



**GCWC Board Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2017
3pm**

The December 15th GCWC Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Schelly Olson, at 3:15pm. Other members present were: Ryan McNertney, Vice President; Adam Gosey, Treasurer; Katlin Miller, Secretary; Merrit Linke, Board Member; Brad White, Mitigation Committee Chair; and Pat Person, Education Committee Chair.

First up, Schelly called for a motion to approve the July 14th Board Meeting minutes. Pat noticed a typo stating July 10th for the Grand Lake Fire Adapted Open House rather than the proper date of June 10th. **Merrit moved to approve the July minutes with the change from July 10th to June 10th for the Fire Adapted Open House. Ryan seconded. Motion passed.**

Next up, Adam presented the group with a financial report for fiscal year 2017. We had of \$84,863.78 in total income. Income came from: Hazardous Fuels Reduction Cost-share Program (\$66,885.91), Chipping (\$3,750), Discretionary Funds from BLM (\$10,000), Address Signs (\$3,119.87), and Donations (\$1,108). Expenses for the year totaled \$85,897.73. General and Administrative expenses equaled \$4,120.07; Public Education totaled \$2,895.78; Wildfire Mitigation expenses equaled \$73,507.90; Membership Engagement was \$4,146.31; and Fundraising expenditures were \$1,227.67. Net income for 2017 was -\$1,033.95. **Katlin moved to approve the Financials, Adam seconded, and the motion passed.** The group also discussed the reimbursement of cost-share projects that had already been completed prior to sending in an initial application. **Katlin moved to NOT reimburse any projects that have not or did not receive preapproval from the Council prior to completing work on their properties. This includes past projects and future projects. Merrit seconded. Motion passed.**

Under the Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad reported that the Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Program has been closed out. The Mitigation Crew plans to continue working on projects that no contractors want to do in the future. It will remain separate from the Council. Landowners that use the Mitigation Crew will need to pay the Fire Departments for the crew's work and then provide the Council with receipts for reimbursement.

Under the Education Subcommittee, we discussed putting more time an effort into social media advertising and education. We again discussed that the Council-formatted Fully Involved articles are too expensive to run on a regular basis, but we can send them in as guest editorials for them to format and edit as they desire. Though that sounds like a good compromise, it does come with risks in the sense that the newspaper could edit out important points. **Ryan suggested that we speak with Dan Schroeder of Summit County to see how he advertises there. Schelly also mentioned that Andy Lyon of Larkspur Fire could maybe do a video for us.**

Moving on to New Business, we discussed the 2017-2022 BLM Assistance Grant we were awarded. We currently have \$90,000 to spend on Firefighter Training and Capacity Building, Public Education, Fuels Reduction Projects, and Community Risk Assessments. Brad asked how much money could use for training this year. **The group decided that the Brad should come back at the next meeting with a proposal and budget for 2018 training expenses.**

In discussing future funding requests, **it was decided that the Mitigation Committee should develop some policies and procedures for the Cost-Share Program, and ALL future projects MUST to be pre-approved.**



Next up, Schelly mentioned that she has begun to look at the Fire Danger Signs again. Scott Spade has again requested a sign be put up in Kremmling. The group discussed possible locations, including the intersection of Hwy 9 and Hwy 40. An additional sign could also be used at the intersection of Hwy 34 and Hwy 40. The question remains, who will maintain the signs? The group agreed to continue working on this issue.

Looking towards 2018, we decided that we need to 1) increase stakeholder involvement, especially from the private sector, 2) increase fire danger and red flag warning education, and 3) have more chipping days. We elected to table the writing of the 2018 annual plan of work until a later date. Schelly also asked everyone about their future involvement with the group. Everyone committed to continuing their involvement with the Council. That being said, **Ryan, Adam, and Katlin are all up for election in 2018. The election will be held at the January Steering Committee meeting.**

Finally, Schelly asked the Board to take home the Bylaws to review and comment on any changes that are needed. Katlin also told the Board about a policy by the Colorado Department of Revenue that requires organizations that conduct sales for more than 12 calendar days a year or receives more than \$25,000 in net sales from these events to acquire a sales tax license and collect sales tax. Because we sell address signs year around, Katlin believes we should be collecting sales tax. **The group agreed to review the policy and bylaws prior to the next meeting, at which time we will vote on the approval of both documents.**

Next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2018, at 10am at Grand Fire in Granby. The Steering Committee meeting will begin at 11:30 am on January 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.



GCWC Board Meeting Minutes July 14, 2017 9am

The July 14th GCWC Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Schelly Olson, at 9:07. Other members present were: Ryan McNertney, Vice President; Adam Gosey, Treasurer; Katlin Miller, Secretary; Merrit Linke, Board Member; Brad White, Mitigation Committee Chair; Paul Mintier.

First up, **Merrit moved to approve the minutes of the January Board Meeting. Katlin seconded. Motion passed.**

Next up, Schelly presented the group with financial reports for fiscal year 2017 thus far. We have had of \$46,096.41 in total income so far. Most of the income has come from the cost-share program, chipping, and discretionary funds from Northern Water. We have sold \$884.30 worth of addressing signs and received \$701 in donations. Expenses for the year so far total \$34,382.27. General and Administrative expenses equal \$1,232.42; Public Education totals \$2,670.28; Wildfire Mitigation expenses equal \$26,216; and Membership Engagement is \$3,522.49 so far this year. Net income so far in 2017 is 11,714.14. The bank balance as on July 14th is \$22,555.53. **Katlin moved to approve the Financials, Ryan seconded, and the motion passed.**

Under the Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad reported that the Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Program funded the CSFS was complete. The contract expired on June 15th, and the entire \$60,000 had been expended. We are waiting for the final payment from the Colorado State Forest Service prior to reimbursing the participating landowners.

Brad next provided an overview of the results from the Chipping Days. The council has held 3 Community Chipping Days so far in 2017. The first one, on June 10th in Kremmling, has 11 participants; the second one, on June 24th in Fraser, had 16 attendees; and the third one, on July 8th in Grand Lake, had 44 people show up. In total, 71 people attended the Chipping Days (38 from Grand Lake, 14 from Granby, 8 from Kremmling, 7 from Fraser, and 4 from Tabernash). Total acres treated were 102.15; number of hours spent mitigating was 604; and the total number of loads was 160.5 (including a massive U-Haul). Though our numbers are down from 2016, the entire Board still felt the Community Chipping Days were worthwhile and needed. **In fact, the Board voted to hold a fourth Chipping Day on August 26th at the Granby Fire Department.** This Chipping Day would be a little different than the other because we would give special focus to the common junipers. It would tie in with our grant from the Grand Foundation called "Junk the Junipers", and the first 20 participants would receive vouchers to local participating businesses to receive \$100 worth of Firewise Landscaping materials (plants, cement pavers rock, etc...).

Also under the Mitigation Subcommittee, it was reported that the Mitigation (Fuels Reduction) Crew has been active. It continues to assist landowners with projects that are too small or undesirable to forestry contractors in Grand County.

Under the Education Subcommittee, Schelly gave a recap on the Fire Adapted Open House on June 10th in Grand Lake. We estimate that approximately 68 people visited throughout the day. The 911 Addressing Signs were a big hit, and having it during the Craft Fair helped to get people through the door. However, it was suggested that, if we do it again, we do it later in the season (late August) when the fire risk is higher and/or a big fire is currently aflame.



Also under Education, Schelly reported that she had 1,000 brochures printed about the different types of fire restrictions and red flag warnings. She has disbursed them to all the fire departments and to the county offices.

Finally, under Education, Schelly reported that she and Katlin met with the Sky-Hi News editor and marketing specialist. They have agreed to give us a 2-for-1 deal on advertising. If we wish to have our Fully Involved Articles stylized to have the same “branding” every time, they are considered ads and we must pay for them. We can do them as editorials for free, but we lose all brand identification. As a result, we have been doing some Fully Involved Articles but not as many as we used to do. The cost for one Fully Involved Article, stylized to be a half-page branded ad is over \$200 (over \$100 with the 2-for-1 deal).

Moving on to New Business, Schelly reported that Ryan setup a **workshop at the Grand County Builders Association meeting on September 21st from 7-8pm at the Inn at SilverCreek.** We will have a PowerPoint presentation and also show some videos that are relevant to building/wildfire prevention.

Schelly next reported that she will be attending the Homestead Hills HOA Meeting on July 22nd at 3pm where the Council will be presented with an Appreciation Award for our donation to their Fire Suppression Pond.

Next up, Schelly informed the group that she had been approached by Angela Outen of the local radio station, KRKY, to do an advertising contract for the year. So far, Schelly has been doing free community announcements for the Council and Grand Fire. The annual contract would cost \$2600, but the Council would only pay a quarter of that price (\$650). The radio contract would provide for unlimited advertising on the air. **Katlin moved to pay \$650 for unlimited radio ads for the Council for the year. Schelly seconded. Motion passed.**

Moving on, the Board had a discussion on fire restrictions, open burning, and fire ordinances. Ultimately, it was decided that we are not currently under any fire restrictions, and the County Commissioners discuss the possibility of going into fire restrictions on a weekly basis. Input by the Sheriff and each of the fire departments is considered when deciding whether or not to enter into fire restrictions.

Afterward, Schelly reported that the Grand County CWPP project that Amy discussed that the previous board meeting is currently on the back burner. It will resume once weed season is over.

Finally, the Board discussed future funding for the Council. It was reported that we currently have a \$20,000 left in our Discretionary from (from the BLM Community Assistance Grant) and \$15,125 funds left from Northern Water available. We need to seek additional funding to sustain the Council and continue our mitigation programs. Schelly said that the upcoming BLM Community Assistance Grant application is due on July 24th. If we decide to apply for it, we need to come up with a plan now. **Accordingly, the Board elected to apply for \$100,000 that will be allocated amongst Public Education, Community-level Mitigation Projects (Fuels Reduction Cost-Share and Community Chipping), Community Risk Assessment Program, and Firefighter Training.** Schelly, Katlin, and Brad will work on the application.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.



GCWC Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2017

9am

The April 14th GCWC Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Schelly Olson, at 9:02. Other members present were: Ryan McNertney, Vice President; Adam Gosey, Treasurer; Katlin Miller, Secretary; Merrit Linke, Board Member; Brad White, Mitigation Committee Chair; Amy Sidener, Grand County DNR.

First, under the Mitigation Subcommittee Update, Brad updated the group on the Fuels Reduction Cost-Share program. We were originally granted \$60,000 for the program. There is approximately \$24,000 left for distribution; however, most of it has already been allocated. A portion of these funds will go to a large project adjacent to Northern Water property called the "Carter Project".

Moving on to the Chipping Program, Brad confirmed that we will have three chipping days this summer. They will be funded by the fuels mitigation cost-share program and the \$1,750 grant we received from Grand County BOCC. The first chipping day will be on June 10th in Kremmling, followed by June 24th in Fraser or Winter Park, and finally, July 8th in Grand Lake. Exact locations have yet to be determined, but it was suggested that we do Bighorn Park in Kremmling, the Road/Bridge Department in Fraser, and speak to the Grand Lake Rotary Club about a location in Grand Lake.

Finally, under Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad and Schelly spoke about the Fire Mitigation Crew. They said that Grand Fire is putting together a Fire Mitigation crew, composed of firefighters from throughout the county, that will help with projects that other contractors refuse to do. Prospective projects include: Ten Mile Estates, Stagecoach Meadows, and Columbine Lake. Some of these projects may be included in the current Fuels reduction Cost-Share program. If this is the case, the Mitigation Crew would essentially be the contractor for that project.

Under the Education Subcommittee, Schelly reported that Clancy and Pat are working on the Fire Adapted Open House to be held in Grand Lake on June 10th from 12-4pm. Schelly also reported that we reprinted two different IBHS brochures in February with a 2016 grant we received from Grand Foundation. Schelly and Katlin continue to write Fully Involved Articles, but we have had difficulty getting them into the Sky-Hi News due to their current lack of an Editor. Schelly and Katlin were also able to get information about GCWC on the back of the DMV registration cards that are sent out to every car owner in the county. Approximately 24,000 cards get sent out every year. Merrit next reported that he believes we will be able to send out info on wildfire preparedness with the Grand County property tax assessments. He suggested we speak to Tina Whitmer (Grand County Treasurer) and also offer our assistance with stuffing envelopes.

Schelly next presented a list of checks and deposits for the months of January-April. Most of the deposits and withdrawals have related to the cost-share program. Other withdrawals include: a returned check bank charge, reimbursement to Katlin for the lunch at January's Steering Committee meeting, a check to KopyKat for the brochures, renewal of our Colorado Nonprofit Association membership, payment for liability insurance, payments for FACO items that will be reimbursed, a check to Interstate Signs for our address signs, a deposit and registration fee to the Town of Grand Lake for the Open House on June 10th, registration fee for Pat Person to attend the Colorado Wildfire Conference, and payment to Paul Mintier (PMC) for his work on the cost-share program. Deposits, other than those related to the cost-share program, include: payment for signs, reimbursements from FACO, and the \$1750 BOCC grant. Schelly also



requested that the Board consider paying for her hotel at the Colorado Wildfire Conference. Katlin moved to pay for her hotel costs. Ryan seconded. Motion passed.

Moving on to New Business, Schelly informed the group that National Wildfire Preparedness Day is on May 6th, 2017. It also happens to be the same day at the 9news Health Fair in Granby. The group agreed to have our booth at the Health Fair be our community outreach event for National Wildfire Preparedness Day.

Amy next reported that she has begun the process to update the County's CWPP. She said it will be a lot of work, but, with Schelly's assistance, Amy hopes to have it done by the end of the year.

The conversation next shifted to future funding sources. The FEMA grant application will be due soon, but the group agreed that it would not be worth our time considering how competitive it is. The Grand Foundation grant is due on May 1st. Schelly and Merrit both thought we should apply for a "Junk the Juniper" pilot program to encourage people to remove common juniper bushes and replace them with fire resistant landscaping. The program would work as a voucher program to incentivize homeowners to remove juniper. In exchange for removal, homeowners would receive a voucher to a local nursery or landscaping business to purchase their Firewise landscaping goods. The group agreed to apply for "Junk the Junipers" through the Grand Foundation grant program. Next, Ryan updated the group on the Colorado DNR Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant. He said that it has been included in Senate Bill 17-259; he believes it will likely pass. Finally, Schelly told the group that she is still waiting to hear about the Joint Fire Sciences Research Grant. She hopes to hear something soon.

Moving on, The Colorado Wildfire Conference is April 19-21 in Pueblo. Schelly Olson, Amy Sidener, Pat Person, and Matt Schiltz are all planning to attend. While at the conference, Schelly will be leading a discussion titled "There's an App for That". She will learn about all the different wildfire assessment apps used throughout the state and hopefully find out which format is best. This type of "learning exchange" is what FACO promotes in order to compare ideas all at once.

Schelly also reported that she will be attending a CMAT (Community Mitigation Assistance Team) workshop in Boise in May.

Afterward, Katlin suggested to the Board that we once again consider doing a workshop for the realtors. It has been requested of us several times before. The group agreed that we should do a workshop this September for the realtors, insurance agents, county planners, and the building association at Silver Creek Inn. It would be similar to the PPWPP workshop that several people attended last year, and a possible speaker might be Carol Walker of the Rocky Mountain Institute of Insurance. The suggested days of the week were to Tuesday or Thursday evening.

Finally, the group discussed the agenda for the upcoming Steering Committee meeting. The group decided that the agenda should follow that of the Board meeting. We would also try to get the past Summit County Wildfire Mitigation Specialist or someone from the Summit County Wildfire Council to attend as the guest speaker. The group also agreed to have pizza at the Steering Committee meeting on April 27th.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.