



Board Minutes – September 17, 2019

Attendees

Chris Smith
Sue Schauffler
Roger Loving
Audrey Butler
Gabe Tuerk
Chuck Oppermann
Mark Schueneman
Chris Wiorek
Jessie Olson
Yana Sorokin
Andrew Moore arrived at 3:45, left at 4:10 (Lyons Schools)
Colleen Ford arrived at 3:45, left at 4:10 (Lyons Schools)
Sarah Wegert arrived at 3:45, left at 4:10 (Lyons Schools)

Welcome and Introductions

- Chris S called the meeting to order at 2:07.

Public comments on items not on the agenda

Chris S asked for additional items. Gabe called attention to cut throat-stocking event in high alpine creeks.

Left Hand Watershed News

- Sue noted low flows observed near the Allen's lake diversion and Chris S. said that he would follow up with Jason Whitmore to inquire about work related to the ditch company.

Approval of Minutes

- Sue moved, Chris W. seconded, to approve the minutes from the August 20th meeting; the motion carried unanimously.

- Audrey asked for clarification on recent CWCB PO for St. Vrain and Jessie explained the scope. They planned to follow up regarding access.

Annual Report Review

- Jessie reviewed the draft annual report and received comments (see mark ups on draft).

CWCB Fall Application Update

- Jessie described that we are continuing conversations with partners on the basin-wide adaptive management framework. We presented at the Keep it Clean Partnership about the project. Jessie asked Audrey for update on where Boulder County is regarding the project. Audrey described that discussions are on-going, moving forward well, and that there is good potential nexus with Sonoran Institute Workshop topics. Jessie stated appreciation for all of the work Audrey is doing representing the Watershed Center at the County.
- Jessie described potential second proposal to do long term adaptive management (including maintenance and monitoring) with the Town of Lyons on the St. Vrain Creek. Jessie described that project sponsor discussions are still on-going, but our skills are well-aligned with the scope required. Jessie described possible ways that project sponsorship and match could be set up (e.g. fiscal agent, match from the Town, etc.) and provided clarification in response to Board Member questions. Jessie is going to follow up with Chris Sturm for further clarification to understand the best options for how to apply for the grant. Chris S. summarized that we would essentially be putting together a proposal to provide adaptive management services that we already know how to do without taking on any of the liability for the associated the construction project. Jessie fielded some additional follow up questions from Board Members to help explain the work.

Projects Update

- Jessie noted that Fireshed meetings are still happening and showed priority areas.

Education Initiative – Lyons Schools

- Colleen provided background about how the partnership with Lyons schools and Watershed Center got started.
- Andrew described that Lyons is currently pursuing project-based learning in the community and environment at each grade level. They were drawn to the Watershed Center’s approach because they liked comprehensive aspect of the adaptive management cycle and robust science.

- Colleen described that Lyons is now in a pilot year to find alignment between middle-high school curriculum and adaptive management for on-going student engagement in science.
- Chris S asked about how Lyons worked with the Innovation Center and Andrew described some new projects that are underway. Also that they plan to push programs downstream as they become established.
- Gabe noted that there is a lack of awareness about Dace and appreciates the work that Lyons is doing with Dace.
- Sue asked about whether air quality is included. Colleen responded that it has been tried, but would be great to add.
- Audrey asked how projects are funded. Lyons described that they are funding them with existing funding and booster clubs, but they would need more funding in the future.
- Discussion ensued about incorporating virtual reality.
- Lyons described that 700 students are exposed to this educational opportunity.
- Andrew discussed the possibility of a deep dive into particular topics by students as a long-term vision.
- Board members described the benefit and value of the collaboration, as well as room for improvement and expansion.

Projects Update - Continued

- Jessie described issues with LOMR for 63rd Street Extension project.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.