

Minutes January 5, 2000 WCRC Meeting

Meeting held in the Creede Town Hall

Called to order by Chairman Zeke Ward at 1:05 PM

Those Attending:

Name	Affiliation	E-Mail
John Howard	Resident Resident	jhoward375@aol.com
Glen Miller	Resident Resident	miller@amigo.net
Zeke Ward	Trout	redmtn@fone.net
Sandra Wright	Unlimited Resident	cityofcreede@amigo.net
Larry Bussey	Resident NRCS NR	Box 503 Alamosa 81101
Chuck Barnes	CS Forest	chwagon@amigo.net
Philip Bethke	Service Forest	pbethke@amigo.net
Steve Russell	Service Div. Water	stephen.russell@co.usda.gov
Raida Knapp	Resources Residen	Monte Vista
Vince Spero	t EPA SLV RC &	vspero/r2_riogrande@fs.fed.us
Les Dobson	D Resident USFWS	ldobson/r2_riogrande@fs.fed.us
Perry Alspaugh	CSU Co-op	perry.alspaugh@state.co.us
JB Alexander	Ext. Resident Creed	Box 428 Creede 81130
Peter Ismert	e Resources	ismert.peter@epa.gov
Jim Mietz		jmietz@co.nrcs.usda.gov
Rod Wintz		Box 220 Creede 81130
Laura Higgins		laura_higgins@fws.gov
Marvin Reynolds		conejos@coop.ext.colostate.edu
Stephen Wardell		wardell@amigo.net
Dave Suhr		dsuhr@hecla-mining.com

Chairmans Report (Zeke Ward)

Zeke spoke of his meeting with Senator Allard. He wants to make sure that he is always aware of our program.

Zeke spoke of the Army Corp and of the potential of them helping us. David Gregory of the Army Corp in Albuquerque has volunteered to be on our TAC committee. David Bethke (retired USGS) has also offered to be on the TAC committee with the understanding that he won't be able to attend all the meetings since he only lives part of the year in Creede and the rest of the time on the East Coast.

Chuck Barnes motioned that David be nominated to the TAC committee and Phil also be nominated contingent that he give a speech.

Numerous people seconded and all were in favor.

Phil gave us a rain check on the speech.

Coordinator's Report (Glen Miller)

Glen spoke of the in kind donations being tracked and recorded on our web site. We are looking good for the total amounts and should easily have enough especially when the county's work at the Commodore, Riverwatch, and others kick in.

We are short on specific tasks such as historical characterization. The Army Corp has some money under sec. 22 that could be used as a match with whatever we come up with to help get them involved. The groundwork has and is being laid for us to be involved in the Army Corp

Abandoned Mines Program which has a pot of 45 million dollars for projects like us to dip in to. Jim Mietz wanted to know if the program that the Army Corp is involved with, that would fix up the flume; if it requires special legislation to get enacted? Zeke said that this 205 program does not require special legislation like the abandoned mines program, but that the Army Corp only works on exact, well defined project specific programs. Pete Magee who was authorized by the six counties including Mineral County to coordinate a GIS program, says he will put together \$1500 worth of in kind match if we can budget \$2000 worth of 319 money for digitizing our existing maps. Steve Russell and Jim Mietz spoke of the importance of our GIS program being compatible with the Forest Service, NRCS, and the data being put together for the six counties. Steve said the logistics of updating information and keeping it compatible are still being worked out.

Glen gave an overview of the Willow Creek GIS program which is on the web.

This involves getting a 1:4000 contour base map; the forest service gave us a 1:8000 last spring. Les Dobson volunteered to produce a paper 1:4000 map base map for us. Stephen Wardell spoke of a FEMA (Project Impact) meeting in Maryland to be held in February. The six San Luis Valley Counties (Costilla, Conejos, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Saugauge, & Mineral) have been designated a region by FEMA and representatives from the six counties are to go to this seminar in Maryland for training about potential emergency situations, natural disasters, etc. Zeke advised that Glen be a representative on that local committee. The water data from the Riverwatch program should be in soon. The data from the ACZ lab is in now and anybody that wants a copy can pick one up at this meeting. ACZ run all parameters on eight sites as well as 2 metals, Total Organic Carbon, Total Dissolved Solids, & Total Suspended Solids on all sites. Glen is working a deal with the Sangre de Cristo Lab in Alamosa to do various water sampling work in the future such as back up check samples and episodic event samples. Gareth Davies was not able to find any dye in the samples that we sent him. We will continue to send more samples. Perry Alspaugh and Glen advised that we not install a new measuring flume at the Nelson until we see what the construction between the pipe and the splash pool at the Commodore is going to consist of, and work at that time to install a new measuring system at the Nelson Adit. Perry spoke of installing a 15 foot cutthroat flume (spoken of by Steve Russell) at the gauging station that would handle 600 cfs of flow and be an easy check on the accuracy of the record being produced at the station. Zeke advised that anything installed at the flume be forestalled until we find out what the Army Corps plans are for fixing it. JB told of his temperature evaluations of total flow. By measuring the temperature of the Nelson (about 65 degrees) and West Willow above and below the Nelson and the temperatures of East and West Willow near their confluence, he determined that the Nelson contributes about 10% of the overall flow of Willow Creek. East Willow makes up about 2/3 of the flow and at present, the bulk of the West Willow flow is coming from the Nelson Adit. Zeke spoke that another significant source may be groundwater between the adit and the East Willow confluence. Historical Characterization from Eric Twitty (Report from Vince Spero) This report consists of over 160 pages of Historical Context. It speaks of mining in the Creede area in context with mining all over the state of Colorado and the American West according to the prevailing attitudes of the times and is broken down into the physical setting, economic geology, and existing technologies. Specific mine sites are not discussed in detail in this report but are to come shortly in another report along with maps, drawings, and pictures. The specific areas in this report will include all mining done on the Amethyst vein which is West Willow Creek. The Bulldog and East Willow areas will be studied next year and put into context with the overall area. Vince only received the report last night and hasn't had time to read the entire thing. Eric worked with the State Historical Society on the format and information that should be in this report. Each site will be recorded on specific forms provided by the State Historical Office. Vince pointed out that Eric went beyond the minimum standards and did a class 3 investigation including photographs of archival quality. Sandra advised that we get these pictures put on CD. Zeke pointed out that this is normally quite inexpensive. The Forest Service is very interested in this general context report because most of the specific sites studied are not on Forest Service land but Forest land will very much have to do with the general context of this report. Winding Stream Channel (Steve Russell) Steve has the state engineer scheduled to come down and have a look at the braided channel below Creede. Meeting adjourned shortly before 3:00 PM

Minutes submitted by: Approved and accepted: _____

Glen Miller
Project Watershed Coordinator
February 2nd at 1:00 PM at the Creede Town Hall. Things to be discussed are...
The Riverwatch data and more.

Zeke Ward

Chairman Next meeting is scheduled for
February 2nd at 1:00 PM at the Creede Town Hall. Things to be discussed are...