

WILLOW CREEK RECLAMATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, April 1, 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; Kathleen Murphy, OSM/Vista- Western Hardrock Watershed Team, WCRC; Don Dustin, Creede; Ken Wyley, Creede; Diann Gese, RGNF; Randy Wood, Creede; Jim Loud, Creede; Jan Crawford, Creede;

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:

- Non-profit membership added to Old Business
- 319/grants added to New Business

Kathleen requested in-kind hours from Dec-Mar 31 for her quarterly VISTA report

REPORTS:

Director's Report: nothing to report

Chairmen's Report: Zeke and Kathleen collected snow samples for EPA.

TAC Report: The TAC requested the Committee consider hiring a re-vegetation specialist to develop a re-vegetation plan for the floodplain. The Committee agreed to invite Stuart Jennings with Reclamation Research Group to the next meeting. Mark will ask Laura to set up the meeting. Mark will also check with Kathleen Riley as to whether or not we can use some of the 319 money to hire a re-vegetation specialist.

The five nursery locations have been staked out. Each site will have willow cuttings, some root clumps from the hatchery (and maybe Clear Creek), along with willows from Saguache. The tentative date for the cuttings is April 18 and May 2 to transplant, provided the willows haven't started to bud and do not look like they will prior to April 18.

Zeke will talk w Zimmerman regarding willows and heavy equipment on his property.

VISTA Report: Kathleen has signed up for a free workshop in Canyon City (and will camp rather than stay in a hotel), Assessing Riparian Conditions. In Alamosa on April 24 there is a Brownfields workshop in which part of the workshop will pertain to buying and selling land. The cost is \$20. Don motioned that the Committee

reimburse Kathleen for mileage to and from Canyon City and reimburse Kathleen for the Brownfields workshop. (***I don't catch who made a second, I think it was Mark Walker***). Kathleen will be presenting to the elementary school and the high school biology class for Environmental Education Week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Video: The Committee compiled a list of individuals to be interviewed for the video. Kathleen will co-ordinate with Kara Brittain.

May water sampling event: Diann will check the Forest Service contract for money that can be used for testing at the Last Chance mine. The TAC will compile sample sites at their next meeting. Zeke will also reach out to Rio Grand Silver for assistance with the sampling event.

Non-profit membership: The question was posed, IF a non-profit is formed to acquire the floodplain land, would WCRC be comfortable joining the non-profit and would the Committee be okay serving more in an advisory position, and a non-voting member? Yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

319 Grant/VCTF Report: Zeke and JB will provide Kelley with an itemization of the checkbook spending, Kathleen will finalize the VCTF report and submit prior to April 15.

Kelley has applied for a mini grant to extend the watershed plan. Carishma is working on mini grants for the 5 Mines and the Amethyst Mine.

The Committee decided to continue using RC&D for mini grants and explore the possibility of using The City of Creede for larger grants. The Committee will need to get on the agenda for the April 14 meeting and submit a written request to the city by April 6 to be included in the trustees' packets.

Annual Meeting: The Committee will hold a meeting/party open to the public to illustrate what has been accomplished and where we're heading. The meeting will be sometime in September. Mark Walker suggested that we have this as an agenda item every other month, so further discussion will take place in June. This will also meet a deliverable for the Watershed Plan Grant.

Officers:

The current vice chair has missed more than 3 consecutive meetings, per the by-laws this position is vacant. JB nominated Don to be the vice-chair, Jim seconds, the nomination passed. Don is our new vice chair. The treasurer position will be determined at the next meeting.

Rex motioned to conclude meeting, Kelley seconds and the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Murphy