

WCRC Minutes
August 2, 2006

Intro of members: Zeke Ward, WCRC Chairman and Mineral County Commissioner; JB Alexander, Creede; Jim Matush, Creede; Erik Sandvik, Creede; Chuck Barnes, Creede; Phil Bethke, Retired USGS - Creede; Marvin Reynolds, CSU Extension; Jeff Graves, CDMG; Les Dobson, US Forest Service; Kelley Thompson, WCRC Director

Approval of minutes: No corrections to the July minutes were proposed. Motion to approve the January minutes made by JB; second made by Phil. Motion carried.

Additions/corrections to the agenda: Items of Dewatering Scope of Work and Challenge Cost-Share Agreement were suggested by Jeff and Les for Old Business. Zeke will also present a report, and Les will discuss the Re-vegetation projects.

Reports:

Director's Report:

Kelley said he had received notices that annual membership fees were due for the Colorado Historical Society and the Riverwatch organization. The WCRC has some cash at SLV RC&D that has been designated for Historical Society related expenses, and dues are \$65. JB moved and Erik seconded to pay the Historical Society dues, and the motion passed. The Riverwatch dues are \$100, and the committee was less clear on the benefits of membership. The committee decided not to renew the membership until more clear benefits of membership are identified.

Kelley explained that he had contacted Rod Clark with the NRCS about the potential for NRCS Emergency Funds to work on the Commodore flume as suggested by the committee. Rod mentioned that to use the funding, an emergency event needs to be occurring and there is currently no money in the fund so projects would have to be prioritized and approved in Washington unless there is an immediate threat to life. So, he didn't feel that it was possible to get emergency funding for the Commodore flume.

Kelley reminded the committee of the daylong field trip about mining and restoration issues in the Willow Creek watershed that would be given along with the Colorado Field Institute on August 26. Many in the committee would be presenters on the trip.

Kelley also explained that Steve Yochum would be presenting a report for the stream restoration project in October, and was wondering if the committee would want to present a public meeting about the project in October or November. Committee members mentioned that the WCRC meetings is an appropriate forum for a presentation of the project report as the public is invited, and there may not be many people outside of the committee who would be available during the winter season. The committee decided not to plan on a public meeting at this point. Rather, after the committee receives Steve's report, then they will further consider how to progress with the project and if a public meeting may be needed.

Chairman's Report:

Zeke reported that for the MCFA fairgrounds cleanup, Mark Arnold and AGS have prepared the 404 permit application for the wetlands issues. AGS will then submit the VCUP application when they get the 404 permit approved by the Army Corps and we can proceed with bids. Zeke had called Leigh Ann, and she is willing to work on the watershed management plan. On the transfer of the Commodore area property, following receiving the letter of intent to sell from the

Poxsons, Chuck Powers was working on the title transfer. The historical preservation group is evaluating how to perform all Necessary and Appropriate Investigations for qualification as a Bonified Prospective Purchaser and is looking for a consultant for the investigations.

Re-vegetation Report:

Les reported that the re-vegetation at the Phoenix Park mill and Midwest mine sites were looking great after the recent rains, although some of the compost was washing out. The willow plantings placed at the outlet and Midwest sites were also doing great.

Old Business:

Bylaw Issues:

Chuck Barnes was at the WCRC meeting, and stated that he is interested in continuing as vice-chair of the Willow Creek Reclamation Committee. There was some question about the term periods of the current officers, and Kelley will go back through old minutes to see if he can find a previous election or term period.

Dewatering Scope of Work:

Jeff discussed the scope of work he was developing for the dewatering project. If the WCRC is able to rent the pump and power-pack directly, then we may be able to do the project for under \$20K. Jeff was leaning to develop the scope for Ken Wyley rather than having a formal public bid as bonding and other requirements for a public bid may make the overall project more expensive and difficult. Phil and others expressed support for Ken doing the work, and Phil motioned to present a scope of work to Ken for the work rather than developing a public bid. Chuck seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Forest Service Cost-Share Agreement:

Les discussed the cost-share agreement between the Forest Service and the SLV RC&D and WCRC that had been drawn up for the Last Chance and Amethyst projects. Cost and funding commitments from the committee's Amethyst and dewatering projects were documented as match for the project. Zeke signed the cost-share agreement on behalf of the committee.

The next meeting will be September 6, 2006. Meeting adjourned at 3pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelley Thompson