

Willow Creek Reclamation

Draft Minutes

Nov. 7, 2001

I. Intro Members: Mark Walker (CDPHE), Mike Wireman, (US EPA), Scott Randall (URS Corp), Denise Uhleman (Shawnodes Art Studio), Jim Matush (Creede), JB Alexander (Creede), John Howard (Creede), Stephen Wardell (Mineral County Commissioners), Chuck Barnes (Creede), Steve Russell (NRCS), Dan Brennecke (Roy F. Weston), Jim Herron (DMG) Jim Mietz (SLV RC&D), JB Davis (EEC/SWC)

II. Reports:

A. Non- point Source Conference- Zeke Ward Reported on attending the Non- point Source Conference on Sept. 28-29. Zeke made a presentation at the conference on Funding for Stake holder groups. At the conference, presentations were made on a variety of other stakeholder projects throughout the state. Members of the non-point source board delivered informative presentations on the history, philosophy and purpose of the non-point source process. The unifying principle was the aspect of community led voluntary participation.

B. Report on Tracer Study- JB Alexander and Jim Matush reported on the underground tracer study. Preliminary results have shown that tracer placed in the Berkshire shaft appeared at the auto sampler roughly seven days with peak concentrations approximately nine days after placement. Gareth Davies has indicated that he should have preliminary report prepared in late December.

C. Airport Corner Report-Mark Walker reported that the raw data is back from the lab. TCLP results were not conclusive. He indicated that we could have a characterization report by the end

of the year. It was suggested that we invite Mr. Parker to the January meeting and initiate a plan to design remedies for the project.

D. Steve Russell reported that the NRCS crews completed their survey of the Flume and Willow Creek above the flume. The elevations from their survey are available in a raw Data form. The data can be transmitted in an electronic file to anyone who has need of this topographic information.

E. Stephen Wardell reported that the Mineral County Commissioners contacted HECLA Mining and received permission to construct a Hiking/Biking trail through the HECLA property roughly following the easement for the sewer line. Commissioner Wardell reported that the county crews would begin construction in time available. He indicated no excavation would be necessary but construction would consist of placing road base on the path, with possible future plan for paving the path with asphalt.

III. Proposal from Glen Miller (Water shed coordinator):

Zeke Ward Reported that when the committee renewed Glen's contract for one more year, provision was made to review and modify that contract after 3 months. In an email communication Mr. Miller outlined a proposal giving the committee several options Mr. Miller expressed his wish to spend more time in Canada to be closer to his children. He also indicated that he had been offered a lucrative forestry contract that was "too good to pass up". The different options were presented to the committee and the committee chose to advertise for a new watershed coordinator that could work full time for the committee in Creede. Glen Miller will continue to work for the committee in time available as needed for an hourly wage. Motion was made by Dr. Howard to advertise for and hire a new Watershed coordinator. Motion was seconded by Stephen Wardell. Motion Carried.

After much discussion, reflecting the importance of keeping the project on track and moving forward a motion was made by Steve Russell, and seconded by Mr. Barnes to hire Zeke Ward for a part-time interim Watershed Coordinator, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously. During Zeke's time as interim Coordinator He will step down as Chairman and Chuck Barnes was moved from Vice- chair into the Chair position as Interim Chairman. Zeke indicated that he would serve as watershed coordinator on a part time basis, but was only available until April 1, 2002. discussion Following indicated that should be enough time to hire and train a new interim coordinator.

IV. Jim Mietz; presented an insurance quote from Dell's insurance. To provide insurance coverage for volunteers during Willow Creek Activities for a cost of \$750 per year.

After some discussion chuck Barnes made a motion to purchase the insurance. JB Alexander seconded. Motion carried.

V. Western RC&D Association(Jim Mietz) The Western RC&D Association Annual Conference will be held in Butte, Montana on January 15, 2002. They have requested project success stories be presented at this conference. The San Luis Valley RC&D requests the Willow Creek Reclamation Committee make a presentation at that conference if possible. The committee was in complete agreement that the Willow Creek Committee should present it's story at this conference if possible.

VI. Characterization Reports (Mike Wireman) Mr. Wireman presented to the committee the importance of preparing and

delivering reports to agency people indicating that in the review process these reports comprise the only body of information that may of the agency people will ever see. Discussion followed and plans were discussed concerning how and when these reports will be generated.

VII. Flood control engineering proposals (Zeke Ward) Zeke reported that 5 proposals had been submitted by the deadline but because of Glen not being able to travel to Creede from Canada, the review process was not able to proceed as had been planned. The sub- committee formed to review those proposals and make recommendations to the committee have reviewed the proposals independently, but have not been able to meet for the purpose of reaching a consensus. Zeke recommended that the sub-committee could probably reach a consensus by phone and make a recommendation. A motion was made by Stephen Wardell and seconded by Chuck Barnes that the committee would accept the recommendation of the sub-committee if consensus could be reached. Motion carried. Zeke indicated that a choice could be made and a contractor notified no later that November 12, 2001.

VIII. Underground Characterization and Rehabilitation (Jim Herron) Mr. Herron reported that the bid package was sent to Glen Miller and Mike Wireman in October and that he would email Zeke a copy since he is assuming the coordinators position.

IX. Platoro (Steve Russell) Mr. Russell made a brief presentation concerning a water treatment process currently being used at Platoro to treat water from a draining adit. Using calcium carbonate. JB Davis indicated that he has a paper on the process being used and would deliver it to the committee.

X. Waste Piles (Scott Randall) Reported that the lab results are back from the waste rock pile sampling. Should have report in December on the results. This report can be used to identify which piles are of little concern and which pile need further characterization. The additional characterization will employ SPLP testing.

XI. Next Meeting will be December 5, 2001.

Meeting adjourned