



Lunch: We had BBQ from Sagebrush Grill for Lunch.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Schelly Olson at 12:05pm.

Members Present (24):

Schelly Olson (Grand Fire, GCWC Chair)	Deb Doberson (Valley at Winter Park)
Katlin Miller (MP Conservation District, GCWC Secretary)	Mike Long (Grand Lake Fire)
Brad White (Grand Fire, GCWC Mitigation Chair)	Bob Colosimo (Winter Park Highlands)
Pat Person (Homeowner, GCWC Education Chair)	Geoff Elliot (Grand Environment/UCRWG)
Paul Mintier (Grand Fire)	Dave Holsinger (Homestead Hills)
Christian Hornbaker (Grand County OEM)	

Review of Past Minutes:

The group reviewed the Minutes of the January 2018 Steering Committee Meeting. **Bob moved to approve the minutes. Pat seconded the motion. When called for a vote, the MOTION PASSED!**

Financial Update:

Schelly presented the checks/deposits report from April 27th to July 26th, 2018. Gross income for the quarter was \$-4,377.19. Most checks and deposits involved address signage, fire danger signs, Junk the Juniper vouchers, chipping, and our 990 tax filing. **Bob moved to approve the financial report. Deb seconded the motion. When called for a vote, the MOTION PASSED!**

Mitigation Committee Report:

- Cost-Share Program: 8 potential projects totaling \$13,431
- Chipping Program: 3 dates down, 1 to go (Kremmling on August 11th). Grand Lake was super successful (85 attendees, 221 loads)
- The Mitigation Committee will be meeting on September 6th and November 8th at 3pm at Grand Fire.
- Mitigation Crew is currently working on projects at Winding River Villas.

Education Committee Report:

- Era of Megafires: 2 more dates hosted by Colorado Timber Resources
 - Saturday, June 28th at 11am at the Foundry
 - Friday, August 17th at 6:30pm at Grand Lake Community House
- We will be printing 1000 copies of our Fire Info Brochure

Old Business:

- Fire Danger Signs: We ordered 3 large rainbow dial fire danger signs, but they were damaged during shipping and sent back for repair. Waiting to get them back
- Colorado Gives Day/Amazon Smile: Katlin is working to get us registered with the State of Colorado as a Charitable Organization, so we can begin accepting donations through Colorado Gives and Amazon Smile
- Wire Team: We will be meeting with the Wire Team next week to begin surveying the Winter Park Highlands. Communities that will be assessed next include: Columbine Lake, Winter Park Ranch, and Big Horn Park.



New Business:

- Fire Restrictions: The BOCC downgraded the Fire Restrictions from State 2 to Stage 1 as of July 24th at 4pm.
- Board Member #: The Board asked the members if we should increase the number of board members from 5 to 7. No one immediately volunteered, so the number remained at 5. Deb said she might be interested starting next year, so we will revisit the idea in October and/or January.
- Vice Chair: Schelly noted that the Board had elected Merrit Linke as the Vice Chair at their last Board Meeting (July 18th).
- County Mill Levy: Schelly told the group that the Board is considering asking the BOCC to adopt a mill levy for wildfire mitigation and prevention. Overall, the group seemed for the mill levy with a sunset provision. The Board will continue to work on it and see if we can get it on the ballot this year.

Agency and Attendee Reports:

Valley at Winter Park

- Deb is working on a letter to the BLM asking them to create a fire break at the bottom of Sheep Mountain. She asked the Wildfire Council to support and endorse the letter. The Council said that we would endorse the letter. Deb agreed to work with Brad and Paul on the letter.

Grand Fire

- Looking at purchasing a new wildland truck
- Has gone on 9 resource orders thus far this year
- Working on an inclusion of Trail Creek Estates into GFPD #1
- Looking to put a De-Gallagherization question on the ballot this year
- Has worked to organize the Mountain Area Mutual Aid group between 10 counties in NW Colorado. This group provides mutual aid for the first 24-hours of initial attack on wildland fires.

East Grand Fire

- Very busy with new construction
- Has had a few fires in district
- Has helped out with a few Mutual Aid calls in and out of county

Pat Person

- Pat is reading a book called *Megafire* by Michael Kotis. She recommends it to everyone.
- RMNP is looking to do mitigation work along the NP/FS boundary near Sloopy's.

Middle Park Conservation District

- Hosting a Water Law in a Nutshell Workshop in Grand Lake on August 24th. Cost is \$52. Contact Katlin at middleparkcd@gmail.com to sign up.

Upper Colorado River Watershed Group (UCRWG)

- Wrote a Watershed Resiliency Plan for the Bureau of Reclamation Water Smart program. It was approved, so now they are working on a 9-step watershed plan.
- Has been working with Grand Lake Metro Rec District on wildfire mitigation projects along their trails. GLMRD has a new intern, Samantha Cathey, who will be working on improving their social media presence.
- Geoff watched a webinar of wildfires and hydrophobic soils. He said that it takes 5-10 years for soils to recover and bring back their "sponginess". You can expect 2 years of flooding to occur after a fire due to the hydrophobic properties of soil after wildfire.



**GCWC Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2018
11:30am**

Grand Lake Fire

- Hosting a Community After Action Meeting regarding the Golf Course Fire on August 7th at 5pm at the Grand Lake Fire Station #1.
- There were over 100 spot fires up to 4/10 of a mile away from the Golf Course Fire. However, the mitigation work previously completed in the area, along with the quick actions by firefighters, helped reduce the spread of those fires to neighboring structures. No structures were lost in the fire.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.



Lunch: Schelly and Katlin prepared a taco bar lunch for the group.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Schelly Olson at 12:05pm.

Members Present (24):

Schelly Olson (Grand Fire, GCWC Chair)	Helen (Grand County Natural Resources)
Adam Gosey (East Grand Fire, GCWC Treasurer)	CW Portell (BLM)
Katlin Miller (MP Conservation District, GCWC Secretary)	Christian Hornbaker (Grand County OEM)
Clancy Philipsborn (GCWC Board Member, Homeowner)	Brett Schroetlin (Grand County Sheriff's Office)
Merrit Linke (Grand BOCC, GCWC Board Member)	Jeff Bauckman (Grand County Sheriff's Office)
Brad White (Grand Fire, GCWC Mitigation Chair)	Keith Stag (Northern Water)
Pat Person (Homeowner, GCWC Education Chair)	Linda Spaet (Trail Creek Estates)
Ryan McNertney (CSFS)	John Temple (B&G)
Matt Schiltz (CSFS)	Bill West (B&G)
Ron Thompson (Grand Fire)	Wendy Bourn (Grand County Realtors)
Paul Mintier (Grand Fire)	Patty Champ (USFS/RMRC/WiRe)
Amy Sidener (Grand County Natural Resources)	Hannah Brenkert-Smith (CU Boulder/WiRe)

Review of Past Minutes:

The group reviewed the Minutes of the January 2018 Steering Committee Meeting. **Merrit moved to approve the minutes. Ryan seconded the motion. When called for a vote, the MOTION PASSED!**

Financial Update:

Currently, we have \$24,089.57 in our US Bank account. We also have \$90,000 in our ASAP (BLM) account. So far this year, we have received \$15,000 from Northern Water for mitigation projects, \$500 from the Grand County Fire Chiefs, and \$153.56 in address sign sales. We have spent a total of \$742.82 on printing, advertising, meals, website, and insurance. Accordingly, our net income to date is \$14,488.24. **Adam moved to approve the financial report. Katlin seconded the motion. When called for a vote, the MOTION PASSED!**

Guest Speakers:

Patty Champ and Hannah Brenkert-Smith of the Wildfire Research Team (WiRe) presented on the research program they will be working with the Council to implement up here in Grand County. The program will seek to perform community risk assessments on selected communities via rapid visual assessments and social surveys. The goals of the program are: 1) assess the actual wildfire risk within communities and rate individual parcels from low risk to extreme risk, 2) determine what level of risk individual homeowners think their parcels have, 3) reduce the gap between actual risk and perceived risk through education of homeowners. The WiRe team will also create customized webpages for each parcel that is assessed. You can check out a test webpage by going to cowildfire.org/myhomeTEST01.

Mitigation Committee Report:

- Brad reported that the cost-share program will be open in mid-May.
- We will be doing at least two Chipping Days/Junk the Juniper events this year, but dates have yet to be set. Brad also mentioned that the Granby Sanitation District will not be accepting chips this year, so we will be looking for places to dispose of chips.
- The Mitigation Committee will be meeting on May 3rd, July 5th, September 6th, and November 8th at 3pm at Grand Fire.



Education Committee Report:

Pat submitted an article to the Sky-Hi on behalf of the Council earlier this year.

Katlin attended the 9Health Fair in Granby on April 7th. Three hundred and ninety-three (393) people attended the fair, which was down from last year, but the weather was not great and it was Spring Break.

Schelly mentioned that American Family Insurance is changing the way they assess wildfire risk relating to insurance policies. As such, those homeowners who have had their insurance policies cancelled by other companies may be able to get insured by American Family Insurance. Leslie Weise is the local American Family Insurance agent.

Old Business:

Schelly collaborated with the USFS to order 4 rainbow wheel Fire Danger Signs. They were ordered through the UT Department of Corrections Sign Shop. Exact locations have yet to be determined. However, they will likely be placed in Kremmling, Parshall, Granby, and up Hwy 125.

New Business:

Schelly spoke about the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and its vision to safely and effectively extinguish fire when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and, as a nation, live with wildland fire. They seek to accomplish this through implementing mitigation projects, building fire adapted communities, and having safe and effective wildfire response.

Agency and Attendee Reports:

Grand County Sheriff's Office

- Got a new drone that will help with many things, include wildfire assessment (with its thermal imaging technology)
- Brett attended the Governor's Wildfire Outlook Meeting on behalf of Colorado's Sheriffs.

East Grand Fire District

- Getting lots of questions regarding insurance policies being dropped. The fire department will try to help homeowners as much as they can.

BLM

- Working on a timber sale on the Trough Road near Radium

Trail Creek Estates

- Working on getting incorporated into Grand Fire Protection District. Currently, they are not included in any fire districts.

Grand DNR

- Open Burn season is officially closed.
 - **378 Permits issued Countywide. Of the 378 permits, only 30 did not report any burning activity.**
 - **Granby: 94, Grand Lake: 73, HSSP: 18, Fraser Valley: 145, Kremmling: 48**
 - **102 Days long (Dec 26 to April 8) allowing a total of 1121 hours of burning**
 - **3,349 Piles permitted with 3,120 piles burned**
 - **7,517,119 Cubic Feet (CF) of material permitted with 6,820,923 CF burned**



Clancy Philipsborn

- Still trying to get his community to care about wildfire prevention and preparedness.

Bill West

- He is a logger who is also part of an initial strike team for wildfires.

Merrit Linke

- Reiterated that the County's Burn Ordinances should be finalized and approved by the end of May to the beginning of June

Paul Mintier

- Back on the job at Grand Fire as the Wildfire guy

Northern Water

- Gave the Council \$15,000 so far this year to assist with mitigation projects that will protect the watersheds adjacent to the CB-T project.

CSFS

- Firewise USA has beefed up their requirements for qualification. Those who currently have the Firewise designation will be grandfathered in; however, they will have to switch to the new requirements at some point. Colorado currently has 168 Firewise communities, the most of any state.
- Ryan will be applying for a grant to do some landscape-scale restoration projects in the Fraser and Williams Fork areas. He will be looking to other organizations, including the Council, for support and assistance with the grant and project (if funded).
- The USFS and BLM Good Neighbor agreements are active and progressing. The USFS is working on a 70-acre timber sale near the YMCA, and the BLM is looking to do a sale near C Lazy U as well as one near Tabernash.

Grand Fire (Brad)

- This season's wildfire outlook appears to compare to the monumental seasons of 2012, 2006, and 2002.
- There have been 332 fires so far this year in the Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota). A total of 188,000 acres have burned in the region so far this year.
- Mountain communities are starting to designate coordinators to facilitate mobilizing resources coming in or going out of the county

Grand County OEM

- Working on updating the County's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan that needs to be updated by 2020.
- LEPC is in the process of creating a PIO subcommittee.

Grand Fire (Schelly)

- Schelly has been named the regional Firewise coordinator.
- May is CO Wildfire Awareness Month. The Council will look to do a screening of the "Era of Mega Fires" at the Foundry in celebration of Wildfire Awareness month.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:34pm. Next meeting scheduled for **Thursday, July 26th, 2018, at 11:30am at Grand Fire. We will have a BBQ!!!!**



Items to work on are listed at the end of these minutes!!!!

Lunch & Video: Schelly and Katlin prepared a spaghetti lunch for the group.

Schelly also showed a cartoonist's portrayal of the Santa Rosa fire. You can watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPQJKHCPOq4>

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Schelly Olson at 12:14pm.

Members Present (15):

Clancy Philipsborn (Homeowner, Grandview Highlands)
Geoff Elliott (UCRWG)
Linda Spaet (Trail Creek Estates)
Brady Mathis (Kremmling Fire)
Keith Stagg (Northern Water)
Steve Lawless (Homestead Hills)
Brad White (Grand Fire, GCWC Mitigation Chair)
Amy Sidener (Grand County Natural Resources)

Katlin Miller (Middle Park Conservation District, GCWC Secretary)
Schelly Olson (Grand Fire, GCWC Chair)
Deb Dobersen (Valley at Winter Park)
Adam Gosey (East Grand Fire, GCWC Treasurer)
Steve Waldorf (East Grand Fire)
Colin Steward (Grand Lake Fire)
Pat Person (Homeowner, GCWC Education Chair)

Review of Past Minutes:

Schelly provided the minutes from the October 19, 2017, Steering Committee meeting for group to review. There were no comments or concerns from the group.

Financial Update:

Adam provided the financial report for 2017. Our total income was \$84,863.78; our total expenditures were \$85,987.73. Thus, our net income for 2017 was -\$1,033.95. Our US Bank account balance as of January 18, 2018, is \$9,562.44. Our ASAP account balance is \$90,000. Thus, our assets/liabilities as of 1.18.18 equal \$99,562.44.

Mitigation Committee Report:

Brad reported on the Fuels Reduction Cost-share Program in 2017. We reimbursed \$80,000, but \$214,000 worth of work was actually performed. Acreage mitigated through the program totaled 230 acres.

In 2018, Brad intends to use \$40,000 from the BLM Assistance Grant for mitigation and an additional \$5,800 for training/capacity building.

Education Committee Report:

Pat has presented a draft article for the newspaper to the Board for review. Schelly spoke to Lance Maggart, of Sky-Hi News, about the BLM grant. He intends to write a story on it.



New Business:

Amy presented on the Grand County Open Burning Program. The program is currently open, and the daily burn list is updated by 7-8am every day. Anyone who desires to burn a slash pile larger than 3'x3'x3' must obtain a burn permit from Grand County DNR. So far, 284 permits have been issued this season. We are 22 days into the season, and 1541 piles have been burned. There have been 163 available hours for burning; 40% of the available hours and 48% of the piles have been burned on weekends.

Geoff Elliott presented on the activities of the Upper Colorado River Watershed Group (UCRWG). He also asked if the Grand County Wildfire Council would be an affiliate of UCRWG on various grant applications. Schelly instructed Geoff to speak with the Board after the meeting.

Schelly informed the group that we recently submitted a grant application to Fire Adapted Colorado (FACO) to fund two chipping days this summer. The grant application period has not closed yet.

Schelly also told the group that we recently received a \$1,000 grant from Town of Winter Park for our "Junk the Junipers" program. On the topic of grants, it was suggested that we get our organization on the Colorado Gives website so that we can benefit from Colorado Gives Day next year.

Finally, Schelly presented the group with a draft 2018 budget. She noted that it will be discussed by the newly elected Board prior to final approval.

Election of Board Members:

We had 3 board positions up for election in 2018. Board terms are 2 years in length, and board members are not term-limited. Board members up for election included: Ryan McNertney, Katlin Miller, and Adam Gosey.

Schelly called for nominations from the group. The only nominations were Katlin Miller, Adam Gosey, and Clancy Philipsborn. All nominees accepted their nominations and were elected by acclamation. They will serve until 2020.

Schelly and Merrit will be up for election in 2019.

Agency and Attendee Reports:

Grand Fire

- Working with the mitigation crew to burn some piles on Granby Ranch
- Sent several crews out-of-county and to other states this year
- Working on burn ordinances and dealt with more out-of-season illegal pile burns.

Steve Lawless

- Brought up a new book on wildfire that discusses the new world of wildfire frequency, intensity, and damage. He will check out the title and get it to Schelly.
- The water storage pond dug at Homestead Hills last year did not hold water like it should have. Homestead Hills will be doing some additional work to it this spring to get it sealed.



Clancy Philipsborn

- Wants the council to invest in “Neighborhood Wildfire Info” signs/tablecloths as well as “Another Project funded by the Grand County Wildfire Council” signs.
- Read a story about birds in Canada that are known to start wildfires by carrying lit sticks in the mouths.
- Told the group about a 1-hour webinar to be held on **February 6th from 10-11am on “Using Storytelling to Assess Long-term Wildland Fire Risks”**.

Pat Person

- Working on educational articles for the newspaper

Grand Lake Fire

- Worked with the other fire district quite a bit this year
- Street addressing is a big problem in GL. Schelly commented that the Addressing Task Force is working on getting address signs on all Short Term Rentals and Time Shares. Colin asked to be added to the Addressing Task Force. Schelly agreed.

Northern Water

- Keith is taking on many of the duties previously performed by Jerry and Amy. He is new and just figuring things out.
- Northern Water is interested in financially assisting the Council again this year. We just need to get them a proposal.

East Grand Fire

- Had several problems with dispersed camping this year (especially up Vasquez Road).
- Got a new fire truck

Kremmling Fire

- Looking for volunteers to join the department
- Got a new fire truck

Trail Creek Estates

- Not an official HOA, but Linda is working to educate the residents in the area about wildfire

UCRWG

- Working on grants for the Audubon Society and Ducks Unlimited
- Looking to do a quarterly newsletter

Valley at Winter Park

- Working on a lot maintenance policy
- Very proud of their Firewise Community designation. There are currently 6 Firewise Communities in Grand County.



GCWC Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2018
11:30am

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled for **Thursday, April 26th, 2018, at 11:30am at Grand Fire. We will have TACOS!!!!**

Items to Work On:

- Get name of wildfire book from Steve Lawless
- Add stories, books, resources to our Facebook page
- Get GCWC on Colorado Gives website
- Get Fire Danger Signs in Kremmling and possibly on the corner of Hwys 34 & 40
- Work with Pat to get articles in the paper

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Katlin Miller'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katlin Miller