Board Meeting Minutes 7/17/2018

Attendees

Greg Ames
Kathy Peterson (with proxy for Sue Schauffler)
Mark Schueneman
Colleen Williams
Chris Wiorek
Ken Lenarcic (with proxy for Ward)
Rick Kauvar
Julie McKay
Sean Cronin
Jessie Olson
Yana Sorokin
Meg Parker
Monica Bortolini
Chris Smith (arrived at 2:11)

Welcome and Introductions

Chris W called the meeting to order at 2:07, and no introductions were needed.

Public comments on items not on the agenda

Monica Bortolini talked to Nina from DOLA, who gave LWOG huge compliments on our financial management efforts.

Julie McKay shared the announcement that the Board of County Commissioners will be considering new floodplain maps next Tuesday at 9:30am. Mark said that a lot of neighbors are planning on attending this meeting.

Colleen Williams stated that the Bureau of Reclamation of Division Mining and Safety will be doing work on the Fair Day Mine starting at the end of July. This uranium mine was reclaimed but further restoration is needed post the flood. The history of all of these mines is in the Jamestown Source Water Protection Plan.

Approval of Minutes
Ken moved, Mark seconded to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Monthly Financial Report**

LWOG is working with a new format for the financial report, including July and year to date on each report. The grants are advance-based invoicing reports. 3 reaches will be closed out this month with $5-10,000 unspent because we ran out of time (weed control contractor didn’t have capacity to do more in time remaining). 63rd street extension is closing out this month. Final monitoring still needs to be scheduled. Capacity grant was finished in June and we are still waiting on final reimbursement. Hinman still needs to be closed out. We got an extension for stewardship grant with CDBG-DR Planning grant through March 2019, we have $65,000 more dollars. CWCB we get reimbursed each month; we are waiting for reimbursement currently. There are still some outstanding invoices. LWOG has updated expenses from last month. Stewardship M&M reflects total income in that account, budget needs to be updated. Jessie added a balance sheet that shows how much money we have in the bank and where that money is allocated and what the unrestricted net asks are.

Sean had a few questions but he likes the new format.

Page 19 – “bank fee” he wants to see something under the fees that aren’t in the budget.

Page 22- under revenue, has everything split up but doesn’t list anything under the items that aren’t budgeted. Jessie will match the total revenue to the budget. Is this a board approved budget? Our grants aren’t separated by our fiscal year so this item extends beyond our year. Write a note that it is a grant budget. Everything besides LWOG is extended beyond the year.

Kathy moved to approve as explained, Mark seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**LWOG Conceptual Model and Adaptive Management Plan- Yana**

Yana gave a presentation about the new adaptive management guide. Yana went through the guide page by page.

Chris W – what are some ways people deviate from the three components of adaptive management? Sean – how is adaptive management different than what?

Yana- provided an answer for both questions, as described in the guide. Conceptual model and working toward a desired future trajectory are key components.

Monica- wants to use this immediately, we can send her the framework.

Rick- what kind of automated equipment do we need? Only flow rates.

Sean- remind me who funded this? DOLA, phase 2 of our stewardship handbook project. What would have been helpful before construction? Having the conceptual model would have been way more helpful to have beforehand.

Monica- we should send this to interviewees for the legacy project. Yana agreed.
Sean – define “Learning by Doing.” Denver and Northern Water have been using this would it be worthwhile to send this to them? Yana – Yes!!

The conclusion of the guide feeds into our new community science project. That is our initiative to get the community involved in implementing this. Two main tasks of community science: develop a plan, procurement for that step is happening right now. The second task is development of tools: website, mobile app, tools, and a database.

Rick- don’t use what Stream Tracker uses, has a lot of bugs. Needs to be easy enough to work. Monica- will it be GIS? Because GIS is what makes data more beautiful, spatial vision. Yana- hopes to make that happen.

**Cross Watershed Partnership Update**

Last week we met with other watershed coalitions and municipalities and to discuss our adaptive management framework and monitoring plans. There is a lot of interest amongst the other coalitions regarding the possibility of using the same monitoring plan and collecting data in the same way. We also discussed the possibility of sharing staff and expertise across watersheds. Boulder County may be interested in this too. Following the monitoring meeting, Jessie met with Fourmile and Big Thompson staff and everyone is interested in exploring an idea of collaboration beyond monitoring tasks. An example of a potential collaboration would be to share a watershed educator or finding ways to share administrative costs. It would be create efficiencies and cost savings for everyone.

Monica – what about the Poudre? Jessie-They get enough financial support from their partners to cover cost of the ED so don’t need to partner to save costs.

Colleen- we should explore the pros and cons of expansion? There are a lot of cons to expanding, the original intent and mission would change. Jessie will follow up in coming months with updates. A lot of grantors want bigger picture, collaborative approaches. May be more sustainable for the organization long term to join forces.

**2018 Work Plan Update**

Jessie presented an update of the version of the work plan discussed in our May meeting. All comments were incorporated into this version. Percent time allocated for staff is included for each program and task. Stewardship program has highest percentage for staff time in the next 18 months. Education and Outreach is the least because we currently have the least amount of funding for this. The other new thing in this version is table 1, a funding plan. We are working to get more general fund donations. Jessie went over what is still needed and what we have.

There is a lot of backend work that goes into this, to arrive at percentages per program and funding plan. Some useful tools were developed that Jessie will use throughout the year for project management and budgeting.
Julie McKay- LWOG EWP projects operations and maintenance, where is that funding? Task 3.1 addresses that in stewardship. LWOG refers to these tasks as stewardship and adaptive management.

Colleen- soil introduced might have had the weeds?
Monica – is our warranty tied to how much vegetation we have at the end of the 3 years? Yes, it is tied directly to cover.
We will have all of this information before November when our warranty ends. WRV has been good at responding to irrigation blowouts.

**Legacy Project Update**

Committee led by Yana convened to review proposals for the 9 project sites. Monica (City of Longmont) and Jennifer Kesler (Boulder County) are on the committee, along with LWOG staff. For the first time ever, the whole committee scored the top three teams the same. Otak/Iron Woman, Left Hand Excavating, RMC. All three are very qualified to do the work. Procurement continues with interviews on Friday. We will need an email vote so that we can move forward with the project and stay on the timeline. Chris is not looking for a revote once we make a recommendation. The board suggested including information on each proposal including, high points, low points, and why we are compelled to make the recommendation. Chris recommended giving a deadline for when the board needs to respond. As soon as we get the simple majority then we can move on and begin contracting process. The design begins in August; construction begins in March. We have a resolution that will be attached to the contract, and the draft will be included the email. This will authorize the board president to sign on behalf of the board.

**Landowner Survey**

We had a committee to work on compiling survey results. Greg asked if 63rd Street Extension is included? It was not but we will be doing the same survey for this project site. Kathy liked the LWOG responses to the comments.

Monica commented that that there is a big difference between what you are going to see right after construction versus 3 years later. Having drawings to show this would be helpful for landowners.

Greg- property pins question could be controversial. We will be sure to be clear only property pins that are impacted as part of the project will be replaced. Not all property pins.
Fundraising & Outreach Committee Update

Friday is the celebration for 63rd St, everyone is invited. Please RSVP.

B Strong Ride on August 11th: Meg will send out all of the information. Greg wants to help table.

Niwot – rock and rails on August 16th. Mark wants to help.

Jessie suggests skipping September meeting; we will still have August meeting. Board was okay with that. Maybe next year we will move to a bi-monthly (every other month) board meetings. Everyone is okay with that.

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at 4:13 pm.