

WILLOW CREEK RECLAMATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 9, 2007

1:00 PM, Creede Town Hall

Present: Zeke Ward, WCRC Chairman and Mineral County Commissioner; Mark Walker, CDPHE (Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment); JB Alexander, Creede; Jim Matush, Creede; Rex Shepperd, City of Creede; Don Dustin, Creede; Jeff Graves, CDRMS (Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety); Merl Jennings, Creede; and Carishma Gokhale-Welch, WCRC Director.

Approval of minutes: No changes were proposed. JB moves to approve December minutes, Mark seconds. Motion carries.

Additions/corrections to agenda: "Mark Walker Brownfield grants" was added under "Reports"

Reports:

Director's Report

Carishma reported on WCRC's finances from May 2007 to December 2007. JB requested for a monthly update, which Carishma agreed to do.

All the EPA grant reports and MCFA reports that are due for 2007 have been completed and submitted. The grant application to the Hitchcock Foundation for printing of a prospectus for WCRC is in progress, and will be submitted by next week.

Carishma prepared a power point presentation listing WCRC's accomplishments for 2007, and goals for 2008 for the upcoming Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) meeting. Since she is going to be away on vacation, Zeke has agreed to present to the RGWCD Board.

Don Dustin agreed to be an authorized signatory, along with the WCRC director, on the new WCRC bank account to be opened in Creede.

Chairman's Report

The Wason Ranch board met earlier this week, and did not decide to terminate the lawsuit. They have requested their attorney for more information. They meet again next week to discuss the issue. They are reluctant to drop the suit in case EPA doesn't list the Nelson Tunnel.

Gwen Christiansen reported to Zeke that the Governor's office should be able to process the letter in time for the EPA deadline of January 15. The Committee decided to invite Hays Griswold, EPA officer in charge of the Emergency Response Program for the Commodore pile, to the March WCRC meeting.

TAC Report

The TAC discussed data to be incorporated in the upcoming 319 NPS CO grant. Several changes were proposed to the draft grant regarding presentation of available water quality data, along with other suggestions. Carishma will incorporate changes and send to TAC for review before finalizing and submitting the grant. It was decided to make floodplain restoration a topic for discussion for monthly TAC meetings.

Mark Walker Report

Mark reported that changes have made to grant guidelines since the MCFA received a Brownfields grant. Some of these changes make it more competitive for rural, mine-scarred sites. If commercial use

is envisioned after cleanup, it would make for a more competitive grant, rather than purely open/green spaces. These changes are yet to be finalized and adopted.

Old Business:

Stream Restoration

This topic was discussed in the TAC meeting, and was not further discussed in the regular meeting.

Adjourn:

Don moves to adjourn the meeting, Merle seconds. Motion carries. The next meeting will be on February 6, or March 5 at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carishma Gokhale-Welch