

**Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2020**

Call to Order/Establish Quorum

A regular meeting of the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association was called to order at 8:31 am by Chair Katie Fendel in the Idaho Springs City Hall on May 14, 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 April 9, 2020 meeting; motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

The following invoices were presented for approval: Kielty Diversified Projects Inv# 460 for \$900.00, Matrix Design Group Inv# 29318 for \$4,799.50. The invoices were within the budgeted/approved limits. It was moved and seconded to approve the invoices for payment totaling \$5,699.50; motion carried unanimously.

Referrals

- Rezoning Case #RZ2020-0001 (Idaho Springs RV Park). 12-acre rezoning from mining to plan development. It is two residential structures and a campground. They will connect with Central Clear Creek Sanitation District and have availability to serve water. Located in Dumont. Will they be using BMPs for storm water run-off? Did they show a drainage plan?

Jim Ford motioned for UCCWA to submit to Clear Creek County a request for information regarding a drainage plan, second by Ben Moline, motion carried unanimously.

Action: Secretary will complete and submit a request for information to the CCC Planning Department asking for drainage plan information.

Water Quality Incident Reports

- None received.

Presentation

- **EPA Update (Mary Boardman & Christin Russell)** Christen Russell new EPA RPM for Clear Creek Superfund site. Presentation available upon request.

Provided superfund site history beginning when site was listed in 1983 focused on waste piles along main stem. Evolving lead science modeling lead levels. Learning more about impacts of lead on health. In 2015, EPA tested lead in waste piles primarily in Gilpin County. Found, in Central City, low impact to body regarding bio availability. In 2018, collected samples scattered throughout the watershed, mainly from private residential properties where waste piles were near homes. There is less risk with lead in soil because it is not as “bioavailable”. Some waste piles could pose a risk to human health in upper range of concentration and bioavailability. EPA recommends evaluating site-specific factors to determine cleanup goals. They are going to create another operable unit for the site. Over the next two years they will do a feasibility study

identifying waste piles and collecting data to determine risk, and if there are waste piles that need to be addressed. Then there will be a Record of Decision (ROD) to determine remedial action. EPA will be around a few more years looking at waste piles. OU5 will be looking at lead and arsenic.

Typically, they will look at residential exposure where there is residential property, or within 200 yards of residential structure. They are still putting together a technical model. They may consider recreational and commercial uses as well. Typically required to solicit public input during proposed plan before ROD. They will likely do this before that point to get input from the community. They have started conversations with the local health department to discuss possible requests for lead testing.

Other Business

- Community Support Fund Committee - Applicant Recommendations
 - Aaron Hilshort presented the committee reviewed of the Trout Unlimited proposal for funds. They applied for studies in two gulches to help determine reclamation priorities at this site, however, issue requester must be a member of UCCWA. Committee is not recommending this project for receipt of funds at this time. What they are trying to do is valuable, but committee considered that the site has been sampled before, TU does not have membership status, and difficult to recommend small community fund to large viable organizations. TU responded that it is happy to become member, but they may not be eligible due to UCCWA bylaws. There are two gulches under consideration, Gilson and Chase. The data on Gilson Gulch is old. There is not much data on Chase Gulch and new development is being considered in this area. Could Black Hawk be a project sponsor and submit the project application and resubmit. There are stipulations that you cannot flow money through to another entity.

Ben Moline motioned to support the committee's recommendation that the funds be held at this time based on the fund criteria established, John Curtis seconded; 10 yes, 1 no from Jim Ford, 1 abstention from Katie Fendel, motion carries.

Action: Secretary check bylaws on membership for Trout Unlimited

- Notification Systems Committee Update
The committee has not much progress.
- Pre-Fire Planning Study Update (Kerry Major)
 - USFS Update – This study is different than others due to developing relationship with USFS with UCCWA helping on wildfire mitigation. They have not done much fire mitigation in the watershed and would like to do so working with UCCWA in the community. The joint project development has more grass roots in community. UCCWA can help with education on why watershed health and wildfires are important. They have been looking at Hwy. 40 and Chicago Creek.

Drew Beck with Matrix Design Group provided examples of product outputs and project decision matrix showing socio-economic political drivers that identify core values and critical issues. A set of questions are developed to run through the decision matrix to determine priorities of projects identified. They have created a subbasin prioritization map. A live demonstration was provided showing criteria as it is represented on the map

to date. Moving forward Covid-19 has put us into virtual environments. They suggested to hold two small meetings with the upper and lower watershed, with 10 in each group to develop core value issues to couple with the technical information. Then hold a large stakeholder meeting with other partners including USFS, CSFS, Xcel, etc. Will UCCWA be financial partner or advocacy group with USFS? USFS sees UCCWA's role as advocacy group where they would take into consideration our recommendations.

Golden and Westminster approved IGA between the two making Golden a Financial Agent. Golden has signed it. The funding is now available for the remainder of the contract.

Action: Secretary send invoice to Golden for \$25,000.

- CWCB Grant – It was recommended that UCCWA use a fiscal agent to be the administrative lead for the grant. Colorado Watershed Assembly (CWA) was contacted. And agreed to become the Fiscal Agent at 5% of grant total.

Motion made by Ryan Zabel for UCCWA to resubmit budget to CWCB with revisions to make Colorado Watershed Assembly the Fiscal Agent at a 5% administrative fee, seconded by Kerry Major 2nd; motion carried unanimously.

- UCCWA Organization Structure Discussion
Do we still need to pursue a different organization structure or modify UCCWA language to get Secretary of State status? Recommendations made to drop consideration of changing UCCWA status. The topic has been tabled with no action needed.

Member Updates

- The Gilpin mill is applying to start processing ore from mines in the area. They have a permit from DRMS. It will be a small operation. They are looking at water rights, along with other issues that will involve changes for the City of Black Hawk. They have an active permit. We may want to look at it, but there is no new permit to be reviewed by UCCWA. The City may want to refer this to UCCWA.

Announcements

- **MAY 19th – 20th, 2020: Post-Fire Science Needs for Emergency Response, Hazards & Rehabilitation:** An online opportunity to discuss the state of post-fire science and identify future needs. Registration is now open, <https://aftertheflames.com/science-symposium/>.
- **DECEMBER 2nd-3rd, 2020: South Platte Forum | The Westin, Westminster, CO.** As always, the 31st annual Forum will include a full agenda of timely topics and expert speakers. Browse the agenda topics [HERE](#), and register early [HERE](#) before October 1st.

Adjournment

At 10:36 am, Chair Fendel adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 11, 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.: Absent
Empire: Sally Rush
Georgetown: Ryan Zabel
Gilpin County: Absent
Golden: Anne Beierle, 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: Absent
St. Mary's Water & San. Dist.: Chris Oeland

OTHERS PRESENT, PER SIGN-IN SHEET:

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer UCCWA
Mary Boardman, CDPHE Superfund
Christin Russell, CDPHE Superfund
Kyle Sandor, EPA Superfund
Shelley Standley, City of Northglenn
Evie Rhodes, City of Arvada
Lauren Duncan, Trout Unlimited
Jacqueline Daoust, CCC Open Space
Tom Matthews, USFS
Drew Beck, Matrix Design Group
Andy Cross, City of Westminster
Tara Kratzer, City of Arvada