

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District
Citizens Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2012**

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 13, 2012 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed Citizens Advisory Group (“CAG”) was called to order by Chairperson, Mr Terry Hart, at approximately 9:35am. In attendance were the following designated members of the CAG:

Terry Hart – Chairperson	Vice Chairperson – Irene Kornelly
Mary Barber	Tom Ready
Dan Henrichs	Dieter Erdmann
Ross Vincent	
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board	
Richard Skorman – CAG Representative to the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (“FCWD”) Governing Board	

Members not present:

David Kinnischtzke	Eva Montoya
Gary Barber	Dennis Maroney
Carol Baker	

Mr Larry Small, Executive Director, and Ms Elaine Kleckner, newly appointed Chair, Technical Advisory Committee and designated CAG member also attended.

A quorum was noted.

2. Approve Agenda of January 13, 2012 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the January 13, 2012 agenda was approved.

3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the December 9, 2011 minutes were approved.

4. Reports

a. Governing Board Meeting. The Governing Board met December 16th at the Pueblo County Courthouse. Agenda included:

- Public hearings on 2011 budget amendment and the 2012 budget; both were approved.
- FY12 operating budget: \$37,500.00 (salary, audit, expenses)

- FY12 grant writing: \$30,000.00
- Year-end balance: General Fund, \$109,000.00
- Year-end balance: Restricted Funds, \$304,000.00

-Board approved THK preparation of the Great Outdoors Colorado (“GOCO”) grant not to exceed \$25,000; submittal due to GOCO by March 16th.

-New Board members announced: Ms Brandy Williams, representing Colorado Springs with Tim Leigh as Alternate; and Ms Marci Morrison, Manitou Springs, representing Small Municipalities as Alternate.

-The FCWD Board annual meeting plus the regular board meeting will be January 20, 2012.

b. TAC Meeting. Ms Elaine Kleckner gave the following Technical Advisory Committee (“TAC”) report.

-Ms Kleckner, El Paso County, will be the Committee Chairperson and TAC representative on the CAG. Mr Rich Muzzy, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (“PPACG”), will be the Vice Chair. Mr Rich Mulledy, City of Pueblo, will be Secretary.

-Ms Allison Mosser, Colorado Springs Utilities (“CSU”), gave an update on the Southern Delivery System (“SDS”) project. CSU anticipates coming back around May to present for approval the portions of the project within the FCWD land use jurisdiction.

-The TAC also had a robust discussion of potential flood control alternatives for the U.S. Geological Survey (“USGS”) study. Follow on discussions will take place on January 18th at 2:00pm at the PPACG.

-A new TAC member will be recommended to the Board for approval: Ms Julie Ann Woods, Pueblo County Director of Planning. Other individuals have also expressed interest in becoming TAC members.

-Ms Frost reported that she asked the TAC members about their interest in oil and gas exploration and development activities in the area. The TAC acknowledged that there may be ground and surface water impacts in the watershed, but Ms Kleckner explained the sense of the Committee to be that oil and gas activities will be occurring outside the Board’s area of primary focus (which is the floodplain between Fountain and Pueblo) and so it is not currently a priority. Also, other projects the TAC is working on take precedence (e.g. USGS study and project review procedures). Mr Small mentioned that the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County have established task forces to look into the matter. The entities will be considering whether regulation will be appropriate. State statutes do not restrict oil and gas exploration based on land use. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) regulate environmental impacts. Mr Small recommended monitoring the situation. As things evolve and if any threats to the watershed emerge, the FCWD could get involved.

-Further CAG questions, comments and discussion about hydraulic fracturing (Item 5.i, “Fracking” under Current Business) concerned the existence and adequacy of baseline monitoring; intermittent stream monitoring by EPA; reviewing El Paso County draft regulations available on the Development Services website; understanding what other entities in the State have done around the issue; and, staying aware of activities in the watershed.

-A recommendation was made to form a subcommittee of the CAG. The subcommittee would keep abreast of activities in the watershed and learn about what other communities are doing in order to figure out the District’s roles and make recommendations on the need for future action(s).

-Mr Ready expressed his opinion that the TAC would be better equipped to take the lead since fracking is a technical matter. Other members thought it would be appropriate for the CAG to address the matter as a citizen’s issue. After further discussion about current TAC

emphasis and involvements in several other technical and regulatory matters, the CAG took an action to recommend formation of a subcommittee.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried (10 For, 1 Against), the CAG recommends for Board approval establishment of a subcommittee of the CAG to learn about and stay abreast of oil and gas exploration and development within the watershed and advise the District as appropriate .

-Ms Frost, Ms Kornelly and Mr Vincent volunteered to form the oil and gas subcommittee. Ms Kornelly requested members send information to them on the topic as it comes up.

-The documentary “Gaslands” will be shown at the First United Methodist Church at 6:30pm on January 20th.

c. Topics for 2012 (From Item 5.g “Current Business”): Mr Skorman asked to address the topic of waterway-related discussions by the [Colorado Springs] Mayor’s Park Solutions Team. Mr Small stated that he represents the District on the Team, which is coming up with ideas for making Monument Creek a feature through the downtown area of Colorado Springs (from Colorado College to America the Beautiful Park). THK has a contract to conceptualize the area. The timeline for creek improvements has not been determined. Funding has not been identified. Several groups are involved, e.g. Downtown Partnership and Downtown Development Authority. Other organizations like the Regional Transportation Authority and Trails and Open Space may also have proposals that could affect the area near the Creek. The CAG members discussed inviting presentations about Monument Creek, learning the entities involved, and touring the area for general awareness of the location and proposals.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval that it enjoin the CAG to become aware of proposed improvements on Monument Creek, be involved in the conversation about such activities and advise the Board as appropriate.

d. Outreach Group. Ms Kornelly reported the following in addition to related items already discussed.

-The Group reaffirmed its 2012 goal to improve the overall awareness of the Creek by leveraging GOCO projects, the Summit Economics report, Fountain Creek Trust, and the USGS study.

-Outreach would like to be part of the Colorado Water 2012 initiative.

-The Group intends to maintain awareness of planning studies in the downtown area on Monument Creek (previously discussed), studies around the Venetucci Ranch area, projects associated with SDS and the new drainage criteria.

-The group is moving forward with an adopt-a-waterway effort. A small amount of funding will be needed for signs, trash bags and haul away.

-GOCO liked the concept submitted for the grant. The full application will be due in mid-March.

-Potential projects include an event at America the Beautiful Park and something with herons at Clear Springs Ranch.

-Another meeting date has not been set.

5. Current Business

- a. Re-Appointment of CAG Members and**
- b. New Members**

A list of ten members interested in reappointment was distributed. Ms Kleckner will be added as the TAC representative. Members lost: Dennis Maroney, Sally Miller, Eva Montoya, David Kinnischtzke and Gary Barber. The final list (11 plus replacement for Ms Montoya) will be presented to the Board for approval next week. The CAG will continue to look at stakeholder representation, seek additional people and try for an odd number for voting sake.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval the list of members interested in reappointment plus a replacement for Ms Montoya, with additional members to be added as appropriate to include, but not limited to, a landowner along Fountain Creek.

- c. Election of Officers for 2012**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval the following slate of officers: Mr Terry Hart, Chairperson; Ms Irene Kornelly, Vice Chairperson; and Ms Mary Barber, Secretary.

- d. CAG District Board Representative**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval Mr Richard Skorman as the CAG representative to the District Board.

e. 2012 CAG Meeting Schedule. Mr Hart presented a draft schedule based on discussion at the last meeting. The CAG will continue to meet on the 2nd Friday of the month. October – March meetings will be held in Fountain. Tours around the watershed are desirable. Based on earlier discussion concerning Monument Creek in the downtown Colorado Springs area, a recommendation was made to swap the Colorado Springs meeting to April and the Monument meeting to October.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval the draft schedule with the April meeting to be held in Colorado Springs and the October meeting in Monument.

- f. Designation of Public Place for Posting of Meeting Notices & Agendas**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG recommends for Board approval to retain posting locations as previously designated in El Paso County and Pueblo County.

g. Topics for 2012. Action taken under Item 4.c. above. Mr Hart will keep ‘topics for 2012’ on future agendas. Ms Barber will provide a copy of the FCWD Strategic Plan spreadsheet for reference. Topics suggested for the February meeting were an update on the status of the sediment removal system and a presentation by the U.S. Air Force Academy on storm water issues.

h. Website Working Group: Status Report/Feedback. Mr Jeff Besse, Colorado Springs Utilities, volunteered to bring the website up to date. Though not much has happened as yet, Mr Besse is collecting information for posting. The District statute, adopted procedures and other official documents should be posted. The Outreach Group will continue to bring recommendations to the full CAG.

i. Fracking: Action taken under item 4.b “TAC Report”.

6. Other Business: None

7. Public Comment: None

8. Executive Session: None Required

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CAG meeting will be February 10th, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20am.