

**Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2023**

Call to Order/Establish Quorum

A regular meeting of the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association was called to order at 8:31 am by Acting Chair Pat O’Connell on September 14, 2023. 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 August 10, 2023, UCCWA meeting; motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

The following invoices were presented for approval: LRE Invoice 1451UCC03, August, 23901 for \$591.25 and Kielty Diversified Projects Invoice #622 for \$820.00 (Secretary/Treasurer & Webpage Management). Total invoices for payment are \$1,411.25; motion carried unanimously.

Presentations

- **Code Red Call Down** (Suzanne Boccia, Director, Office of Emergency Management, Clear Creek County) Text is not used for the call down system due to the variability with the carriers. Notification messages are sent via cell, landline, and email. Clarification was provided on who is authorized to issue the notifications and criteria for the decision to initiate a call down. Trouble shooting is involved with numbers that do not receive the messages. The future of the Downstream System Water User notification was discussed. In the short-term the County will likely switch from Code Red to Hyper-Reach in 2024. In the long-term the County may consider the feasibility of moving to Jeffcom. A presentation was provided and is available on request.

Action: Suzanne Boccia will ask the County if a wildfire followed by flooding that washes ash and sediment into a stream will trigger a call down, given that this scenario is not human-made.

Action: Shelley Stanley offered to take on calling and emailing the municipalities and ditch companies on the list to determine corrections.

Action: The National Weather Service may, after wildfires, take on the emergency notification process, or provide a lot of help to communities with developing those post-fire/debris flow notifications. Kerry Major will get more info and report back to the group.

- **Floyd Hill 1041: Status and Next Actions** (Fred Rollenhagen, AICP Clear Creek County)
 - [CLEAR CREEK COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE AMENDMENT TO AREAS AND ACTIVITIES OF STATE INTEREST CASE #SI2023-0001 PUBLIC HEARING](#) - Board of County Commissioners’ Hearing Date: moved to TUESDAY, 9:05 am, 3 OCTOBER 2023. This meeting has been cancelled. This was a meeting specifically for utility relocates.
 - [1041 Floyd Hill Mag Chloride Meeting Summary: Clear Creek County Planning, 8.23.2023](#)

The County is expecting a west section application this fall along with the access package with construction plans allowing cuts into the south hillside. A project description was provided and

there was a review of Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS), a collaborative process that has been happening for 6 years. The criteria for water and aquatic life were discussed. The east section phase was approved with WQ monitoring and conditions.

UCCWA members are interested in the conditions and water quality testing being formulated. The Floyd Hill Committee suggested that a QAPP/SAP for the WQ testing being formulated. The County is asking for qualified water quality professionals to provide input to the solution. Expanding the sampling plan is a good idea – CDOT will need more stations, not just along I-70. A water quality model would be helpful. The SCAP is outdated. A standard is fine but does not address how to meet it. Each community has different standards for approving a permit. It is not clear how the communities may combine 1041 efforts.

Discussion

- **Cost of Review Policy for UCCWA**
 - [Sample Cost of Review Policy](#)

This is a needed policy with a minimal lift for getting a cost of review policy in place. This could streamline the review process. Putting this policy in place would be a good step for UCCWA and our ability to review referrals.

Action: Diane Kielty with Pat O’Connell will put a policy document draft and bring it back to UCCWA for review and a vote.

Referrals

- None received.

Water Quality Incident Reports

- None received.

Other Business

- Appoint 2024 budget committee.
 - Monitoring Regulation #38 in November 2023. IFH in November 2024. Participating in any Regulation #38-related stakeholder workgroups - The RMH would be in ~June 2025.

Committee: Pat O’Connell, Kerry Major, Lisa Leben, Ben Moline, Geoffrey Niggeler

- Appoint 2024 positions nominating committee.

Committee: Geoffrey Niggeler, Brad Benning, Aaron Hilshorst, Ryan Zabel

Member Updates

- Jo Ann Sorensen and John Curtis provided an update on the Floyd Hill Technical Advisory Group. Issue of concern in the project area: Use of chlorides for deicing and impacts to the environment, including creek, flora and fauna. The group also asked to include information and concerns regarding the drinking water standard that is relevant to this watershed.
 - From the Consultants: Objective: “Group will identify key issues/opportunities to learn, share and apply lessons to the FH Project.” The group also desires to apply what is learned elsewhere in the corridor, the state and regionally.
 - The data gathered, understandings, and applications may also present grant opportunities.

- The group will help to identify experts who will be invited to present to the Task Force. (Comment from Jo Ann: Mike Crouse’s presentation to UCCWA in 2017ish pointed out to UCCWA members the increasing trend in specific conductivity. What do you think of inquiring if Mike could present his information to the Task Force?)
- Groups not represented on this Task Force, but who may be affected by the project and the operation of the highway include Black Hawk and Golden, and ultimately the Standley Lake Cities.
- Technical expertise is lacking for a deicer specialist. Maybe tap into the university system. An aquatic chemists may be the specialists needed. CPW might have an aquatic chemist.

Announcements

- [National Public Lands Day - Clear Creek Cleanup](#), Saturday, September 23.
- [October 19th, 2023 | Quarterly Clean Water Webinars | CDPHE](#). These webinars provide permittees and the public with up-to-date information on division activities that could affect permittees, future permits, and Colorado's water quality. The webinars are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. If you have suggestions for topics, please contact Andrew Sayers-Fay at andrew.sayers-fay@state.co.us.

Adjournment

At 10:28 am, Acting Chair Pat O’Connell adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 12, 2023.

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer



MEMBERS ROLL CALL:

Albert Frei & Sons: Absent
 Black Hawk: Excused
 Black Hawk/Central City San. Dist.: Excused
 CDOT: Josk Giovannetti
 Central City: Absent
 Central Clear Creek San. Dist.: I (opted)
 Clear Creek County: Lisa Leben, Suzanne Boccia, Fred Rollenhagen
 Clear Creek Ski Corp.: Cindy Olson
 Empire: Sally Rush
 Georgetown: Ryan Zabel
 Gilpin County: Excused
 Golden: Kerry Major
 Henderson Mine: 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.: Chris Oeland
 Trout Unlimited: Katrina Hettinger

Trea Nance, City of Westminster
 Shelly Stanley, City of Northglenn
 Jo Ann Sorensen, Clear Creek County
 Steven Maestas
 Kelly Cline, City of Westminster

OTHERS PRESENT, PER SIGN-IN SHEET:

Diane Kielty, Secretary/Treasurer UCCWA
 Bob Krugmire, City of Westminster