

**Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020**

Call to Order/Establish Quorum

A regular meeting of the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association was called to order at 8:05 am by Chair Katie Fendel in virtual GoToMeeting on August 13, 2020. A quorum was declared established.

Agenda Approval

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the June and July, 2020 UCCWA meetings; motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

The following invoices were presented for approval: Kielty Diversified Projects Inv# 481 for \$900.00, Clear Creek Consultants Inv# 2349 for \$525.00. The invoices were within the budgeted/approved limits. It was moved and seconded to approve the invoices for payment totaling \$1,425.00; motion carried unanimously.

Referrals

Exemption by Resolution Case No. EX2020-0001 - Portion of the Major Anderson Lode, MS#100, located in unincorporated Clear Creek County – Hearing September 1, 2020. A legal boundary was needed for boundary line revision. No UCCWA action needed.

Ben Miller from Standley Line Adventure Park emailed UCCWA concerned about neighbor mine waste dump processing mill. Chait Fendel informed UCCWA to expect a referral from DRMS. The Chair will contact DRMS to check status of the mill.

Action: Forward the Standley Line Adventure Park email to Mary Boardman with EPA. Ben Moline will research consultant information to prepare to manage this review of referral.

Water Quality Incident Reports

None received.

Presentation

- Xcel Energy Pre-fire Planning –Jody Nemcek and Tom Green, Xcel Energy
Provided pre-fire planning program background. Xcel 2020 plans and going forward are focused on equipment-caused ignitions causing a wildfire. In 2018 they filed their first Wildfire Mitigation Plan to the PUC. This plan was updated in 2020. They have been doing many inspections and bringing any deficiencies up to standards and replacing equipment, making upgrades. They have implemented enhanced vegetation management practices to ensure no vegetation can create ignition underneath their equipment or has the ability to fall into lines and poles. They are using infrared technology, along with drones and site visits checking for hot spots and checking wind strengths. They have identified areas in the state that have a higher probability for wildfire, risk zones. They are evaluating their systems to avoid running during high risk periods and are using simulation scenarios to develop high-risk locations and prioritizing equipment protection projects. They have been holding utility summits to share

information with other utilities. They do have a website where they will house their 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan. A GIS request was submitted to XCEL by the Pre-fire Study Committee. The XCEL map of high-risk areas should be incorporated into the UCCWA Pre-fire Study deliverable. Presentation is available upon request.

Other Business

- UCCWA Bylaws Revision Recommendations
 - The new member criteria recommended changes were presented.

Jim Ford moved to make the changes to the UCCWA Bylaws brought forward and discussed during this meeting and was seconded by Sally Rush; motion was approved unanimously.

- Mighty Argo Site Application Review Committee Update
 - Site Application Comments to Water Quality Control Division and Potential Lower Site Comments. The response letter was reviewed and discussed. UCCWA is asking that the project confirm that they do own water rights and source of water? UCCWA is not a land use agency and anticipates that the City of Idaho Springs will address the land use aspects of the application. The members asked about operational use. Will the project be year-round or seasonal? The growing season and recreation season in the application do not match. Asked that a seasonal analysis based on each use be requested.

John Curtis motioned to approve the site application review response as presented to submit and was seconded by Aaron Hilshorst; motion was approved unanimously.

- Pre-Fire Study Update
 - Matrix Services Agreement with Colorado Watershed Assembly. The agreement was reviewed by membership. No questions were asked, and it was approved to move forward on the CWCB grant portion of the study. They are working on scheduling a subcommittee meeting. Matrix will be at the September UCCWA meeting to review the non-technical decision draft matrix developed based on the stakeholder feedback from last month.
- WQCC Clear Creek/ Standley Lake Annual Report 2019 – Final. The report was submitted

Member Updates

- The Key Bank branch UCCWA has been using in Evergreen is closed. UCCWA does not need to make any changes to our banking materials due to this closure.

Announcements

- AUGUST 31st- September 2nd, 2020 | Thinking Outside the Box—A Holistic Approach to Water Resources Planning | AWRA Colorado | Virtual. Join AWRA online for their virtual symposium. Highlights include keynote speakers, technical presentations, virtual networking, silent auction, and more! Early bird registration ends on August 10th, 2020. For more information click [HERE](#).

Adjournment

At 10:09 am, Chair Fendel adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 10, 2020.

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer

MEMBERS ROLL CALL:

- Black Hawk: Jim Ford
- Black Hawk/Central City San. Dist.: Katie Fendel
- CDOT: Josh Giovannetti
- Central City: Absent
- Central Clear Creek San. Dist.: I (opted)
- Clear Creek County: Lisa Leben
- Clear Creek Ski Corp.: Excused
- Empire: Sally Rush
- Georgetown: Absent
- Gilpin County: Absent
- Golden: Stephanie Crabtree, Kerry Major
- Henderson Mine: Aaron Hilshorst
- Idaho Springs: John Curtis
- Jefferson County: Patrick O'Connell
- Molson Coors: Ben Moline
- Saddleback: I (opted)
- Silver Plume: Tai Graham
- St. Mary's Water & San. Dist.: Absent

OTHERS PRESENT, PER SIGN-IN SHEET:

- Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer UCCWA
- Shelley Standley, City of Northglenn
- Evie Rhodes, City of Arvada
- Trea Nance, City of Westminster
- Kelly Cline
- Thomas Green, Xcel Energy
- Jody Nemcek, Xcel Energy
- Mike Crouse, Clear Creek Consultants
- Scott Haas, US Forest Service