



**GCWC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2017
11:30am**

The October 19th GCWC Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Schelly Olson, at 11:45am. Nineteen people were in attendance. See the list at the bottom of these minutes for the attendees who were present.

First up, everyone helped themselves to a lunch of barbecued brisket and pork from Sagebrush Grill in Grand Lake. While everyone was eating, Schelly played two videos; one about Colorado firefighters (including a crew from Granby) on their way to California to fight some wildfires and the second about the Berkley Fire Department fighting a wildfire in Santa Rosa, California.

Schelly then thanked everyone for attending and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

After a review of the July Meeting Minutes by Schelly, Adam presented the group with financial reports for fiscal year 2017 thus far. We have had of \$46,096.41 in total income so far. Our total income so far is \$72,691.10, most of which come from the cost-share program, chipping, and discretionary funds from Northern Water. We have sold \$2,497.19 worth of addressing signs and received \$1,108 in donations. Expenses for the year so far total \$77,931.41. General and Administrative expenses equal \$3,963.75; Public Education totals \$2,895.78; Wildfire Mitigation expenses equal \$65,437.90; Membership Engagement is \$4,146.31; and Fundraising Expenditures are \$1,487.67 so far this year. Net income so far in 2017 is -5,240.31. The bank balance as of October 19th is \$5,356.00.

Under Old Business and the Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad reported that the combined stats for the 2017 Chipping Program included 238 treated acres and 237 loads. For a complete list of 2017 Chipping stats, see the summary at the end of these minutes. We also gave out 20-\$100 vouchers to people at our last chipping day to be used at local landscaping businesses to purchase Firewise landscaping materials. Two vouchers have been returned so far (both from Ace Hardware), but vouchers can be used all the way through next summer. The vouchers were funded through a "Junk the Junipers" grant by the Grand Foundation.

Also under Mitigation, Brad told the group that the Fuels Reduction Cost-Share Program has finished up for the year. All told, about 288 acres were treated through this program. With Northern Water's \$15,000 they donated to the Council, we treated 26 acres in the Lake Forest Subdivision, created a 6-acre fuel break on County Road 41, and created a fuel break near Winding River Ranch.

Finally under the Mitigation Subcommittee, Brad reported that the Mitigation (Hazardous 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. This year, the crew worked on two projects, Stagecoach Meadows and Granby Ranch.

Under the Education Subcommittee, Schelly informed the group that we did a presentation at the Grand County Builders Association about "Creating a Fire Adapted Home". She also said that the Builders Association is looking to push for all building permits given by the county to also include 9-1-1 Reflective Address Signs as a requirement.

Also under Education, the group discussed our Fully Involved Articles in the Sky-Hi News. Topics could include: CodeRed, GCEmergency, and Evacuation Planning. Pat Person also said that might write a few articles.



Finally under Education, Pat discussed how she staffed a GCWC booth at both the Grand Fire and Grand Lake Fire Open Houses. She had info on the Council and 9-1-1 reflective Address Signs. In Granby, she also used the Ember House to demonstrate how flying embers can ignite a home.

Moving on to New Business, Schelly mentioned that the County has agreed to require all new Short-Term rental permits to buy 9-1-1 Reflective Address Signs. For the 300 compliant Short-Term Rentals already in the county, they will get their signs for free. This is a huge accomplishment because most tourists have no clue of the address where they are staying.

Amy, from Grand County DNR, next spoke about the Open Burning Season in Grand County. Open Burning is managed through Grand County DNR. To do any kind of Open Burning (besides ag burning), you must obtain a burn permit through Grand County DNR. Her office is already issuing burn permits for this year; however, the season will not officially open until there is sufficient permanent snowpack (usually around Thanksgiving). Furthermore, there may be daily closures throughout the winter if weather conditions are not permitting. The County is also considering getting the Fire Departments more involved in the management of the Open Burning season this year, but no decisions have been made yet. Finally, Amy mentioned that the cost of burn permits will now be \$20 for a personal permit and \$500 for a commercial permit. To read more about Open Burning and how to correctly build a burn pile, click the following link and scroll down to the deep red box in the left column. [Slash Pile Burning](#)

Next up, Schelly invited each of the attendees to give a report on their agency's happenings. Jeri Pillar, from Rocky Mountain National Park, reported that a change in staffing next year will reduce the number of seasonals on their fire crew and not permit them to work beyond 6 months. This will mean that very little, if any, preventative mitigation measures will occur next year. Noble Curran, from Northern Water Conservancy District, reported that work on the power line is progressing nicely, and because of the power line, Willow Creek reservoir will be reduced to the bare minimum this winter. Ryan, from the Colorado State Forest Service, reported that the CSFS is currently working on a Good Neighbor Agreement with the USFS that will resemble an existing Good Neighbor Agreement between the CSFS and BLM. Ryan also mentioned that the CSFS is currently going through a re-organization, but he did not elaborate much on the topic.

Last, but not least, Schelly told the group about some fantastic news we just received last week. **The Grand County Wildfire County was just awarded \$80,000 from the BLM Community Assistance Fund.** The funds will be used to create a "Fire Adapted Ground County". Specifically, the grant will fund public education campaigns, firefighter training and capacity building, hazardous fuels reduction, and community risk assessments. We are super excited about this grant and cannot wait to start planning out our activities.

Meeting adjourned.

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
Nicole Boeckers, Snow Mountain Ranch (YMCA)
Noble Curran, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

Steve Lawless, Homestead Hills HOA
Pat Person, GCWC member
Linda Spaet, Trail Creek Estates
Cheryl Dale, Grand Lake Fire
Dan Mayer, Grand County Sheriff's Office
Jeri Pillar, Rocky Mountain National Park
Robert Roberts, Colorado State Patrol
Dave Holsinger, Homestead Hills HOA
Amy Sidener, Grand County Division of Natural Resources
Karen Smith, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



GCWC Chipping Days 2017 - June 10, June 24, July 8, Aug 25th

	<u>Attendees</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>Attendees</u> <u>Towns</u>	<u>acres</u>	<u>hours</u>	<u>Total Loads</u>	<u>donations</u>	
Grand Lake Chipping	44	8 Granby, 34 Grand Lake, 1 Kremmling, 1 Tabernash	59	407	94	\$215	load total includes 1 uhaul
Fraser Chipping	16	3 Tabernash, 3 Granby, 7 Fraser, 3 Grand Lake	34.8	166	44	\$75	
Kremmling Chipping	11	7 Kremmling, 1 Grand Lake, 3 Granby	8.35	31	22.5	???	
Granby Chipping	48	3 Kremmling, 16 Grand Lake, 11 Granby, 1 Fraser, 1 Fraser/Tab, 14 Tabernash, 1 Winter Park, 1 Hot Sulphur	136.45	627.9	77	\$92	1 Uhaul?, 20 \$100 Vouchers Given Away
TOTAL	119	25 Granby, 54 Grand Lake, 18 Tabernash, 8 Fraser, 1 Fraser/Tab, 11 Kremmling, 1 Hot Sulphur, 1 WP	238.6	1231.9	237.5	\$382	