

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

**Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2016**

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 July 8, 2016 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Irene Kornelly, Chair, at 9:34 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following CAG members in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chair
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary
Mary Barber – FCWD Web Manager
Lisa Godwin
Ian Hartley
Allison Plute
Amber Shanklin

CAG Members not present:

Duane Greenwood – TAC Representative
Dana Nordstrom
Tom Ready
Richard Skorman - CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board
Ross Vincent – Vice Chair

Also in attendance:

Jeff Bailey, Manager Pueblo Stormwater
Terry Hart, Pueblo County Commissioner
Roy Heald, General Manager Security Water and Sanitation Department
Larry Small, Executive Director – Fountain Creek Watershed District
Dian White, Assistant Manager Pueblo Stormwater

2. Approve Agenda of July 8, 2016 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the July 8, 2016 agenda was approved.

3. Approve Minutes of June 10, 2016 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the June 10, 2016 minutes were approved.

4. Presentations:

- a. Emerging Contaminants in the Security Water Supply, Roy Heald, Security Water and Sanitation**

Irene prefaced the presentation by noting that the problem of PFCs/PFOAs is not limited to just the Security-Widefield-Fountain area. The Department of Defense is aware more than 600 sites where there may be significant contamination by these perfluorinated chemicals. PFCs were used in fire fighting foams from the 70s until mid 90s, including at Peterson Air Force Base. The health impacts were not known at that time. Today these compounds are pervasive in our society and are found almost everywhere, and are not regulated by the state. They can be found in the blood of virtually everyone in the country and are widely used in food packaging.

Roy began with a history of Security Water and Sanitation Districts.

- The districts were formed in 1954.
 - The districts had a population of 19,000 people or 7,500 taps.
 - They are the oldest special districts in El Paso County and among the oldest in the state.
 - They have an elected board of directors, and have many of the powers of government, such as the ability to tax, eminent domain, etc.
- Roy emphasized that Security and Widefield are often spoken of together, but each is a separate governmental entity.
- There are three distinct sources of water used in Security.
 - The wells that were the original source of water for Security.
 - Fountain Valley Authority water came on line in 1985.
 - SDS water is now available as well.
- There were about 25 wells in use before January 14, when Security learned of the health effects and widespread contamination by PFCs. January 15 they closed seven of the wells. Fountain Valley Authority and SDS water are making up the loss.
- Roy is confident that water provided by Security was compliant with the health advisory. Although four wells tested above the level of PFC in the health advisory, that water was mixed with Fountain Valley Authority water to a degree that the PFC concentrations would have been sufficiently lowered.
- May 19 the EPA revised the health advisory from 0.4 ppb for PFOA and 0.2 ppb for PFOS to 0.07 ppb, or 70 parts per trillion combined. Roy emphasized that although regulations are made following hearings with regard to financial and technological impact of the change, in the case of a health advisory, as in this instance, no such considerations are made.
- Security is using much more SDS water than anticipated, so costs are higher, resulting in the district currently paying more for water than it is selling it for. However, as fall and winter approach, demand will drop, and the financial picture will improve. Seeking financial relief from the Defense Department and having viable treatment options for contaminated wells will help, but will likely be slow, bureaucratic processes. Next summer may be difficult for Security water because long-term solutions are unlikely to be in place that soon.
- It had been hoped that SDS would provide Security with redundancy in its water supply. With closure of the wells, that redundancy has been lost and efforts are being made to regain it.
- Security is adding water distribution piping to accelerate the greater use of SDS and Fountain Valley water in the part of the district primarily served by wells.
- Treating the groundwater from the affected wells is being examined, especially with the Air Force's recently announced emergency funding for treatment and testing of those wells.
 - Roy said that common wisdom tends toward using granular, activated carbon as a medium to absorb PFCs, following which the carbon can be regenerated for reuse. It is a proven technology with readily available components.

- Home activated carbon systems are problematic, because there are no studies showing when breakthrough occurs and when it does occur, it is usually as a large pulse or slug, potentially more hazardous than no treatment at all.
- Reverse osmosis is the preferred home treatment, but there is a waste stream which must be dealt with. Comments were made that the home treatment effluent could pose a problem downstream.

b. Pueblo Detention Pond and Sediment Collector – Jeff Bailey, City of Pueblo Stormwater Department

Jeff gave a presentation to update the CAG on two demonstration projects with which the District has been associated. Both projects are located within the City of Pueblo. Jeff was previously with the Planning Department with the city, and when he came into the Stormwater Department both projects had already been installed and were not working. His talk was on their current status and projected plans for them.

- The detention pond is on the north side, just east of the Wal-Mart at SH 47. It is on the west side of the creek. It was built in summer of 2011.
 - The pond was designed for water at flood stage elevations to back up into the pond and flow back out as water levels drop. The actual size of the pond is not large enough to make any change in a flood event. Its purpose was to determine whether the concept would work.
 - The two acre, off-channel pond was designed for a two-year or larger event. A 54 inch diameter pipe was the conduit in and out of the pond.
 - During construction there was a flood event and as water filled the pond, it excavated deeper and exposed groundwater. This resulted in a permanent water feature, which is now classified as a wetland. Any attempt to restore the pond to its original contour and elevation would be considered tampering with a wetland. In addition, the city must augment the creek to make up for the loss in evaporation.
 - Recent flood events have damaged the embankment, removed the inlet/outlet pipe, and otherwise damaged the pond structure.
 - Sediment removal was a goal of the project, and it worked very well, plugging the pipe. A change in design would allow the sediment to drop out prior to the pipe.
 - The pond is difficult to maintain, it needs repair, but may still serve a useful purpose when it is restored with FEMA money.
- The sediment collector is located about one half mile upstream from the confluence. It was installed in May of 2011, measures 30 feet by 12 feet wide and 32 inches high, is made primarily of steel, and appears similar to a class of materials handling equipment referred to as spiral classifiers. Its design is that of a spiral augur within a trough. The intent is for a sediment slurry collected in the creekbed to be pumped into the trough and for the rotating augur to carry sediment up the trough to deposit it on the streambank for disposition. The sediment collector also separates the material by particle size, i.e., gravel and sand. The City of Pueblo website describes it as it was installed in July 2011.

<http://www.pueblo.us/784/High-Capacity-Sediment-Collector-System>

 - The design capacity was to remove 20 truckloads per day.
 - A smaller version was shown to have worked, but this larger one has always had problems. The pipe would clog, due to site and design limitations, and maintenance was difficult and time-consuming.
 - The system has not run since July of 2013 and the collector is under three feet of sediment now.

- Jeff's aim is to give the collector one more good try. He thinks that previous efforts may have failed because of inconsistent direction. If he can get it working reliably it will have to be relocated to a place where maintenance is easier.
- Discussion followed, with comments on potential uses for the collected sediment, alternative treatments such as dredging, and long term visions for the technology. Everyone agreed that the key, however, is to stop the sediment from entering the creek in the first place.

5. Reports.

a. Governing Board Meeting. [1.35.39] Larry Small reported on the June 24th, 2016 Board meeting.

- Larry briefed the Board on the Pueblo levee dredging project. He has been working with Jeff Bailey and others to get the dredging underway by providing the bridge financing to get the project done. As reported in earlier minutes, the District has the resources to provide these services to its constituent communities. The Board approved the plan, so the project is moving ahead, with an IGA work taking place this winter.
- The Board passed Resolution 2016-4 to request our \$200,000 operations expenses from the nine constituent governments, based on their discrete entity populations.
- The Board approved Task Order 2016-2 to Matrix Design Group for engineering, permitting, and construction management on the Masantonio Bank Stabilization Phase 1 Project, the property's north end. The property has two other areas of its four-mile creek bank that also need stabilization, thus Phases 2 and 3 will eventually follow.
- The Board adjourned and reconvened as the Water Activities Enterprise Board to obligate the \$273,260 for that task order.
- The next Board meeting will be on the fifth Friday this month, July 29, in Manitou Springs. There will be a tour of local stormwater projects and improvements, followed by lunch and then the Board meeting. Larry will send out invitations, members of the CAG included, requesting RSVPs.
- Larry reported that he had submitted a grant application to the Needs Assessment Committee of the Arkansas Basin Round Table for Phase 2 of the Flood Control Evaluation Work, the Needs Assessment (actually a feasibility assessment) portion of the study. Phase 1, the Evaluation of Alternatives portion, is underway and will be complete January 31 of 2017. The grant would be for \$72,100 from the State, \$21,200 in Basin funds, and \$40,000 matching from the District for a total of \$133,300. If awarded, it will be effective next year.
- The WARSS Assessment contract kicked off June 1, as well as the Evaluation of Flood Control Alternatives study. Larry received a proposal in response to the RFP for the Design Criteria Manual, and he'll have a recommendation to the Board for their July 29 meeting. We have six projects in the works, versus just one on May 31 – a significant increase in activity.

b. TAC Meeting. Irene reported that the TAC heard the presentation by Rich Mully on city stormwater projects. His talk was somewhat more technical than the CAG's, but was essentially the same information. In addition, Larry discussed the District's projects.

c. Outreach Group. Allison Plute reported for the Outreach Group.

- The Creek Week meeting will be held next week in Pueblo and following the business meeting the group will walk over to the new skateboard park. Allison will be driving a ten passenger van to make transportation easier for Colorado Springs people.
- Creek Week has connected with a church outreach group representing some 70 local churches, furthering our own outreach.
- We are independent of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation and their finances now. They had wanted to narrow their focus.

- Allison reported that she is on the city's Sustainability Committee, and they are having their first lunch and learn July 19, where the topic will be the Integrated Water Resources Planning (IWRP) process, as well as hearing from city parks staff on their irrigation program and eliminating unnecessary watering.
- We are doing a big poop bag dispenser order with county parks and others. They are biodegradable and the dispenser is made of recycled plastic.
- Allison, Jack, and Jerry Cordova are working the El Paso County Fair on July 20. Additional volunteers were requested.
- We need volunteers for the Monument Creek open houses, where Outreach will have a presence.

d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Committee. Irene reported that she had missed the June 16 meeting, but that Larry had discussed much of the committee's current concerns, such as the Masantonio project, the DCM, etc.

- Larry added that the Committee would serve as the source selection committee for the proposal received from the RFP. The committee's recommendation will then be forwarded to the board for its approval.
- The next meeting is Thursday July 21.

e. Website and Facebook Page. Lisa reported on webpage redesign issues. The goal is to combine Flood Control and Sediment Control into one button, and to make a new Stormwater Projects button, in which all the new and completed projects in both Colorado Springs and Pueblo can be presented.

6. Current Business. There was no current business.

7. Other Business. Irene reported that The Fountain City Hall would be closed on November 11, Veterans Day, and suggested we move the meeting to the third Friday in November, November 18. There were no objections to this change. She also noted that we usually do not have a meeting December.

8. Public Comment. There were no public comments.

9. Next Meeting. The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday August 12, 2016, 9:30 a.m. at the Fountain City Hall, 116 S. Main, 2nd Floor, Fountain, CO.

10. Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.