

WILLOW CREEK RECLAMATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

1:00 PM, Creede Town Hall

PRESENT: Zeke Ward, WCRC; Rex Shepperd, City of Creede; JB Alexander, Creede; Mark Walker, CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment); Jim Matush, Creede; Kelley Thompson, Agro/WCRC; Phil Bethke, Creede; Peggy Linn, EPA; Kathleen Murphy, OSM/Vista- Western Hardrock Watershed Team, WCRC; Diann Gese, RGNF; Bruce Van Haveren; Randy Wood; Phil Reinholff, RGNF; Don Dustin, Creede; Mike Holmes, EPA; Mike Wireman, US EPA; Laura Archuleta, FWS; Charlotte Bobicks, US Senator Michael Bennet; Kara Brittain, b4 studio; Jeannine Natterman, CDPHE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Change Jim G to Gusek. JB moves to approve the January minutes. Rex seconds, and the motion passes.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:

- RC&D (JB)
- Add XRF to new business

REPORTS:

Director's Report: Kelley is continuing to work on the watershed plan and Carishma is working on finishing grants.

Chairmen's Report: n/a

TAC Report: Jim Gusek presented "Reality Check: Passive Treatment of Mining Influenced Water, An Emerging Technology or Proven Methodology?". He talked about anoxic wetlands and "SRB" as a treatment option.

RC&D Report: The proposed 2010 presidential budget will do away with RC&D. WCRC should start thinking and acting in ways without RC&D.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fish Report: Laura presented that in the last ten years the fish count has doubled in East Willow Creek, West Willow Creek, and Wendy Gulch. More data to follow.

501c(3) LLC: At the Planning and Zoning meeting/City Council work session, it was presented that if a non-profit is created, Creede Resources Inc. feels more comfortable is WCRC is a non-voting member.

Floodplain Land: The city planner is working on a Memo of Understanding regarding the transfer of the floodplain land to The City of Creede.

NEW BUSINESS:

Video Project: Kara Brittain presented a cost estimate for the Willow Creek Reclamation Committee video. The video will inform viewers about the project, its progress and its goals, encourage support for the project, and encourage funding for the project. The estimated cost of the video is \$3150-3780. The Committee has \$2,510 from the Virginia Christianson Trust Fund, and CDRMS may have additional funding for the project. Rex motioned that b4 studio be hired for the video project, Don seconds, and the motion passes.

May Water Sampling Event: Tentative date for sampling is May 20. The TAC will discuss sample locations at the April 1 meeting.

WHWT April Training: The “training” will be April 27-29 in Ouray. Zeke and Kelley are “possible”.

Days of '92: Creede/Mineral Arts and Recreation is organizing vendors for this years Days of '92 celebration (July 3-4). The vendor booth will be of no cost to WCRC. The Committee agreed to have a booth. Kathleen will submit appropriate registration forms to CMAR.

Mike Homes & Wendy Naugle-RI/FS and Summer Plan: EPA has started to identify the hydrology of the Nelson Tunnel. They will continue studying for one year, keeping an eye out for seasonal changes. EPA data along with WCRC data will be used to compile a feasibility study. The EPA will be building on Kelley's watershed plan. EPA's goal is to find where the water is entering the workings and determine the age of the water. They have eight sample locations. IF the water entrance is determined, source controls will be implemented. Either the flow will be reduced entering the tunnel or the water will be re-routed. Either way, water rights will not be impacted. EPA will be installing a flume at the Tunnel, possibly in May.

XRF: no action now

Don moves to conclude meeting, Laura seconds and the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Murphy