

# WILLOW CREEK RECLAMATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

1:00 PM, Creede Town Hall

**PRESENT:** Erin JB Alexander, Creede; Kathleen Murphy, WHWT; Phil Bethke, Creede; Rex Shepperd, Creede; Jim Matush, Creede; Laura Archelta, FWS; Jan Crawford, Creede; Erik Sandvile, Creede; Kelley Thompson, Agro/WCRC; Phil Reinholtz, USFS; Zeke Ward, Creede

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Rex motioned to approve the minutes, Phil B seconds. The motion passed.

## **ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:**

- CWCB Annual Meeting added under New Business

## **REPORTS:**

Director's Report: nothing to report

Chairman's Report: nothing to report

TAC Report: Slight change to creek clean-up. Rather than 3 consecutive days, we will have one big clean-up on September 11 and determine where the wood debris removed from the creek will go, and then when folks have some free time, they can go out and remove debris from the creek. For September 11, we would like 2 crews with 4-6 people per crew. The City of Creede will provide a backhoe and dump truck. Rex motioned money for survival of volunteers helping with creek clean up not exceed \$1000, Erik seconded the motion, and it passed.

The TAC also recommended that water samples be conducted on September 22, there were no objections. Sample locations will include the same locations as the spring event, along with the east branch on the lower floodplain, Wason area, above the "great wall of Creede", and around the Nelson Tunnel.

One of the technical notes the USFS provided prior to the spring willow harvesting/planting event recommends taking cuttings in the fall, storing over winter, and planting in the spring. Rex and Clyde Dooley (City Manager) have offered to store a bucket or two during the winter.

VISTA Report: The Western Hardrock Watershed Team will be conducting another training/networking event October 27-29. Kathleen spent two days in the field helping Rio Grande Silver, Inc. conduct water samples. A donation will be made to WCRC for Kathleen's time. Kathleen, Don, and Phil have been working on Annual Meeting stuff, and the DRMS folks were in town recording footage for an upcoming movie regarding the rolls of VISTAs in watershed groups.

Financial Report: There was a brief discussion regarding some of the monies that have been earmarked for the prospectus (\$8000 from the Hitchcock Foundation) and the movie (\$2510 from VCTF). We will need RC&D to reimburse WCRC

\$3000 for the VISTA invoice. Also, Laura made a motion that Don be reimbursed for supplies he purchased for the Annual Meeting, Rex seconded, and the motion passed.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting (Spet. 25): Rio Grande Silver has been kind enough to print pictures and such for the poster displays. In order to provide RGS with adequate time, all printing materials should be submitted by September 14. The Community Center is not charging WCRC and they will also provide coffee, tea, water, etc. The “Betty Crocker’s” of the group were asked to provide desserts. Posters will be placed around the room, with a tray of goodies in front. Presentations will be limited to five minutes.

b4 studio Contract : Everyone was okay with the not to exceed amount, however, a delivery schedule was requested. 90 days from contract signature was suggested. Kathleen will reach out to Kara and Laura regarding this. Once the delivery date is finalized, Zeke will sign the contract.

319 Fiscal Agent: Kelley motioned that provided RC&D will create a separate account for WCRC, the admin fee not exceed 5% and that WCRC will be in charge of project management, that WCRC keep RC&D as the fiscal agent. Rex seconded, and the motion passed. In addition, the Committee would like to keep the three mini-grants separate from the 319 grant.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Fall Water Samples: Discussed during TAC Report

Fall Willow Harvesting: Discussed during TAC Report

VISTA Year 2: Before the Committee makes a decision, they would like to know what the original commitment was, and Carishma’s status.

Willow Planting Evaluation: Don, Leslie, and Kathleen took some photos of willows that have been planted. Don put everything in a PowerPoint, and Kathleen will provide some notes on the various planting methods used on the lower floodplain. We may need to plant some willows up near the Amethyst site, and the willows planted at the Outlet are doing very well.

Brownfields/MCFA: The deadline for this years grant cycle is October 16<sup>th</sup>, after a brief discussion, the Committee felt they were not at a point where this deadline could be met, and will work towards October 2010.

CWCB: Mike Gibson will be attending the meeting, and has volunteered to speak on WCRC’s behalf in the event that questions arise pertaining to the request for \$200,000 from the state and \$50,000 from the local roundtable. These monies

will be used as match for the 319 grant. Everyone was okay with Mike representing WCRC, and it was suggested that he may need to be refreshed on the project.

Rex motioned that we adjourn, Erik seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Murphy