



Meeting Minutes

October 15, 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. Twenty-one people were in attendance...see list at the bottom of the minutes.

Everyone introduced themselves and the agenda was approved.

Financial Report

Under Committee Reports, Adam Gosey, GCWC Treasurer, gave the Financial Report. For Fiscal Year 2015, we have received \$15,374.84 in income and spent \$14,824.42 in expenditures. Income has come from address signs, a grant from the BLM, and a grant from the Colorado Association of Realtors for the realtor mailing. Expenditures have gone to address signs, promotional items, print materials, the realtor mailing, conference costs, accounting fees, office supplies, and website costs. Current assets total \$3,641.47.

Mitigation Committee

The Mitigation Committee has been working on grant applications to secure funds for mitigation projects. So far this year, we have applied for 4 different grants...

- 1) BLM Community Assistance Grant (\$150,000). Awarded \$40,000.
- 2) CO DNR Grant (\$140,000). Grant status unknown. Possible award date any day.
- 3) Fire Prevention and Safety Grant through FEMA (\$50,000). Grant status unknown. Still awarding 2014 grants.
- 4) Grand BOCC Grant (\$10,000). Grant status unknown.

Education Committee

Since July, we have held 2 workshops, attended 2 Fire Protection Week Open Houses and the Independent Living Forum, and placed Fully Involved Articles in the Sky-Hi News every other week. The first workshop was held at the Granby Fire Department on September 18, 2015, to discuss Defensible Space, Firewise Construction and Landscaping, and Ready, Set, Go. We also went on a field tour up 10-mile in the afternoon to test our knowledge with Fire Triage Checklists. We had 20 people attend this workshop. The second workshop was a Fire Adapted workshop held at the Fraser Library on October 8th to discuss the aspects of a Fire Adapted Community, home ignitability, and partnerships.

Old Business

Under Old Business, Schelly discussed the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan and the 5 Multi-Jurisdictional Action Items that relate to wildfire and the Grand County Wildfire Council. They include:

- 1) Develop and Implement Fuel Reduction
- 2) Adopt Wildfire Regulations
- 3) Adoption of International Fire Code
- 4) Complete Defensible Space Projects
- 5) Forests to Faucets Program

These action items were approved by both the Grand County BOCC and FEMA. Because GCWC was named as a Lead Agency for 3 of the 5 items, it is important that we work on these items. Should we not get the BOCC grant that we applied for, Schelly suggested we approach the Grand County Sheriff /Fire Warden, Brett Schroetlin, to see if he would make the GCWC a line item on his budget.

Next under Old Business, Katlin presented the group with updated draft bylaws for the Grand County Wildfire Council. Because "membership" seemed to be a point of contention with previous versions of the bylaws, the updated version includes a "steering committee" and a 5-member board of directors. The steering committee makes recommendations to the board of directors, but it would be the 5-member board that makes the final decision and upon which the liability falls. Anyone can be a part of the steering committee and the committee may change based on who attends each meeting. The board of directors would hold 4 year terms starting in 2016. The group as a whole showed support for the bylaws revision and no one objected.

Lastly, under Old Business, Schelly updated the group on the Address Sign Campaign. We have brought in about \$3,500 in address sign income so far this year (140 signs). Sign orders are still coming in daily and at least one HOA is considering a large order for all their homes.

New Business

Under New Business, Schelly reported that that Fire Adapted Colorado Conference she attended in Snowmass was really good. Schelly said there were many posters at the poster session with many great ideas but funding is a limiting factor for us compared to many of the other Fire Councils that were present.

Also, under new business, the group discussed possible fundraising ideas. Katlin suggested we do a calendar of Grand County firemen/women (and possibly Grand County police officers as well). The calendar would not come out until 2017. Jen Scott suggested we look for funding/sponsors to help cover the cost of the calendars.

Other fundraising ideas included asking the Fire Districts to consider raising their mill levies to support the council or doing impact fees that benefit the council.

It was also suggested that we look into free grant writing classes on COTRAIN.ORG. Linda at the library may also have a connection of online grant writing courses. Apparently, the State of Colorado also puts out an annual Philanthropy Book that lists all the philanthropy organizations in the state as well as the grants they offer. Lynn Barclay recommended that we think about the big picture when applying for grants and try to quantify an end state. She also said that we should have a grant form ready to go with budget numbers available so that it is easy to plug in the info when grants come up. Clancy Philipsborn said that he has experience grant writing and offered to help out as needed.

Closing Roundtable

Under Closing Roundtable, Bill Tetlow reported that Winter Park Highlands installed their second water cistern. They now have 2 cisterns and one pond.

Finally, the Grand County Wildfire Council thanks Lynn Barclay for her many years of service and wishes her the best in retirement.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 21, 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)
Leah McClain (Mountain Park Electric)
Bruce VanBockern (Mountain Parks Electric)
Jerry Gibbons (Northern Water)
Paul Mintier ()
Bill Tetlow (Winter Park Highlands)
Steve Lawless (Homestead Hills)
Clancy Philipsborn (Grand View Highlands)
Lynn Barclay (BLM)
Jennifer Scott (Grand County DNR)
Brett Hanlon (Grand County Planning Dept)
Nicole Boeckers (YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch)
Justin Conrad (US Forest Service)
Jason Finchent (Denver Water)
Mandy Hanifen (SFAC)
Linda Spaet (Trail Creek Estates)
Pat Person (North Lake Granby POA)