



Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2015

Fraser EOC Meeting Room

Minutes Submitted by Katlin Miller

The quarterly meeting of the Grand County Wildfire Council was called to order by Chairman Schelly Olson at 12:15 pm on July 16, 2015. Sixteen people were in attendance...see list at the bottom of the minutes.

The minutes from the April 2015 meeting were dispersed to the group. No changes were mentioned, so the minutes were approved as read. Schelly did, however, suggest that we change our mission statement from "Through education and action, promote wildfire prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and survival" to "**Through education and action, promote wildland fire prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and survival.**" With no objection, the change to the mission statement was approved as suggested.

Financial Report

Under Committee Reports, Adam Gosey, GCWC Treasurer, gave the Financial Report. For Fiscal Year 2015, we have so far received \$4,823.24 in income and spent \$3,351.47 in expenditures. Expenditures have gone to address signs, promotional items, print materials, and website costs. Income has come from address signs and a grant from the BLM. Schelly and Adam recently set up a GCWC Bank Account and it currently has \$4562.82 in it.

Mitigation Committee

Brad White, from the Mitigation Committee, next reported that the upcoming Mitigation Committee meeting will be on **July 23rd at 2pm at Grand Fire**. They will be discussing the BLM Community Assistance Grant as well as a possible collaboration between the US Forest Service and Grand Fire Districts on a Local/Federal Cooperation Grant.

Education Committee

Under Education Committee, Schelly reported that we have been doing *Fully Involved* articles in the Sky-Hi News every other week. She acknowledged that some of last year's articles have been repeated and that the formatting on some of the articles was a little off. However, she said Sky-Hi did this without advisement and that she would be submitting articles in PDF format from now on to control the formatting.

Schelly also said that the "Fire Adapted Home" Brochure has been published and distributed to the various fire departments. We will also make the brochure electronically available on the website. The new "Ready, Set, Go" brochure is at the printer's and will be out soon. It will also be electronically downloadable once it's done. Schelly mentioned that it is the most comprehensive brochure to date and that it closely aligns with NFPA's Firewise guidelines. With regard to the Ready, Set, Go Brochure,

the cost of the brochure is \$1400. Grand Fire received a grant for \$1000, so the remaining \$400 will come from the Council.

Schelly next reported that that the GCWC tent has been put up twice this year...at the Grand Lake Chili Cook-off and at the Granby 4th of July celebration.

Lastly, Schelly has been working on some new promotional items for the GCWC. She has ordered some bags with our logo on them and has looked into koozies. The koozies are on hold until we have more money.

Old Business

Under Old Business, Schelly reported that the grant for the Realtor Mailing has been secured and now she is working on the text for the mailer. Some of the text will come straight from the Summit County Brochure, but some of it will be tailored specifically for Grand County. Katlin has also been tasked with getting the addresses from the Assessor's Office.

Next up, the Colorado Wildland Fire Conference will be held in Snowmass on September 24-26, 2015. There will be a Fire Adapted Community Poster presentation that Schelly is going to put a poster together for. She is also attending on behalf of Fire Adapted Colorado. It was suggested that maybe we should consider possibly reimbursing people who wish to attend the conference on behalf of the GCWC; however, no decisions were made.

Schelly then announced that she and Katlin had submitted the BLM Community Assistance Grant for the GCWC earlier this month. The projects we applied for were: a) Chipper Program, b) Demonstration Plot, c) Various mitigation projects, d) Water Cisterns. She also said that we have made it through the initial sort and are still in consideration for the grant. We should know more by the next meeting in October.

Lastly, under Old Business, Schelly spoke about the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. She said that there are 4 big projects listed in the plan that she will email out to the group and that we can talk about at the next meeting. We also discussed possibly having the GCWC advocate for the WUI code under the Fire Code when it goes to the Board of County Commissioners for discussion.

New Business

Under New Business, Schelly informed the group that Grand County Wildfire Council is officially incorporated and has received 501(c)(3) status as a "Public safety, disaster preparedness, and relief" organization. She had to spend \$400 of GCWC funds to receive the non-profit status. Schelly will be looking to get Colorado State Tax Exempt status soon. She also informed everyone that in order to get the 501(c)3 status, she had to list officers for the organization. As such, the present appointed officers are:

Chairman: Schelly Olson
Vice Chair: Ryan McNertney
Secretary: Katlin Miller
Treasurer: Adam Gosey
Member at Large: Brad White

Katlin then spoke about the draft Bylaws. She distributed the bylaws for everyone to review. Some discussion revolved around the membership, with regard to voting vs. non-voting members and delegation of seats based on class (i.e. fire district, government agency, town, private land, special district, non-profit

organization, etc...). Discussion also led to the distribution of delegates throughout the county, with East Grand being more represented than West Grand, and how we can possibly alleviate that imbalance. One suggestion was to do town hall meetings to get more involvement in the Council. Katlin asked the group to take the draft bylaws home, review, and send comments to her at miller.katlin@gmail.com. There will be more discussion on Bylaws at the October meeting.

Finally, under New Business, Katlin told the group that the Middle Park Conservation District will be doing an educational booth at the Middle Park Fair and Rodeo on Saturday, August 8th. The Conservation District has decided to focus this year's booth on Wildfire and Wildfire Mitigation. She asked the GCWC if they would like to partner with MPCD on this booth. With no objection, Schelly told Katlin that the MPCD could borrow the GCWC tent, table, educational materials, and promotional materials for the booth. Katlin also said that anyone who wants to volunteer at the booth should contact her at miller.katlin@gmail.com.

Closing Roundtable

Under Closing Roundtable, Ryan McNertney, from Colorado State Forest Service, reported that they will be starting a Hazardous Tree Removal project, in collaboration with CDOT, along Highway 125 from August to December. Future projects will include stretches of highway along Gore Pass, Rabbit Ears Pass, and Highway 9.

Todd Camm will be leaving his post as the Fire Management Officer for the Sulphur Ranger District on August 8th. The new FMO has not been assigned.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 15, 2015 at NOON at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch Commons

Attendees

Schelly Olson (Grand Fire)
Ryan McNertney (Colorado State Forest Service)
Katlin Miller (Middle Park Conservation District)
Adam Gosey (East Grand Fire)
Brad White (Grand Fire)
Jennifer Scott (Grand County DNR)
Eric Gettenberg (East Grand Fire)
Erich Barber (Grand County EMS)
Ron Thompson (Grand Fire)
Mike Long (Grand Lake Fire)
Dave Holsinger (Homestead Hills)
Neil Willems (YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch)
Todd Camm (US Forest Service)
Jason Finchent (Denver Water)
Deb Dobersen (Valley at Winter Park)
Mike Dobersen (Valley at Winter Park Water District)