

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

**Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2017**

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 September 8, 2017 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Ms. Irene Kornelly, Chair, at 9:34 a.m. The following CAG members were in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chair and CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board
Mary Barber – Alternate Representative to the FCWD Governing Board and Web Manager
Ian Hartley – Vice Chair
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary
Dana Nordstrom
Allison Plute
David Woolley

CAG Members not present:

Sherie Caffey
Amber Shanklin
Ross Vincent
Tom Ready

Also in attendance:

Larry Small, Executive Director, FCWD
Terry Hart - Pueblo County Commissioner and FCWD Board Member
Aaron Sutherlin, Matrix Design

2. Approve Agenda of Meeting September 8, 2017

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the September 8, 2017 Agenda was approved.

3. Approve Minutes of August 11, 2017 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the corrected August 11, 2017 Minutes were approved.

4. Presentation. Highway 47 Bridge Design, Aaron Sutherlin, Matrix Design. Aaron preceded the design presentation with a series of historical aerial photographs showing how Fountain Creek has moved its channel with respect to the bridge pylons and is now threatening the structure through a process known as meander compression. He also showed an illustration

from a textbook showing that this is a classic example of what happens when waterways encounter a confined entrance, as in the case of the Highway 47 Bridge.

- CDOT performed some emergency work in the corridor to temporarily re-route the creek, and Matrix is working on a permanent solution. The design is at the 60 percent level.
- The design was based on historical data from the USGS gauge just downstream, using a bankfull flow of about 3,000 CFS.
 - Use of the Anderson model showed ponding in front of the bridge in high flow events.
 - A stable reference reach was used for design. Despite Fountain Creek's unstable nature, a suitable reach was found about eight miles upstream in the area of the Masciantonio property. Data was taken on bank height, cross section, bed and bank particle size, and other physical characteristics for use in designing the channel around the bridge.
 - Matrix also studied sediment transport and sediment characteristics of the creek, with modeling still underway. Other technical analyses included calculating characteristics such as flow duration for sizing the channel to ensure enough hydraulic power to move sediment through the area.
- The resulting 30 percent design contained the following elements:
 - A 0.3 percent slope, based on the reference reach, and considerably flatter than currently.
 - A 4 foot drop structure in front of the bridge to achieve the desired grade, and
 - A 10 foot wide floodplain culvert under the highway on the east side of the bridge.
 - This design, when re-examined, show several deficiencies; the drop structure could have encouraged scour around the bridge piers and slower flow at that grade would have discouraged sediment transport.
- The 60 percent design addresses these concerns by eliminating the drop structure and increasing the slope from the 0.3 percent initially proposed.
 - This design also eliminates scour at the piers.
 - The need for the floodplain culvert is currently being evaluated. It's an expensive feature to implement, so the team does not want to add to the project expense unnecessarily.
 - The channel was also slightly re-aligned to save some existing vegetation.
 - A cross section shows a low flow channel to keep sediment moving, as well as an approximate 3.5 foot deep bankfull channel.
 - The west bank has been used as an informal dump and is an environmental concern, there may be old cars or other debris in there used as fill. There may even be hazardous material dumped there. The hope is that much of the debris can be avoided during the construction process.
 - In response to a question about the effect of growth and the SDS system to the north, Aaron stated that the low flow channel was designed to handle levels of flow from the current low of 150 CFS to 550 CFS. Larry added that the 1041 Permit issued by Pueblo County to Colorado Springs stipulates no increase in base flows [Condition 23, apparently].

- The project schedule is to select a contractor and begin construction by end of September, with completion by May of 2018. CDOT is contributing 25 percent of the cost, the District 75 percent. The contract will be design-build, with value engineering.
- Trail work is also included in the project.

5. Reports

a. Governing Board Meeting. Larry Small gave a report on the August 25 Board meeting.

- The introduction of a consent calendar, in which multiple routine items are approved with one vote, provided no member has an issue with any item, in which case the item can be discussed separately, has saved considerable time in an already hurried schedule.
- The Board passed a resolution adopting the Drainage Criteria Manual and putting it on the website.
- The Board accepted the CDOT contract for the Highway 47 project. Total project cost is \$6 million, with CDOT putting in \$1.5 million and the District contributing \$4.5 million.
- The Board authorized Larry to close the old bank account. Accumulated interest of \$159 is all that remained in the account and it will be transferred to the new Wells Fargo account.
- Meeting as the Water Enterprise Board, they discussed the Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee's report and chose to delay formal acceptance of the project list.
- The Board heard a history of the 1041 permit and gained greater insight into the role of the MMF Advisory Committee.
- The Water Enterprise Board will see the draft 2018 budget of \$4 million in the upcoming September meeting.
- The Highway 47 Project status was presented, as was the Pueblo Levee Dredging Project, which is now complete. The dredging project budget was under run by \$57,000.
- The Board approved the contract for the Masciantonio Project. The contract with Tezak Construction for \$1,845,000 in work followed a value engineering meeting in which the design went from 90 to 100 percent. A \$55,000 alternate, timber pilings to protect weirs from flood-borne debris, may be added in the future, bringing total project cost to \$1,900,000. Over \$2 million is budgeted, so we got a good bid in relation to budget.
- The next Board meeting will be held in the Fountain City Hall Council Chambers, 22 September.

b. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting. Irene reported on the September 6 TAC meeting.

- The TAC received the presentation on the Highway 47 design.
- The discussions with AFCURE on the E. coli study are ongoing.
- Larry gave updates on the Masciantonio project and the Flood Control Needs Assessment.
- The next TAC meeting will be October 4, the sole purpose of the meeting is the presentation to the Planning Directors of jurisdictions in the watershed. The TAC will present the District's role in the region, the DCM, and other issues of mutual concern.

c. Outreach Group. Allison reported that Creek Week met its goal of raising \$15,000 in cash, not counting in-kind. In other Creek Week and Outreach developments:

- Allison applied for a \$2,500 grant from the Southern Colorado Community Fund for the Pueblo clean up this year. Next year we'll go for the \$5,000 level.
- The proclamation road trip has begun, in which each jurisdiction in the watershed

proclaims its love and support for Creek Week. Larry and Allison were in Monument earlier in the week, Woodland Park was last week, etc. Allison produced a schedule of upcoming proclamations for CAG members to support.

- Brewshed fundraisers are happening, with Great Storm Brewery on Monday, Phantom Canyon is holding an Oktoberfest beer festival fundraiser the following Saturday. A number of other breweries are each donating a keg and proceeds will go to the Brewshed Alliance. Bristol Brewing Fossil Brewing Company and Smiling Toad are likewise each holding fundraisers.
- Creek Week will be featured at the Switchbacks Soccer Club final game Saturday October 7. Free tickets are available.
- Phantom Canyon and Cerberus have been added to the Brewshed Alliance. Triple S Brewery closed, citing traffic and wage problems. No more members will be added this year and a laminated map will be produced and distributed to brewshed partners.
- October 28 Dana Nordstrom will be at the Bear Creek Dog Park for the Stoolz and Ghoulz festival, 9:00 to noon. Bring your costumed canines.
- Speaking on the Watershed Outreach Collaborative with the Greenway Fund, we reached about 2,000 people in 2014, and we will reach over 10,000 this year. At this point, we will now be concentrating on the quality of the contact, rather than just quantity of people reached.
 - Allison proposed forming something along the line of the Water Stewards program, in which a wider base of volunteers and activists carry the watershed message to a wider swath of the community. She has found a suitable program in Minnesota and will be looking into how it can be done there.
 - Allison also put out the idea of a youth corps, in which rather than us going into the classroom and talking concepts for a half hour, why not take the kids out to see the top of the watershed and show them other features, perhaps the Waldo burn scar.
 - The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service has a Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant, with submittals due in February. We have time to look into it and partner with other groups to develop a concept to propose.
- Allison intends to apply for a public interest fellowship grant at CC again this year, Kat Braza, this summer's intern was phenomenal. It appears we could use two next year, one for the District and one for the Greenway Fund. The expense of \$4,000 is significant, but if Creek Week funds are available it could easily pay off in terms of contacts and contributions.
- Allison also drafted a 319 grant application to CDPHE for website enhancement. The grant would only be for \$5,000, while the website upgrade will be in the range of 10,000, but it's a start. The draft needs to be reviewed, finalized, and submitted soon.

d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee. Irene reported that the committee met August 15 and again discussed evaluation criteria for the capital projects list, perhaps backtracking to fully evaluate criteria for funding mitigation projects. No decisions have been made on which projects should be funded first. The group meets again September 19.

e. Website and Facebook Page. Mary Barber reported that the site is working, as far as she knows. Funding resources are available to assist in an upgrade at some point, and Mary and Larry will work out a path.

6. Old Business. Larry Small spoke on current projects.

a. Flood Control Alternatives Study Larry gave an update on the Flood Control Needs Assessment Study, which is Phase 2 of looking at the alternative means of flood control. Phase 1 ended with six alternatives

- Two versions of a flood control dam, one affecting I-25 and the railroad, and one not,
- Two versions of a permanent pool dam, one affecting I-25 and the railroad, and one not,
- One single large detention facility, and
- 10 smaller side detention facilities.
- For this second phase, a seventh alternative was added, flood plain management. This alternative actually includes three side detention facilities and flow management structures downstream of Colorado Springs, as well as the erosion/sedimentation control projects identified in the WARSSS Assessment. Flow management structures might include drop structures, wing structures, weirs or any of a number of other flow management devices.
- At a recent stakeholders meeting (there are 33 identified stakeholders), the alternatives were reduced to three:
 - A flood control dam with no impact to the railroad or I-25,
 - One large side detention facility, and
 - Flood plain management, as described above.
- The target flow in Pueblo is 14,000 CFS, and this level of flow means that no water rights will be affected, as opposed to the initial study's 10,000 CFS limit, which required the District to purchase water rights to offset what we were temporarily impounding. When modeled, the dam and flood plain management met the flow requirements, but the side detention facility performed less well.

b. Masciantonio Project. Larry's report on the Masciantonio Project was covered in his Governing Board Report, above.

c. Highway 47 Bridge Project. In addition to the presentation by Aaron Sutherlin on the 60 percent design of the Highway 47 Project, Larry's Board report also spoke on the Highway 47 Project contract.

d. The Pueblo Dredging Project. As reported in Larry's Board report, work on the Pueblo Dredging Project is complete.

7. New Business. None

8. Public Comment. None

9. Next Meeting. The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday October 13, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fountain City Hall, 116 W. Main.

10. Adjourn:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.