



FOUNTAIN CREEK WATERSHED

Flood Control And Greenway District

Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District

Technical Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 – 1:00 PM

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Establishment of a Quorum: The meeting was virtually 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
Ben Sheets	City of Fountain
Dominga Jimenez-Garcia	Pueblo County, Public Works
Greg George	Pueblo County
Jeff Rice	El Paso County, Engineering
Jonathan Griffen	Pueblo County
Jonathan Moore	Fountain Sanitation District
Mark Shea	Colorado Springs Utilities, Watershed Planning
Richard Mulledy	City of Colorado Springs, Stormwater

Others in Attendance:

Allison Schuch	FCWFCGD Executive Director
Erin Powers	City of Colorado Springs, Stormwater
Ian Patton	WWE
Joseph Howerton	City of Pueblo, Stormwater
Wendy Pettit	Pueblo County
Lucy Harrington	GEI

2. Approve Agenda for the October 4, 2023: Agenda reviewed approved by consensus.
3. Approve Minutes of the September 6, 2023, Regular Meeting: Minutes reviewed and approved by consensus.
4. TAC Member Comments:
 - a. None
5. Public Comments:
 - a. None
6. Presentations:
 - a. Phase II In Lieu Fee – Lucy Harrington, GEI
 - Phase I presented in March which was more demand and competition, Phase II will be focused on design and costing.

- Review – District would collect fees from impacts to wetlands/streams/species within the watershed. Need to align with federal mitigation policies. Project Fees used in 3-5 years for mitigation.
- Design and Fees – looked at 4 sites (Fountain North, Frost, BJ Ranch and T-Cross). Reviewed each site for credits for wetlands, streams, species (especially fish), and added benefits flood resiliency, water quality, bank stabilization, and recreation. Did not review water rights in-depth.
 - Estimated construction cost, estimated mitigation costs and District overhead is 20%.
 - Fountain North - \$8M to \$130K/credit.
 - Frost – \$21M or \$122K/credit (wetlands), \$4.5k/credit (stream)
 - BJ Ranch – \$4M or \$44K/credit (wetlands), \$3k/credit (stream)
 - T-Cross – \$68M or \$180K/credit
 - Credits in norther Colorado run \$200-\$250k/credit.
 - Total Construction costs = \$100M
 - Total wetland credits = 700
 - Total Stream credits = 2772.2
 - Total net for District = \$25M
- Demand and Competition – CDOT is a larger user of credits. They do plan to spend \$79M over the next 10 years. USACE FOIA will need 3 credits per year on current demand, and the City of Colorado Springs and others are around 3-5 credits per year.
- Approved banks: Maria Lakes, El Paso County Umbrella Bank. Proposed: Judge Orr = 10.1 credits, Fountain Creek Cramer Creek.
 - Credit demand is about 6-10 credits per year. Competition = 3-4 credits per year. The District could net funds = \$143K/year.
- Next Steps – cost to date is \$39K (complete), prospectus: \$25K, remaining for ILF development = \$135K, and program profit within 2 years of ILF approval.

7. Reports:

- a. District Board/Water Activity Enterprise Board/Project Updates: Allison Schuch reported that the District Board and Water Activity Enterprise Board met on September 15, 2023. The BOD heard the ILF presentation from Lucy, discussion on maintenance needs, project update, and a project presentation on a recreation property. The Strategic Plan has been sent out. The BOD approved Aaron Sutherland to join the TAC. The next meeting is October 20, 2023, at 9:00 am on Zoom and in-person at Fountain City Hall.
- b. Citizens Advisory Group: Annie Berlemann reported that the CAG met September 8, 2023. The CAG heard a presentation from Cory Ashby with COS Fire Department on their wildfire program coordination and city forestry projects. Discussion on the program and forest health. Susan Finzel gave a review of the work being done in Pueblo from the Xcel Energy Foundation Grant. The next meeting is October 13, 2023, at the District Tour.
- c. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee: Alli Schuch reported that the MMFAC met on September 20, 2023. Recommend Alternative 5 for Hwy 47 which was repairing the storm damage and further improvements to the Eagleridge project. No new projects added to 2024 to

allow to complete current projects. The next meeting on October 18, 2023, at 10:00 am on Zoom or in-person.

- d. AFCURE: Mark Shea reported that AF CURE met October 3, 2023, on Teams. AF CURE finalized the 2024 budget. Discussion on next steps for nutrients. Review of the White Paper presentation given to Colorado Water Quality Forum, the presentation will be given to the 10-year Road Map next. Recommended to also present at the TAC. AF CURE is reviewing and modifying as needed the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP). The next meeting is November 7, 2023.

8. New Business:

- a. TAC support for Strategic Plan – sent out in email and posted on the TAC Google Drive.
- b. District staffing needs – Operational Manager – realign District funding to allow to add an Operational Manager. Draft budget will be going to the BOD in October, final budget will be approved in November.

9. Ongoing Business:

- a. Partnership projects
- b. District Tour – Friday October 13, 2023
- c. Discussion on the Strategic Plan
- d. Implementation of the Strategic Plan
- e. Regional/Military Stormwater Subcommittee – discussion expanding and addressing watershed needs, which military had an influence on.

10. Future Business

- a. Approve Joseph Howerton, Andra Ahrens as a members of the TAC.
- b. Possible upcoming presentation topics
 - i. Revisit [proposed meeting topic list](#) (November)
 - ii. TAC support of the Strategic Plan (November)
 - iii. Partnership Project List (November)
 - iv. AF CURE nutrient white paper (December)
 - v. Jimmy Camp Creek Drainage Basin Fee Setting (Jeff Rice, December)
 - vi. Direct and Indirect Potable Reuse (January)
 - vii. Dredge and Fill permitting
 - viii. Forestry Management
 - ix. Other priorities

11. Set Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting: The next meeting is on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, on Zoom and in-person at Fountain City Hall.

12. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by consensus at 3:14 pm.