

**Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2021**

Call to Order/Establish Quorum

A regular meeting of the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association was called to order at 8:34 am by Chair Ben Moline in GoToMeeting February 11, 2021. 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 January 14, 2021 UCCWA meetings; motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

The following invoices were presented for approval: Kielty Diversified Projects Inv#499 for \$600.00 and Matrix Design Group Invoice #32094 for \$5,125.00 The invoices were within the budgeted/approved limits. It was moved and seconded to approve the invoices for payment totaling \$5,725.00; motion carried unanimously.

Referrals

- None received.

Water Quality Incident Reports

- None received.

Presentations

- Matrix Draft Final Pre-Fire Study Report
 - https://matrixdesigngroupinc-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/drew_beck_matrixdesigngroup_com/EZBUrxxkPCIPl0CWJnVZf0YBFvq7tACtIvQs1EsIZCBODQ?e=FVRV2U
A draft copy of report was reviewed, and comments were received. Next actions include a request that comments be made and submitted to Matrix by February 25th. The report will be finalized on March 30th. The newly formed CC Watershed and Forest Health Partnership will be evaluating strategic implementation and researching grant opportunities. It is recommended that members stay informed on USFS NEPA planning. Presentation is available by request.

Other Business

- Call Down Committee Update (Ben Moline)
 - Idaho Springs WWTP Effluent – We received a response from Idaho Springs regarding the Black Hawk Public Works memo. On December 9, 2020 Idaho Springs started to see spikes in ammonia. It got to a level that the water intake needed to be shut down. In the past Idaho Springs would call operators directly when there was an issue. The Black Hawk operators are very responsive when made aware. It is an issue they would like to work through with Idaho Springs. Idaho Springs has not violated their ammonia releases. One tank is down during construction. They are running on one tank and have had to start and stop their equipment. During the construction process a power outage was required.

They were not able to aerate during the outage. There is a table in the memo provided by Idaho Springs showing the timeline on the issue. The table includes the outage around December 23rd. It only took a couple of days to get it back below standards. The issue is interruptions due to construction. The memo from Idaho Springs will be provided to the UCCWA membership.

The new system first tank will be online in May and the second tank 6 months later. When they go to the second tank it should work instantaneously. Their present certification expires March 2021. There will be a 5-year compliance schedule and they will be meeting the standards. Idaho Springs is being proactive in getting ahead of the standards. Clear Creek is also experiencing a lower flow which is impacting dissolution. Request made of the plant to please provide a phone number for Black Hawk to call when there is a problem. John Curtis will be updated monthly so we will know the Idaho Springs plant construction status. Point of clarification, Idaho Springs provided a memo. In the memo it mentions threats of legal action from UCCWA. UCCWA does not act on conflicts. UCCWA does address concerns during our meetings. Our goal is to be a collaborative body. Legal action is not our role. The only time UCCWA acts legally is to address regulatory hearings.

- DRCOG 208 Planning Region Management Agencies - Do members of UCCWA want to engage in a one-on-one conversation regarding 208 planning with CDPHE? Ben Moline and Brad Benning are interested.

Action: Secretary/Treasurer will contact Ben and Brad to determine availability.

- CC Watershed & Forest Health Partnership Update (Kerry Major) – The project identifications across the watershed from the Pre-fire Study report will set the stage on how we can collectively work together to become more resilient communities in the face of wildfire risk. The group is working on determining how to accomplish this. The FS is excited to see this type of community collaboration to help them actively respond to wildfire. Monday, February 22nd at 1:00 pm is the next Partnership meeting.
- West Denver Trout Unlimited Clear Creek Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) – The first steering committee met yesterday. They were awarded their first grant to start developing a plan. The committee was pulled from a larger stakeholder group representing the basin, both upper and lower. The current timeline and funds for a first stage stakeholder outreach was covered. They will hire a facilitator to set the stage for an official kickoff meeting in March. The plan boundaries are the entire basin from the continental divide to the confluence. Does UCCWA want to be engaged with this process? If members want to participate let the UCCWA Secretary/Treasurer know. Kerry Major and Lauren Duncan will be participating and will bring updates back to UCCWA.

Member Updates

- Welcome new non-voting member, Trout Unlimited, Lauren Duncan. Lauren's program is focused on abandoned mine clean up, stream restoration, and revegetation. She would like to collaborate on projects identified in the Pre-fire Study and is looking forward to getting involved. TU has two large projects that are finishing up and Lauren would like to bring an update to the group. They completed a monitoring effort in Empire and would like to share their findings. They are always looking for new sites and have two projects with USFS in the queue.

- Georgetown has talked with Xcel on reservoir work taking place that is depleting water. The Georgetown plant had a shut down due to this work. Is Xcel on our call down list? No, but we can ask if they will do a call down on this type of thing. We can also speak with Jason Smith, the Water Commissioner for Clear Creek, although Xcel blackwater coming down and filling their reservoir may not qualify for a discussion with the water commissioner.
- Coors 150 Project – Coors has 3-years of construction underway. Requested an UCCWA presentation on brewery modifications and changes to outfalls.

Announcements

- The following Notice of public rulemaking hearing has been posted on the commission's website and is available to view through this link.
 - **Rulemaking Hearing:** Colorado’s Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters and Monitoring and Evaluation List, Regulation #93 (5 CCR 1002-93).
- The following Notice of public administrative action hearing has been posted on the commission's website and is available to view through this link.
 - **Administrative Action Hearing:** FY21-22 Proposed Projects for Section 319 Nonpoint Source Funds.
- **Applications for 2021 Growing Water Smart Workshops in Colorado and Arizona are open.** The virtual workshops will be held over 3-4 days; mid-May for [Colorado](#) and mid-June for [Arizona](#). This physically distanced but highly collaborative workshop provides a great opportunity for counties, municipalities, or regions to link water and land use, create an action plan, and qualify for technical assistance to support your path forward. There is no cost to participating teams. Contact climateresilience@sonoraninstitute.org with questions. **Applications are due by February 15th, 2021.**
- **FEBRUARY 22nd-23rd, 2021, 9 am- 4p, CT | Hydraulic Modeling for Water Utility Distribution Systems | EUCL.** This course introduces hydraulic models for water utility distribution systems and covers how modeling can be applied to benefit water utilities. Ensuring robust and redundant infrastructure, reducing operating costs, planning for outages, and determining firefighting capabilities are some of the items that attendees should have new ideas about after this course. Click [HERE](#) for more information and click [HERE](#) to register.
- Applications for water leaders are currently available. Coors is providing 2 sponsorships for this. Contact Ben Moline if you are interested in this scholarship.

Adjournment

At 10:02 am, Chair Moline adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will **March 11, 2021**

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer

MEMBERS ROLL CALL:

Black Hawk: Jim Ford
 Black Hawk/Central City San. Dist.: Absent
 CDOT: Absent
 Central City: Absent
 Central Clear Creek San. Dist.: I (opted)

Clear Creek County: Lisa Leben
Clear Creek Ski Corp.: Cindy Olson
Empire: Sally Rush
Georgetown: Ryan Zabel
Gilpin County: Brad Benning
Golden: Kerry Major, Anne Beierle
Henderson Mine: Kimberly Kellerby
Idaho Springs: John Curtis
Jefferson County: Patrick O'Connell
Molson Coors: Ben Moline
Saddleback: I (opted)
Silver Plume: Absent
St. Mary's Water & San. Dist.: Chris Oeland
Trout Unlimited: Lauren Duncan

OTHERS PRESENT, PER SIGN-IN SHEET:

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer UCCWA
Shelley Stanley, City of Northglenn
Mary Boardman, CDPHE Superfund
Andy Cross, City of Westminster
Ashley Giles, West Denver Trout Unlimited
Evelyn Rhodes, City of Arvada
Trea Nance, City of Westminster
Kelly Cline, City of Westminster
Ryan Gilliam, LRE Water
Brynn Goe, City of Golden
Tara Kratz, City of Arvada
Rebecca Samulski, Fire Adapted Colorado
Drew Beck, Matrix Design
John Winterton, City of Northglenn
Wayne Ramey
Jennifer Cook