

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

**Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 2015**

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 11, 2015 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 9:32 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following CAG members in attendance:

Irene Kornelly – Chair  
Ross Vincent – Vice Chair  
Richard Skorman - CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board  
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board  
Mary Barber – FCWD Web Manager  
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary  
Lisa Godwin  
Ian Hartley  
Allison Plute

**CAG Members not present:**

Nancy Keller – TAC Chair and Representative to the CAG  
Lois Illick  
Dana Nordstrom  
Tom Ready  
Amber Shanklin

**Also in attendance:**

Larry Small, Executive Director, Fountain Creek Watershed District

**2. Approve Agenda of September 11, 2015 Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the September 11, 2015 Agenda was approved.**

**3. Approve Minutes of August 14, 2015 Meeting**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the August 14, 2015 minutes were approved.**

**4. Presentations: [0.2.35] Larry Small gave a presentation on the Upper Fountain Creek, Cheyenne Creek, and Monument Creek Restoration Plans.**

- The Upper Fountain Creek and Cheyenne Creek Restoration Plan began with announcement of water protection funds from the Colorado Water Conservation Board in October of 2013.

- On November 8 the District formed a coalition consisting of the District, Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado Springs Utilities, the Regional Building Department, Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Teller County, Woodland Park, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, Pikes Peak Council of Regional Governments, and CDOT. Members added subsequently are Cheyenne Creek Metropolitan District, USAFA, Teller-Park Conservation District, U.S. Forest Service, and private citizens. The District is the lead agency.
- The coalition submitted a proposal for a \$175,000 grant, backed with an equivalent amount in matching funds, as well as \$87,000 of in kind contributions from stakeholders.
- The grant was awarded 18 December 2013. We were the 1st grant awarded from the program.
- Using a defined decision-making process and input gathered through public meetings, problem locations were mapped and categorized. Detailed analyses and hydrological studies were made to generate sediment load estimates.
  - For Cheyenne Creek, studies revealed that soils, especially in the canyon, had been mis-categorized; soils are more porous, with greater infiltration and less run-off.
  - The completed plan has analyses of watershed responses to 2, 5, 50, and 100 year storms. The process generated map books for both watersheds, showing:
    - Stream segment characteristics and restoration alternatives
    - Project locations
    - 100-Year simulated flood zone
    - Projects have been prioritized, conceptually designed and budgetary cost estimates made for over 165 individual projects
    - Upper Fountain Creek: 92 projects
    - Cheyenne Creek: 73 projects
- The Plan makes a number of restoration recommendations:
  - Natural channel design
    - Use natural form and materials.
  - Small drop structures with toe protection
    - Up to 3 feet in height, reinforced side slopes
  - Large drop structures with toe protection.
    - Greater than 3 feet in height, reinforced side slopes
  - Fully-lined channel (concrete and rip rap)
    - Necessary when all other alternatives are not practical, last resort.
  - Drainage and bank stabilization
    - Channel segments experiencing high velocities, confinement, lack of floodplain, unstable slopes required to accommodate large events.
  - Sediment and detention basins
    - Attenuation of flood flows and high sediment delivery
- The Plan makes cost estimates in 2015 dollars for each of the various project types, but with completion a minimum of ten years out, no overall cost estimate for the watersheds was made.
- The next steps include:
  - A follow-up grant release for implementation is scheduled for January of 2016. This release has a \$1 million grant level, giving us the opportunity to perform one or more major projects on Cheyenne Creek.
  - Beginning the Upper Monument Creek Plan, and
  - A third phase of the CWCB grant program comes up in 2017. The funding level is even higher.
- Richard Skorman expressed the CAG's admiration and gratitude for Larry's impressive achievements.

## 5. Reports.

### a. Governing Board Meeting. [1.07.00] Larry gave a report on the August 2015 Board meeting.

- The Board approved the MOU with City of Colorado Springs for its \$150,000 matching funds for Upper Monument Creek.
- The Board also approved the contract with Matrix Engineering for work on the Monument Creek plan. Matrix was selected through a rigorous evaluation process. Larry chaired the source selection committee but abstained from the evaluation because he manages an existing contract with Matrix.
- Work on Cheyenne Blvd is awaiting completion of an environmental assessment being managed by the State.

### b. TAC Meeting. [1.14.55] Irene reported on the TAC meeting.

- The TAC received the presentation Larry gave to the CAG this morning.
- The Review Standards Checklist was discussed and edited to reflect comments.
- The TAC also discussed the implementation of the Design Criteria Manual throughout the watershed.
- Ferris Frost inquired about a recent notice about FEMA flood plain changes. It referred to proposals being discussed at regional building departments in early October. No changes are being implemented in the immediate future, although these meetings are part of the on-going process.
- The next TAC meeting is October 7.

### c. Outreach Group. [1:19:50] Allison Plute reported on the Outreach Group's activities.

- There was no regular meeting this week, there being a lot of activity and it was not possible to get together.
- Various tidbits: We are up to 174 Likes on the Facebook page the fundraiser at Fieldhouse Brewery is 2:00 tomorrow, across from Southside Johnnies on S Tejon St. A dollar will be donated for every pint of the Creek Week IPA sold. We will also have our booth there.
- The Colorado Springs Independent did a ten minute interview of Allison, part of an upcoming spread on Creek Week. They also held a 35 minute interview with Larry. The Creek Week coverage will be in the September 16 issue.
- We had representation at the State Fair. Ian Hartley reported that we were unable to attract much attention and believes that we need a gimmick, suggesting the equivalent of a basket of baby chicks, especially when competing for attention with animals. His opinion was that if we want to have a presence at the State Fair we have to do more than put up a table with brochures; we have to have something to grab people as they go by.
- Allison attended the Upper Monument planning meeting September 10, and requested that members attend the upcoming public meetings, as public input proved to be valuable in the other areas of the watershed.
- Allison also reported that Jerry Cordova is coming back to the area. Jerry previously served on the CAG before taking a post with the State, and has now been hired as the head of the El Paso County Regional Watershed Collaborative. The Collaborative grew out of the Waldo Canyon Recovery group, and this new group will coordinate the various efforts by the jurisdictions to implement recovery and mitigation projects. The primary members are Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Utilities, Manitou Springs, and El Paso County.
- The Outreach Group will be making up Creek Week kits of gloves, bags, etc., September 15 at El Paso County Parks Headquarters.
- Creek Week has raised almost \$10,000 in cash and in kind donations.
- An elementary school teacher in Manitou Springs has worked with similar efforts in other towns, and has gotten the entire elementary school to participate in Creek Week. While inspecting storm drains in town recently the school kids ran into a group of FEMA officials, who were impressed by the kids' knowledge of storm water and watershed dynamics.
- Irene commented that Pueblo Urban Renewal has announced that the Wheel Park will open in

November. No exact date was given.

**d. Monetary Mitigation Committee.** Irene reported that the committee will meet September 17 at the Pueblo County Public Works Building. The last meeting was focused on organizational aspects; this next one will begin getting into the actual work of the committee.

**e. Website and Facebook Page.** There was nothing to report.

**6. Current Business.** The Project Checklist developed by the Technical Advisory Committee was emailed to CAG members for review and comment. Following revisions by the TAC, the only outstanding issue is whether to include an acronym list. The TAC chose not to include the acronym list, feeling that a developer or its consultant should be knowledgeable in the terminology. There were strong opinions voiced in the CAG about the need for an acronym list, but a reasonable alternative is to put an exhaustive list of acronyms into our web page.

**7. Other Business.** Ian raised the question of the escalation clause in the SDS 1041 permit. His reading of the permit indicated that payments to the Watershed would increase if SDS was not completed within a specified time period, which now appears to be the case by Ian's reading. Irene referred him to Terry Hart, Pueblo County Commissioner and Watershed Board member.

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

**9. Next Meeting.** The next scheduled CAG meeting will be Friday October 9 2015, 9:30 a.m. at the Fountain City Hall, 116 W. Main.

**10. Adjourn:**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.**