cross the Fountain Creek corridor for a fiber communications line. The location is on the north side of Pace Road, south of the old Piñon Truck Stop. CenturyLink will use directional boring, crossing under the creek bed at an approximate depth of 18 feet. No above-ground facilities will be placed within the floodplain. Two CAG recommendations for approval were needed for this application, one for the FCWD Board, the second to Pueblo County for those portions outside of the actual corridor.

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG voted to recommend approval of the CenturyLink Land Use Application to the Fountain Creek Watershed District Board of Directors.**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG voted to recommend approval of the CenturyLink Land Use Application to Pueblo County.**

## **5. Reports**

**a. Governing Board Meeting.** Larry Small reported on the December 13 meeting of the FCWD Governing Board.

- The Board approved the 2014 budget, the largest in the history of the District, approximately \$561,000 of revenue expected.
- Revenue is comprised of three grants and represented government contributions.
- Additional funding may come from SDS, but Pueblo County has not yet approved that payment. The SDS payment would add another \$291,000 to the 2014 revenue. Larry expects approval by Pueblo County prior to the next Board meeting.
- Larry said that with our current funds, the District will have enough to operate through all of next year, 2015.
- The Board ratified the grant application to the Colorado Water Conservation Board special grant fund announced at the end of October.
- The District received \$175,000, matched by the four coalition partners. El Paso County provided \$25,000, the District \$25,000, Colorado Springs \$100,000, Colorado Springs Utilities \$25,000, Pikes Peak Regional Building Commission \$37,500, with in kind contributions from variety of partners including Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, and CUSP.
- The grant and matching funds will pay for a restoration master plan for the Upper Fountain creek and Cheyenne Creek watersheds.
- Of significance, this will be an actionable plan with projects & budgets to mitigate the damage from the September/October 2013 storms. This is the largest grant the District has received directly; the \$2.5M GOCO grant did not go to the district *per se*. [0.15.20]
- Richard Skorman pointed out that the grant had a very short turn-around deadline and Larry worked tirelessly, including weekends and other personal time, to get the application in and approved.

**b. TAC Meeting. John Chavez reported on the January TAC meeting.**

- John was pleased to report that the TAC actually had a meeting in January, the first at which a quorum was attained since September.
- The TAC reviewed and approved the CenturyLink land use application.
- There was a discussion on TAC membership, due to the difficulty of getting a quorum. A motion was made and approved to change the TAC membership from 17 members to 14.
- A motion was also made to delay election of officers until February.
- The USGS Report is in their final approval process and should be released by January 31. [0.22.30]

**c. Outreach Group.** Irene Kornelly announced that the next meeting of the Outreach Group will be January 13 in the downstairs conference room of Fountain City Hall.

- The group has a \$5,000 budget for the year. That figure could potentially be doubled through small grants, using our cash as matching funds.
- Although Perry Cabot is no longer with the CAG, having been transferred to Montrose, he has been and will continue to be instrumental in the application for a small CDPHE educational grant.

**d. [0.23.50] Pikes Peak Runoff and Flood Control Task Force (AKA Pikes Peak Regional Stormwater Taskforce).**

- Both the city of Colorado Springs and El Paso County have completed their review of stormwater project needs, with both figures coming close to the original estimates after accounting for completed projects, etc.
- Richard Skorman reported that Mayor Bach has called a meeting on January 16 which with the El Paso County commissioners, the Taskforce, and other players. Among agenda items is the CH2M Hill study of county needs.
- A professional, scientific poll of 400 watershed residents found that nearly 80 percent thought stormwater should be addressed, and a majority thought it needed a regional solution. Taskforce members were encouraged to see the poll reflected their positions, and it should strengthen their hand for the meeting with the mayor.
- Richard added that the CH2M Hill report was only focused on the ‘old list’, and did not include potential, new stormwater needs generated by the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest fires, nor the Cheyenne Creek flooding.
- Richard also felt that the mayor’s proposed funding for stormwater projects was inadequate, by far. The funding mechanism (retiring/repurposing SCIP bonds) is also inadequate.
- A discussion ensued over the many complexities and intricacies of the topic. It’s anticipated there will be a ballot question in the November election.

**e. Website.** Mary Barber and Jerry Cordova are working on the website and resolving issues, making good progress.

- Mary asked CAG members to forward reports, studies, media articles, etc., for inclusion into
- Jerry added that the software should have capabilities to record visitor statistics, such as average time spent on site, the parts that were clicked on, etc., all of which can be implemented as work progresses.

**6. Current Business**

**a. 2014 CAG Membership changes.**

- Carol Baker has asked to be replaced by Allison Plute, also of Colorado Springs Utilities.
- Nancy Bernard cannot continue due to her workload, and Elaine Kleckner of El Paso Community Services and Parks has agreed to take Nancy’s place.
- Perry Cabot has moved to Montrose so we need someone from Pueblo to replace him. Irene asked CAG members to think of potential candidates from Pueblo.
- John Chavez will continue as long as he is chair of the TAC. In the event a new Chair is selected, that person will decide whether to represent the TAC at CAG meetings or to appoint a representative.
- Irene asked CAG for motions to recommend Allison Plute and Elaine Kleckner for membership in the CAG.

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG voted to recommend approval of Allison Plute and Elaine Kleckner for membership in the CAG.**

- Irene will prepare a nomination for Allison and Elaine for the Board’s approval.

**b. Election of Officers for 2014.**

**Upon nomination duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the CAG voted to elect Irene Kornelly as CAG Chair.**

**Upon nomination duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the CAG voted to elect Jerry Cordova as CAG Vice Chair.**

**Upon nomination duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the CAG voted to elect Jack Wallick as CAG Secretary.**

**c. Approve Compliance with the Colorado Sunshine Law**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG voted to comply with the Colorado Sunshine Law.**

**7. Other Business.**

- Irene reported that Nancy Bernard has offered the Fountain Creek Nature Center for a future CAG meeting, to include a tour of the Center. Irene will determine an appropriate month for that meeting.
- Larry reported that Matrix Engineering has prepared four alternate construction designs for the Frost Ranch mitigation project, with a contractor to be selected this month. The District will use the design-build approach, with the contractor having major input to the final design. Larry expects to present the final design in February. Work is to be completed by July. [0.54.30]
- With regard to the 3-D watershed model in Cascade, Irene reported that Elaine had indicated an interest in the model. The Fountain Creek Nature Center may be able to temporarily host the model. The thought was expressed that we may not want to move it twice.
- Elaine handed out floor plans of the expanded nature center and described concepts for exhibits.
- Irene reported that the Colorado Historical Society Museum has an excellent water display, focused, of course, on Denver's watershed.

**8. Public Comment.** There were no Public Comments.

**9 Next Meeting.** The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday February 14, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., Fountain City Hall.

**10. Adjourn:**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40 a.m.**