

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District
Citizens Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2012**

The meeting was held at:
Clear Springs Ranch,
Fountain, CO

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions

The September 14, 2012 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed Citizens Advisory Group (“CAG”) was called to order by Chairperson, Mr Terry Hart, at approximately 9:40 am. In attendance were the following designated members of the CAG:

Terry Hart – Chairperson	Carol Baker
Irene Kornelly – Vice Chairperson	Jack Wallick
Elaine Kleckner	Tom Ready
Dan Henrichs	
Ross Vincent	
Richard Skorman – CAG Representative to the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (“FCWD”) Governing Board	
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board	

Members not present:

Mary Barber	Vance Clifton
Dieter Erdmann	Yvette Valdez-Trujillo

Guests:

Larry Small, Executive Director for the FCWFCGD

A quorum was present.

2. Approve Agenda of September 14, 2012 Meeting

The September 14, 2012 agenda was accepted.

3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

The minutes of the July 13, 2012 and August 10, 2012 meetings were approved as published.

4. Reports

a. Governing Board Meeting. Mr. Small reported on the Governing Board meeting held on August 24th in Pueblo.

- Unanimously approved a letter to the Trust for Public Lands requesting technical assistance, guidance and polling concerning the potential for a mil levy ballot initiative at a future date.
- The Governing Board approved membership in the Colorado Special District Association. The benefits include education, support and legal advice. At the same time the Board approved liability insurance that can be purchased through the association.

- The next Board meeting will be held on September 28th at 1:00 pm at Fountain City Hall.

b. TAC Meeting. Ms Kleckner reported on the Technical Advisory Committee (“TAC”). In addition to the regular business of the TAC, the group discussed the following:

- Waldo Canyon recovery and mitigation effort.
- Continued to follow-up from the policy workshop and develop policies for storm water management.
- Continued the review of the Colorado Springs Drainage Criteria Manual as it is applicable to the District.
- The development of land use application review procedures for adoption and use by the District.

c. Outreach Group. The Group has not met during the summer.

- The consensus of the CAG was that the group needed to continue with its activities including Adopt-a-Creek. Members discussed watershed awareness, education and the need for continuing community presence on behalf of the District.
- Mr. Small regularly gives presentations about the District through El Paso and Pueblo Counties. This briefing is available to anyone on the CAG if they need to make a presentation.
- Ms. Baker brought up that the Greenway Fund is developing an education piece.
- Mr. Small indicated that some of the storm water issues would begin to gel around the first of 2013 and there will be a better direction for the Outreach Group at that time. A motion was made and seconded that the Outreach Group should meet prior to Thanksgiving, but after the election to prepare organizational structure prior to January 2013. The motion passed 5-4.

d. Oil and Gas Exploration Subcommittee. A draft report of the Oil and Gas Subcommittee report was given to the District Chair. The report has been referred to the District’s legal counsel to address some of the issues presented in the report. The CAG subcommittee will continue to wait and watch developments in both El Paso County and the City of Colorado Springs. Some time ago, the District sent a letter to other land use entities to clarify the types of projects for referral. It may be appropriate to clarify with other jurisdictions the District’s interest in reviewing projects related to oil and gas activity in the watershed.

e. Website Working Group. The CAG needs to communicate with Mr Besse about information we would like to see on the website.

5. Current Business

a. Waldo Canyon Burn Runoff Concerns

- A task force has been organized by El Paso County Sheriff Terry Maketa. Mr. Small indicated that the District will participate in the task force. He will also invite someone from the task force to speak at a CAG meeting.
- One of the issues of greatest concern is mitigation in the burn area. 80% of the burn area is federal property or open space and therefore not under the jurisdiction of the county, but the National Forest Service. Air drops of re-vegetation material are on-going.

- Run-off from the burn area is still black ash. Water quality data has not been taken of the run-off water. However, housing debris is not going into Colorado Springs waste water facility. Debris is being removed and land-filled.

b. Regional Stormwater Task Force: Ms. Baker reported on the Regional Stormwater Task Force. The task force will consist of three groups: elected officials, business leaders and citizens. Each group will be assigned to look at the Stormwater funding needs (including operations and maintenance), scrub of all budgets to look for additional dollars, define the magnitude of the problem and develop public messages to address the problem, suggest ways to find a sustainable source of dollars over the long term. Phase I of the task force will conclude their work by the first week of January 2013. The kick-off meeting will be held at the City Administration Building on September 27th at 1:00 pm. The District Board needs to decide on their level of participation in the task force.

c. Expansion of Fountain Creek Nature Center. Todd Marts from El Paso County gave the CAG a presentation on the expansion of the Fountain Creek Nature Center. This is one of the projects under the GOCO River Corridors Initiative Grant. The GOCO grant provided the county with sufficient dollars to begin construction, but the county would like to expand the project to include a greater educational component to the expanded building. Their goal is to raise an additional \$150,000 for exhibit design and implementation. The expansion will allow for larger school groups and public organizations. The county plans to have the facility completed by mid-2013. Ms. Baker suggested that the Greenway Fund may be a vehicle for helping to raise some of these dollars.

6. Other Business:

Mr. Small indicated that the District's attorneys are in the process of drafting a ballot initiative for the District to focus on. This would not be presented to the public for vote until November 2014. The Board also needs to come up with a plan to fund the District in the interim.

Mr. Ready asked about erosion as a result of recent flooding along Fountain Creek. He asked about the potential of anchoring old hay bales in the stream as a demonstration project. This has apparently been done in the Colorado State Parks system. Mr. Small will discuss this with Graham Thompson when he meets with him in the next week.

Ms. Jane Green has received permission from the Corps of Engineers to stabilize the banks of the creek through her property.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Executive Session: None Required

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CAG meeting will be October 12, 2012, 9:30am, at Fountain City Hall.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 am.