



UPPER CLEAR CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024**

Call to Order/Establish Quorum

A regular meeting of the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association was called to order at 8:33 am by Chair Niggeler on January 11, 2024. A quorum was declared established.

Agenda Approval

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with a change moving the UCCWA Bylaws discussion item to before Referrals. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2023, UCCWA meeting; motion carried unanimously. [December 14, 2023 Minutes](#)

Secretary/Treasurer Report - [UCCWA December 2023 Financial Summary](#)

Account Status: CHECKING (12/26/2023)	\$ 4,353.51
SAVINGS (12/26/2023)	\$68,774.55
INVESTMENTS (09/29/2023)	\$22,234.66

Invoices: Kielty Diversified Projects Inv. #644 for \$1,570.00 (Manager / Secretary / Treasurer & website) and LRE Water-Website Development 2023 - \$1,257.75.

An additional invoice from LRE Water #25046 for \$806.25 for the December Regulatory Bulletin was received. Bringing the total invoices for approval to \$3,634.00.

- December 2023 approved.
 - Trout Unlimited-Russel Gulch Project - \$7,282.29

It was moved by Lisa Leben to approve the invoices for payment and was seconded by Sally Rush. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

- [UCCWA Bylaws Revisions](#) for approved Manager Position (Pat O'Connell)
To address revising the Secretary/Treasurer role to Manager to best reflect the position. The definition of Manager was developed pursuant to Colorado law respective to non-profit organizations to show an officer.

Action: The reviewed and revised as written today will be distributed to the membership for a second reading and included as an agenda item in February.

Referrals

- Mighty Argo WWTP Project Referral ([UCCWA Referral Request Letter-Mighty Argo](#))

The City of Idaho Springs has reviewed and approved this referral. UCCWA approved this in the past and there are no substantive changes.

A motion was made by Ryan Zabel to approve the referral and was seconded by John Curtis. The motion carried unanimously.

Information was received from CDPHE regarding the Regulation 22 Implementation Policy, for Amendments to Site Location Approvals, the applicant shall provide each review agency at least 15 (working) days to review the site location application and engineering report. The applicant may submit the site application to the Division prior to fifteen 15 days, but the Division will not complete a site location decision prior to providing all review agencies the allotted review times as indicated in Regulation 22. For amendments of existing site location approvals, the review agencies are encouraged to comment directly to the Division unless a brief (less than 15 working days) extension is requested in writing. This is a very short turnaround for review. A formality of review needs more than 15 days to respond.

- City of Idaho Springs CDOT 1041 Floyd Hill West ([Floyd Hill 1041 UCCWA Referral Response, City of Idaho Springs – Final](#))
 - **Floyd Hill / Technical Team** (John Curtis & Jo Ann Sorensen)
 - [Floyd Hill Sampling Plan 2023](#)
 - [I-70 Floyd Hill to Veterans Memorial Tunnels Design and Construction — Colorado Department of Transportation \(codot.gov\)](#)

Josh Giovannetti has the same comments as he had on the UCCWA referral response that was submitted to Clear Creek County regarding the 1041.

The Floyd Hill Sampling Plan 2023 document was presented and discussed. There is a CDOT Technical Team meeting on February 15th. They will discuss winterization products. Some type of augmented sampling plan may come from this team. Additional sampling locations should be considered. How this would be funded will need to be considered. CDOT has a consultant that may help with watershed assessment. There will be concerns about erosion.

John Curtis asked for guidance from UCCWA on this sampling plan document before taking it to the CDOT Technical Team meeting. Josh Giovanetti and John Curtis will discuss and work to get this document included in the CDOT Technical Team meeting materials. Consider naming the sampling plan document as an outline for the sampling analysis plan that the referral letter recommended.

Water Quality Incident Reports

- None received by UCCWA.

A car was in the creek at mile marker 263 on Monday of this week. The Coors Brewery received a Call Down in the morning. There is no further information. Ben Moline will follow-up and report back to UCCWA.

The Little Bear Mine seep turned yellow and has stained the waterfall yellow. The State was notified. Erica Crosby with DRMS was made aware of it and they made an inspection. It is on USFS land. Someone apparently cut the lock off the adit door and may have gone in and stirred up the water. The Forest Service was notified by DRMS. Katrina Hettinger will follow up with USFS and report back to UCCWA the status.

Action: Manager will contact Jeffcom about receiving all call downs.

Other Business

- UCCWA Community Grants
 - [Russel Gulch Project Final Report-Trout Unlimited](#) (Katrina Hettinger) Katrina will prepare a presentation for the April UCCWA meeting. All the sites are on private property. Next actions will involve contacting the landowners to determine next steps.
- Standing Items:
 - **LRE Regulatory Update** (Jessica DiToro) There is no bulletin this month. There will be a meeting tomorrow to discuss the survey and revise the template for the bulletins.
 - **Bakerville SWEEP Update** (Kerry Major & Ryan Zabel) The project is on pause as CDOT works through Floyd Hill.
 - **Clear Creek Watershed & Forest Health Partnership Update** (Diane Kielty)
 - The City of Northglenn contributed \$10,000.00 to the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund to target Clear Creek Watershed wildfire related projects. CCWFHP is hiring a Forest Manager.
 - Members of the [Colorado Wastewater Utility Council \(CWWUC\)](#) come together every month to share information, work collaboratively with state and federal regulators, and plan efforts to ensure affordable services and sustained water quality. Colorado Wastewater Utility Council will be doing an in-depth study on water temperature in 2024.
- UCCWA presentations and live meetings with site visits in 2024.
 - A Georgetown site visit and Argo Waste Treatment Facility tour were suggested.

Member Updates

- None.

Announcements

- [January 29th, 2024 | Strategic Planning for Water and Wastewater Utilities.](#) Attendees working in the water and wastewater industries will have the opportunity to develop a strategic plan and/or refine a current plan by identifying gaps and process inefficiencies. A strategic plan begins with developing a simple Vision and Mission and building upon these to organize and achieve goals and objectives. The tools to be reviewed will include SWOT analysis, affinity mapping, balanced scorecard, Porter’s Five Forces, as well as details on how to write the plan, perform a gap analysis, and develop a process for change management.
- [March 5th-7th, 2024 | Riparian Restoration Conference | RiversEdge West.](#) Save the date and call for abstracts!

Adjournment

At 9:38 am, Chair Niggeler adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, February 8, 2024

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer

MEMBERS ROLL CALL:

Albert Frei & Sons: Absent
Black Hawk: Excused
Black Hawk/Central City San. Dist.: Excused

CDOT: Josh Giovanetti
Central City: Absent
Central Clear Creek San. Dist.: I (opted)
Clear Creek County: Lisa Leben
Clear Creek Ski Corp.: Absent
Empire: Sally Rush
Georgetown: Ryan Zabel
Gilpin County: Brad Benning
Golden: Sam Zrust
Henderson Mine: Geoffrey Niggeler, Aaron Hilshorst
Idaho Springs: John Curtis, Ed Sigward
Jefferson County: Pat O'Connell
Molson Coors: Ben Moline
Saddleback: I (opted)
Silver Plume: Absent
St. Mary's Water & San. Dist.: Absent
Trout Unlimited: Katrina Hettinger

OTHERS PRESENT, PER SIGN-IN SHEET:

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer UCCWA
Shelly Stanley, City of Northglenn
Evelyn Rhodes, City of Arvada
Andy Cross, City of Westminster
Kelly Cline, City of Westminster
Erica Crosby, DRMS
Julie Anniar, DRMS