



FOUNTAIN CREEK WATERSHED

Flood Control And Greenway District

Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District

Technical Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 – 1:00 PM

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Establishment of a Quorum: The meeting was held via a Zoom video conference call. A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance

Andra Ahrens	City of Pueblo, Water Quality
Annie Berlemann	Colorado Springs Utilities, Watershed Planning
Jerry Martin	Pueblo Conservancy District
Doug Hollister	State of Colorado, Division of Water Resources
Dominga Jimenez-Garcia	Pueblo County, Public Works
Johnathan Moore	Fountain Sanitation District
Joshua Carpenter	USACE, Albuquerque District
Jason Meyer	El Paso County, Parks
Laura Hempel	USGS
Mark Shea	Colorado Springs Utilities, Watershed Planning
Terry Hart	District Citizen's Advisory Group

Others in Attendance:

Allison Schuch	Interim FCWFCGD Watershed Executive Director
Andrew Rippe	Pueblo County, Public Works/Stormwater
Irene Kornelly	District Citizen's Advisory Group (Alternate)
Jeff Rice	El Paso County, Engineering
Kevin Binkley	Colorado Springs Utilities, W&WW Programs and Projects
Lucy Harrington	GEI Consultants
Tom Smrdel	SWCA Consultants
Sarah Skigen-Caird	GEI Consultants
Melinda Norris	Citizen
Tanis Manseau	Pueblo Public Works

2. Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Terry Hart to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Dominga Jimenez-Garcia, and approved by unanimous vote.
3. Approve Minutes of the February 2, 2022, Meetings: A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Andra Ahrens, seconded by Terry Hart, and approved by unanimous vote.
4. TAC Member Comments:
 - a. None.
5. Public Comments:
 - a. None.

6. Presentations:

a. USACE Update and Refresher on WOTUS – Josh Carpenter, USACE

The Mission is to protect the nations aquatic resources and navigation capacity while allowing reasonable development through fair and balanced decisions. The corps is a regulatory agency.

- Authorities: Section 9/10, Section 103, and Section 404
- Permits: General Permits (NWPS, RGP, and PGP) Standard Permits (Ips, and LOPs)
- Jurisdictional Determinations: Determination of WOTUS, Delineations identifies boundary and acreage of any aquatic resources, and Verification of delineation or JD.
- WOTUS: “rule who must not be named” is now under the pre-2015 regulatory regime.
 - 2021 Nationwide Permits: 2 new NWP for mariculture (not applicable in this watershed). NWP 12 (utility line activities) but now limited to oil and gas. NWP 57 (electric and telecommunications). NWP 58 (utility line for water). NWP 59 (new), used for water reclamation and reuse facilities. PCN required for all activities.
- Compensatory Mitigation
 - 33 CFR 332.3(f)(1)-functional assessments and replace loss of function.
 - 33 CFR 332.3(f)(2)-determine type and how much of mitigation. Has a checklist to guide.
 - Mitigation banking: no streambanks, no in-lieu in this watershed.
- General Condition 23
 - Loss vs. impact,
 - CSQT and FACWet
- **March 9th Regulatory Workshop (virtual).**

Discussion on watershed issues. Fountain Creek watershed has high sediment and has grown quickly.

b. Colorado Stream Quantification Tool: on-the-ground utility for restoration, water quality, and flood resiliency projects- Lucy Harrington, GEI Consultants

- Applied in the Big Thompson Mitigation Bank
- The SQT can: allow easy to understand comparison from baseline conditions, high level site selection, design decision with specific goals and encourages floodplain connectivity and habitat restoration.
- The SWT doesn't: account for recreation, landowners, stakeholders, water rights or long-term management.
- The SQT is a regulatory tool therefore one size fits all approach.
- The SQT will assess functional limitations for the pre and post conditions, but also relies on a healthy reference reach and favors channel stability, lower sediment dense riparian vegetation.

7. Reports:

- ### a. District Board/Water Activity Enterprise Board/Project Updates: Alli Schuck reported that the District Board and Water Activity Enterprise Board met on February 25, 2022. The Pueblo Levee project phase I is starting this week. The board decided that the interest from the MMF cannot be used to do an educational campaign. The board decided to not do a ballot measure in 2022 but will be looking at 2024 following a work session on February 18th. Meeting notices will be changed. The USAFA and Monument Creek Corridor planning kicked off. The Greenway System will have its final stakeholder meeting in May. Great American Cleanup is now with the District and will be held April 30th. The next meeting is March 25, 2022, at 2:00 pm on Zoom.

- b. Citizens Advisory Group: Terry Hart reported that the CAG met February 11, 2022. Colorado Springs Utilities gave a presentation their Wetlands Improvement project and Land Use Application. Discussion on annual topics to cover. The next meeting is March 11, 2022, at 9:30 on Zoom.
 - c. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee: Alli Schuch reported that the MMFAC met on February 16, 2022. Update from Matrix on the Pueblo Levee projects. Beginning to discuss the 2023 CIP. Discussion on project maintenance, which is covered by whoever owns the land. The next meeting is March 16, 2022, at 10:00 am on Zoom.
 - d. AFCURE: Andra Ahrens reported that AFCURE met on March 1, 2022. Presentation from the USGS on Total Dissolved Solids for the Arkansas River through the Regional Resource Planning Group. This study will expand sampling sites and examine flow and TDS. Discussion of NILs and the 10-year Roadmap, specifically nutrients. The next meeting is April 5, 2022, at 10:00 am on Teams.
8. New Business:
- a. Review TAC Fact Sheet: TAC to review and give edits and comments to Laura.
9. Old Business:
- a. Identify follow-up or action items regarding the District Land Use Application:
 - b. Sub-committee for technical review on engineering projects (how to form and structure)
 - c. Review proposed TAC meeting topics (attached to e-mail)
 - d. Update on education campaign and ballot measure (work session): see above.
10. Future Business
- a. April presentations and topics.
 - i. Continued discussion of mitigation banking and in-lieu fees.
11. Set Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting: The next District TAC meeting will be held via Zoom video call on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 1:00 pm.
12. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm with a motion by Mark Shea, seconded by Terry Hart, the motion passed unanimously.