



**FOUNTAIN CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT**

For the thriving life of the watershed and all it touches.

**Fountain Creek Watershed District
Citizens Advisory Group Meeting Minutes
Friday September 13, 2024
9:30-11:30am**

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99749871376>
(Meetings are open to the public)

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions

Angie Schirtzinger - FCWD
Alli Schuch - FCWD
Susan Finzel - FCWD
Terry Hart - CAG Chair
Jessica Mills - CAG Ag. Representative
David Woolley - Fountain
Mary Barber - CAG Vice Chair
Melody Daugherty - Manitou Pollinators
Jeanette Lara - NDR/CPW
Heidi Abed - citizen
Ian Hartley - citizen

2. Approve September Meeting Agenda

Consensus and approval

3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting

a. August 2024 - approval

4. Committee Member Comments

Fountain looking to make reservoir in town (David Woolley)
In planning process - will involve impacts on creek - 2-3 year project
Suggestion to get Taylor Murphy (water engineer) on meeting
West side I-25, near Gate 19 Fort Carson
Has economic impact study been done? (Jessica Mills) - will find out (David Wooley)

Mirosol Film will be shown at Farmers Market in Pueblo tonight (9/13) along riverwalk (Jessica)

5. Presentations

a. In-Lieu Fee – Lucy Harrington (20 min recording)

- ILF instrument creates an overall framework - how restoration will occur moving forward and how funds will be collected and managed
- FCWD collects fees from impacts to wetlands/streams/species within the service area
- Funds collected used to implement restoration and land management
- Fees collected must be used within a certain timeline to implement projects
- Includes most of El Paso County and all of Pueblo County

- FCWD will not own land
- Comments:
 - Susan - Outreach and Education?
 - Locations will allow utilization for outreach and education (Alli)
 - Alli - Army Corps of Engineers permitting agency
 - Melody - Beaver Management (CPW) - reintroduction for repairing damage
 - Review of Designs for Southmoor and Eagle Ridge + In-Lieu Fee with Division 2 Engineers (Alli)

Reports

a. Governing Board – Alli

- Met Aug. 16th after a summer recess
- Overview of summer activities
 - Joint CAG/TAC tour of Fort Carson
 - Bike to Work Day
 - Tour of USAFA - look at fire mitigation and watershed management
- Overview of 2025 budget with efforts for sustainable funding with federal grants
- Project Maintenance Program
- In-Lieu Fee program development + increased budget
- Proposing 25% increase from member governments to cover budget needs
- Grant: \$291,000 Awarded Tech Assistance for design work @ Frost Ranch
Submitted Water Smart Cooperative Grant (300k) - Monument Creek/Jackson Creek
Submitted EPA Community Change Grant (50-200k) - environmental justice and public health - Stratton Neighborhood
- With Susan: Rain barrels grant effort
- Received \$5,000 grant for willow staking on Fountain Creek
- Sept 20th, 9am next meeting

b. Projects - Alli

- Finalizing Landowner Agreements

c. MMFAC - Alli


- Overview of dollars spent to date, spent 35 million
- New Project proposed: Removal of large woody debris

d. TAC – Mark/Annie (shared by Angie on behalf of Annie)

- TAC met on September 4th and had a recorded presentation from Lucy Harrington from GEI on the In-Lieu Fee prospectus. The TAC is providing comments before the prospectus goes to the BOD and the USACE. The majority of the meeting was discussing the In-Lieu Fee potential program.

e. Website - Mary

f. WOC- Susan/Angie

- Overview of Creek Week (registrations, material pick-up, Litter Letter, promotions)
-  CAG - Support Creek Week
- Contract extension for Susan through October
- Unsheltered/unhoused camps were cleaned up by city of Pueblo - displacement - potential of impact to Creek Week engagement

g. AFCURE – Andra/Annie (shared by Angie on behalf of Annie)

- AFCURE met on September 3rd and reviewed 2024 goals and objectives and accomplishments. AFCURE is on target to meet all its goals. 2025 will be a heavy regulatory year so budgets are being adjusted to meet that need.

6. New Business

a. Upcoming Events:

- Sept Liquid Lecture - Mash Mechanix - COS Creek Plan, 9.19, 6pm-7pm
- Craft for a Cause at Red Leg - Fundraiser, CW SignUp, Outreach Table 9.26
- FCWD Annual Project Tour - 9.27, 8am-1pm
- Litter Letter CW Kick-Off - 9.28 9am-12:30pm
- Creek Week! - 9.28-10.6

7. Ongoing Business

a. State of the Watershed Planning - Alli

- Ticketed event geared towards industry and political leaders
- Looking at venues/budget

8. Old Business

9. Public Comment:

10. Next Meetings

- 9.27 Annual District Project Tour 8am
- 10/11 (virtual), 9:30am
- 11/8 (Hybrid via zoom and in-person at Fountain City Hall), 9:30 am followed by a field trip to Fountain Creek Nature Center
- Dec - No CAG meeting

11. Adjourn

Notes - Future Meeting Presentation Ideas

- El Paso County Planning Department (Oct or Nov TBD)
- Water Quality topics
 - PFASs - CDPHE
 - AF CURE updates
 - CSU/City of CS Joint Funding Agreement for water quality testing
- Water Equity topics
- Amara - growth issues
- CO Stormwater Center
- Strategic planning updates
- Dredge and fill permitting
- Recreation in FC
- Wildlife
- Lessons learned from projects under MMF
- City of Fountain new reservoir
 - POC David Wooley - water engineer for October or November meeting