



## **GCWC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes July 20, 2017 11:30am**

The July 20<sup>th</sup> GCWC Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Schelly Olson, at 11:45am. A total of 25 people were in attendance. See the list at the bottom of these minutes for the other attendees present.

First up, everyone helped themselves to a lunch of tacos and cookies. Schelly then thanked everyone for attending and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Next, Schelly told the group that instead of a guest speaker this month, we would have two video presentations: one about the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control's MMA (Multi-Mission Aircraft) and the other about the 747 Supertanker.

Schelly next 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 14<sup>th</sup> is \$22,555.53.

Under Old Business and the Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad reported that the Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Program funded the CSFS was complete. The contract expired on June 15<sup>th</sup>, and the entire \$60,000 had been expended. We have also received \$15,125 from Northern Water, none of which has been expended yet.

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 10<sup>th</sup> in Kremmling, has 11 participants; the second one, on June 24<sup>th</sup> in Fraser, had 16 attendees; and the third one, on July 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Board felt more Chipping Days were still needed. As a result, they decided to hold a fourth Chipping Day on August 26<sup>th</sup> at the Granby Fire Department. This Chipping Day would be a little different than the other days because it will have a special focus on 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, Paul Mintier reported that the Mitigation (Fuels Reduction) Crew has been active. It is comprised of firefighters from each of the fire departments in Grand County, and the purpose is to assist landowners with projects that are too small or undesirable to forestry contractors in Grand County.



Under the Education Subcommittee, Pat Person gave a recap on the Fire Adapted Open House on July 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

Moving on to New Business, Schelly reported that we have arranged to do a **workshop at the Grand County Builders Association meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3pm where the Council will be presented with an Appreciation Award for our donation to their Fire Suppression Pond. Steve Lawless, Homestead Hills HOA President, also thanked the group for our assistance. He presented Schelly with a plaque and gave Schelly a thank you letter. Schelly read the letter aloud to the group. Steve also passed around before and after photos of the pond.

Next up, Schelly informed the group that the Board had decided to send \$650 on unlimited radio ads for the Council to do fire prevention and preparedness messaging. Schelly will work on new ads soon.

Moving on, the group had a lively discussion on fire restrictions, open burning, and fire ordinances. Ultimately, it was explained that we are not currently under any fire restrictions. 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. The County Commissioners and the Sheriff use a Standard Matrix used by all other Counties in NW Colorado to determine when fire restrictions are needed. At least 4 or the 7 criteria must be met before fire restrictions are enacted. So far, we have not met at least 4 criteria simultaneously.

Finally, Schelly informed the group that we will be applying for another BLM Community Assistance Grant to keep the Council going and help fund future mitigation projects. We will apply for \$100,000 that will be allocated amongst Public Education, Community-level Mitigation Projects (Fuels Reduction Cost-Share and Community Chipping), a Community Risk Assessment Program, and Firefighter Training. The grant is due on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.

#### **GCWC Steering Committee Members in Attendance**

Schelly Olson, GCWC Chair, Grand Fire  
Ryan McNertney, GCWC Vice Chair, CSFS  
Adam Gosey, GCWC Treasurer, East Grand Fire  
Katlin Miller, GCWC Secretary, Middle Park Conservation District  
Merrit Linke, GCWC Board Member, Grand County Commissioner  
Brad White, GCWC Mitigation Committee Chair, Grand Fire  
Paul Mintier, Grand Fire  
Wade Bell, Colorado State Forest Service  
Nicole Boeckers, Snow Mountain Ranch (YMCA)  
Amy Johnson, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District  
Steve Lawless, Homestead Hills HOA  
Pat Person, GCWC member



Deb Dobersen, Valley at Winter Park HOA  
Mike Dobersen, Valley at Winter Park Water District  
Dennis Soles, East Grand Fire  
Linda Spaet, Trail Creek Estates  
CW Powell, BLM  
Sam Parsons, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control  
Jim White, Town of Grand Lake  
Cheryl Dale, Grand Lake Fire  
Dave Kunkle, East Grand Fire and Kunkle Services  
Kristin Rybig, East Grand Fire  
Jeff Bauckman, Grand County Sheriff's Office  
Brett Schroetlin, Grand County Sheriff  
Jon Morrissey, USFS