



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.