



## Board Minutes – January 18, 2022

### **Attendees**

1. Jessie Olson
2. Eric Smith
3. Ken Lenarcic
4. Kathy Peterson
5. Barbara Luneau
6. Sue Schaffler
7. Roger Loving
8. Christopher Smith
9. Mark Schueneman
10. Steve Oncley
11. Bill Ellis
12. Sean Cronin
13. Lauren Duncan
14. Monica Bortolini
15. Yana Sorokin

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Chris S called the meeting to order at 2:04 and went through introductions.

### **Marshall and Middle Fork Fire Reflection and Discussion**

- Jessie offered opportunity for feedback and reflections from board members about Marshall and Middle Fork fires. Thoughts are summarized:
  - Cross-district partnerships are helping with fire response in terms of shared resources. Left Hand Fire District is part of an automatic aid agreement which means that for certain fires, other districts will send trucks automatically with no need to called.
  - Events changed the idea of risk for many after seeing developed subdivisions being impacted.
  - Considerations about grassland management and fire-safe building materials may help inform future discussions.

- Building and landscape codes may need to be re-thought if we continue to have winds like what happened during the fires. Recent Fire District's Meeting recommended that this could go through County Assessor's office to work with folks outside of unincorporated Boulder County.
- Using ditch systems as a water source could potentially help stop fire. Wetlands helped slow the fire down during the Middle Fork fire.
- Depowering overhead lines during high winds could be considered, as well as more buried power lines. SVFHP is working to add power companies to the partnership. There are many implications that need to be considered (e.g. for water systems, emergency services access, etc.) and will further be discussed at the upcoming IMA meeting.
- Many noted that the wind conditions make it challenging to draw conclusions.
- Future planning is underway to consider approaches and more recourses in regards to home protection to address home ignition problem.

### **Board Member Renewal**

- Chris reviewed the board bylaws which state that that we must have a minimum of eight and maximum of thirteen board members. Currently we have 9 voting board members.
- Chris reviewed the entities/agency board member positions as required by the by-laws:
  - Christopher Smith, President (Left Hand Water District Representative)
  - Ken Lenarcic and Roger Loving (Jamestown Representative)
  - Monica Bortolini, Secretary (City of Longmont Representative)
  - Vacant (Town of Ward Representative)
  - Vacant (James Creek Watershed Initiative Representative)
  - Sean Cronin (St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District Representative)
  - Terry Plummer (Left Hand Ditch Company Representative )
  - Vacant (Audrey recently left her position at the County) (Boulder County Representative)
- Jessie and other board members are following up on the current vacancies.
- Chris reviewed four additional voting members and asked if they were comfortable to continue serving in these positions. All agreed to stay in their positions.
  - Sue Schaufler, Vice President (Other Representative)
  - Kathy Peterson, Treasurer (Other Representative)
  - Mark Schueneman (Other Representative)
  - Barbara Luneau (Other Representative)
  - Vacant (Chuck resigned)
- Sue confirmed Steve's interest in joining the Board as the JCWI representative.
- Roger expressed interest in getting more representation on the board from landowners on the creek. Chris echoed that strategic planning will help us think through what types of additional or new expertise are needed on the board of directors. Barbara added that strategic planning could help ensure that the board make-up reflects an expansion of the Watershed Center's work. Chris added that there are also considerations to think through about how to balance housekeeping items so they do not take up too much time with an expanded board. Monica noted that having more St. Vrain representation would be good.

- Sean moved, Monica seconded, to maintain and re-appoint the four 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. Lauren was at the meeting and confirmed her interest. Jessie will follow up with the other Ex-Officio members to find out their interest. Vote was deferred till more information was gathered from existing ex-officio members.
  - Chris Carroll
  - Erica Crosby
  - Gabe Tuerk
  - Joe Ryan
  - Lauren Duncan
- Chris S. reviewed the current slate of officers and asked if they were comfortable to continue serving in these positions.
  - President: Christopher Smith
  - Vice-President: Sue Schaffler
  - Treasurer: Kathy Peterson
  - Secretary: Monica Bortolini
- Roger moved, Barbara seconded, to re-appoint the officers to the Left Hand Watershed Center Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Kathy moved, Mark seconded, to approve the minutes from the December 14 meeting; the motion carried unanimously.

### **2022 Annual Work Plan**

- Jessie reviewed the work plan and answered questions.
  - Chris emphasized the importance of the assessment and restoration of legacy mine sites subtask, especially given the impacts the Left Hand Water District is seeing at their intake. Discussion ensued:
    - Chris noted that working to identify locations, funding, and meaningful project plans is a priority and could be Watershed Center's role.
    - Lauren noted that this is underway but it is a slow process through it helps to know where impacts are being seen (e.g. which intakes). Added that DRMS is currently working near Yellow Girl and there's also discussion about monitoring with Ballarat. Currently monitoring is specific for metals but let her know about other contaminants.
    - Yana explained how this is integrated into the AM Process and it is currently included as a topic for collaborative prioritization planned for the next AM at Scale meeting. Boulder County also noted that they are interested in how to prioritize legacy mine restoration work but want to see this as a comprehensive prioritization process.

