



**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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, September 6<sup>th</sup>, and November 8<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 11:30am at Grand Fire. We will have a BBQ!!!!**