



## AGENDA

Left Hand Watershed Center  
BOARD MEETING  
2:00-4:00 pm, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Via ZOOM call  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6688242485>  
Meeting ID: 668 824 2485

Welcome and Introductions	Christopher Smith	2:00 PM
Left Hand Watershed News	All	2:10 PM
Approval of Minutes: January	Christopher Smith	2:20 PM
Forest Program & Fire Recovery Update	Jessie Olson	2:30 PM
Fish Passage Project Update	Yana Sorokin	3:00 PM
Adjourn	Christopher Smith	3:15 PM

NOTE: The Watershed Center will make reasonable accommodation for individuals with known disabilities at meeting and events per our non-discrimination notice. Visitors needing accommodation are encouraged to contact any staff member to request such accommodation 48 hours in advance of such event.



02/11/2021

To: Left Hand Watershed Center Board of Directors

From: Jessie Olson, Executive Director

RE: February board meeting agenda items

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## Meeting Minutes

Draft meeting minutes for January are attached (attachment 1) for review and approval.

## Board & Organizational Items

- If you haven't yet, please re-sign all conflict of interest, confidentiality and whistleblower statements for the New Year, which I sent electronically in January.
- We will be undergoing our annual audit at the end of this month.
- The finance committee will meet in the next month to discuss financial reserve planning.
- I haven't heard back from Colleen yet regarding the stewardship award but we will continue trying to get her to come to a future board meeting.
- We're hiring a full-time outreach and education coordinator! We've taken a careful look at the budget and workplan and have funding and need to hire a full time coordinator. This person will help lead our community science, stewardship, and education services.
- Staff are developing a detailed workplan spreadsheet to document quarterly goals for each work plan task. This has been a helpful tool to use in assessing staff workload and to identify funding gaps.
- Terry will give a presentation at our March board meeting; he will give an overview of the ditch system and operations. We plan to advertise this more widely to the community since many have expressed interest in this information.

## Project updates

### 1. Adaptive Management, Stewardship & Monitoring

- Staff are completing the data analysis and reporting phase of our adaptive management process. Over the next month we will be entering data, analyzing data, and compiling results into our annual state of the watershed report.

### 2. Adaptive Management at Scale

- Staff met with partners to work on map development and ID of representative sites. Data, project charter feedback, and site recommendations are coming in from partners this month.
- Staff developed and distributed cost estimate request for map creation with feedback from partners. The map RFP was expanded to include SMP data and work in partnership with St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District.
- Began development of a survey for identifying community values, representative sites, and data from the broader stakeholder group.

- Began development of a new cost estimate request for project technical advisers.

### **3. Bureau of Reclamation Water SMART Grant: Watershed Restoration Plan**

- The project will contribute \$100,000 toward development of a Watershed Restoration Plan for the St. Vrain Basin. This project also helps fund organizational development, partnership building and development of conceptual restoration designs. This past month we've continued to meet with partners and continue partnership building.

### **4. Community Science**

- We continue to distribute monthly e-newsletters.
- We are in the planning phases for future stewardship and community science events this spring and summer.

### **5. Mines, Water Quality Monitoring & Analysis**

- The board update regarding our EPA Technical Assistance grant has been delayed to the March or April board meeting as we've been dealing with staff turnover at Pinyon (our hired TA no longer works at Pinyon). We now plan to take the technical information provided by Pinyon and reformat it for the purposes of displaying it in an interactive way on the Watershed Center website.
- We've hired a CU lab manager to work as a contractor to complete River Watch monitoring now that Glenn is moving onto new adventures.
- We received an update from Mary Boardman that they plan to release mine pool water this week as part of a planned release.

### **6. Fish Passage Feasibility Study and Education Initiative**

- Staff received feedback on the draft report from reps with CPW, BOCO, TU, City of Longmont, and SVLHWCD. Currently staff are updating the report to incorporate the feedback.
- Staff hosted a meeting with LHWD to discuss a potential project at the Haldi intake to develop conceptual designs based on report recommendations. LHWD is on board to partner on conceptual designs. Next step is to engage LHDC and landowners, and procure a consultant team for conceptual designs. Field meetings are set for early March with LHDC. SVLHWCD is also partnering on this effort.
- Discussed a new idea of fish passage project playbook with BOCO, City of Longmont, and SVLHWCD. Watershed Center staff are working to draft a scope of work for the project. This new idea will build on our fish passage report to develop a "fish passage project process plan" that's applicable for the broader community.

### **7. SVCC & St. Vrain Partnerships**

- All project permits have been submitted for the Apple Valley repair project. We plan to construct the project in March/April 2021.
- We continue to assist the SVCC in flood recovery oversight and administrative tasks.

### **8. Forest Health**

- We continue work developing new collaborative partnerships (and the Watershed Center forest program) via the St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership.
- We've been working collaboratively with USFS, Boulder County, SVLHWCD, City of Longmont, and others in developing an unmet needs budget for fire recovery in preparation for a future CWCB grant and Community Foundation request.
- St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership work has increased significantly in the past two months as we've formed two new subcommittees—a Science Team and Communications/Outreach team.
- Regional collaboration and coordination also continue across the "Northern Colorado Fireshed"

and Boulder County with several on-going meetings and collaborative efforts relating to outreach and funding.

- We were awarded \$10,000 from the Community Foundation for our work with the St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership.
- I'll give an update on our forest health program development, regional collaboration, and fire recovery unmet needs budget at the board meeting.

### **Other Items**

- Mark your calendars, the Watershed Center will be the recipient of tips at the August 25<sup>th</sup> Lyons Farmette dinner.

### **Attachments:**

1. BOD January Meeting Minutes

**Attachment 1**  
Board meeting minutes



## Board Minutes – January 19, 2021

### **Attendees**

1. Chris Smith
2. Sue Schaufler
3. Ken Lenarcic
4. Mark Schueneman
5. Lauren Duncan
6. Chuck Oppermann
7. Glenn Patterson
8. Yana Sorokin
9. Jessie Olson
10. Barbara Luneau
11. Monica Bortolini
12. Audrey Butler
13. Sean Cronin
14. Kathy Peterson

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Chris S called the meeting to order at 2:00.

### **Left Hand Watershed News**

- Thank you all around for Glenn as he moves into retirement!

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Kathy moved, Monica seconded, to approve the minutes from the December 15 meeting; the motion carried unanimously. Kathy is sending small typo correction.

### **Board Member and Officer Renewal/Election (Chris S)**

- Chris S. reviewed entities/agency board member positions required in the by-laws. These include:
  - Left Hand Water District: Chris Smith
  - Town of Ward: Still TBD
  - Town of Jamestown: Ken Lenarcic and Roger Loving (co-representatives)
  - City of Longmont: Monica Bortolini
  - Left Hand Ditch Company: Terry Plummer

- James Creek Watershed Initiative: TBD
- St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District: Sean Cronin
- Boulder County: Audrey Butler
- Chris S. reviewed five additional voting members and asked to confirm they were comfortable to continue serving in these positions.
  - Five additional voting board members for 2021:
    1. Kathy Peterson
    2. Sue Schauffler
    3. Mark Schueneman
    4. Chuck Oppermann
    5. Barbara Luneau

Ken moved, Chris seconded, to re-appoint five additional voting members to the Left Hand Watershed Center Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

- Chris S reviewed the current list of ex-officio members and asked to confirm they were still comfortable serving this role. Chris noted that Greg Ames and Jim Bryant are no longer active members of the board and would like to be removed. May have new USFS rep in 2021, still waiting to hear back from Chris Carrol.
  - Ex-officio board members for 2021:
    1. Chris Carroll
    2. Erica Crosby
    3. Gabe Tuerk
    4. Joe Ryan
    5. Lauren Duncan

Chris S moved, Monica seconded to re-appoint the modified list of ex-officio members to the Left Hand Watershed Center Board of Directors as listed above. The motion carried unanimously.

- Chris S. reviewed the current slate of officers and asked if they were comfortable to continue serving in these positions.
  - The current slate of officers for 2021:
    1. President: Chris Smith
    2. Vice-President: Sue Schauffler
    3. Treasurer: Kathy Peterson
    4. Secretary: Monica Bortolini

Chuck moved, Sean seconded, to re-appoint the officers to the Left Hand Watershed Center Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

- Jessie asked all to sign whistleblower, confidentiality and conflict of interest polices if you have not yet including ex-officio board members.

### **Financial Report**

- Jessie provided summary of the financial report (see board packet). Discussion ensued about unrestricted carryover. Sean asked about how profit is classified. Jessie explained that she and bookkeeper went back and forth with accountant to ensure classification is correct.
- Kathy moved, Barbara seconded, to approve the Quarterly Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Draft 2021 Work Plan**

- Jessie provided update on workplan. Explained it as tool to help track what staff is doing internally. Noted new tool that we are considering for staff task tracking. Went through all subtasks (see document).
  - Chuck asked about pebbles mouse site conservation team. Jessie explained USFS site conservation team that aims to de-list the species and is working with stakeholders on a long-term effort to do this. Watershed Center's role is having a seat the table and learning.
  - Chris S supported the idea of hiring additional staff support. Discussion ensued. Jessie noted that the new work planning process will help ID where we are overloaded and need help.
  - Monica asked what the organization favors in terms of part time and seasonal help. Jessie responded part time/all time person is needed for community tracking/outreach and separate summer seasonal help is an additional need (via temp contractor or student). Discussion ensued about adding staff.
  - Sue noted typos and phrases that needed editing.
- Sean moved, Barbara seconded to approve the work plan substantially as shown with additional grammar/phrasing edits. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.