

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District
Citizens Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2011**

The meeting was held at:
City of Fountain, City Hall
116 S. Main Street, 2nd Floor
Fountain, CO

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions

The December 9, 2011 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed Citizens Advisory Group (“CAG”) was called to order by Chairperson, Mr Terry Hart, at approximately 9:40am. In attendance were the following designated members of the CAG:

Terry Hart – Chairperson	Vice Chairperson – Irene Kornelly
Mary Barber	Tom Ready
Dan Henrichs	Carol Baker
Sally Miller	
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board	

Members not present:

David Kinnischtzke	Eva Montoya
Gary Barber	Dennis Maroney
Dieter Erdmann	Ross Vincent
Richard Skorman – CAG Representative to the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (“FCWD”) Governing Board	

Mr Larry Small, Executive Director, also attended.

A quorum was noted.

2. Approve Agenda of December 9, 2011 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the December 9, 2011 agenda was approved.

3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the November 4, 2011 minutes were approved.

4. Reports

a. Governing Board Meeting. The next Governing Board meeting will be December 16th at the Pueblo County Courthouse. The agenda will include:

- Public hearings on 2011 budget amendment and the 2012 budget.
- Presentation by Mr Eric Cefus, Pikes Peak Community Foundation (“PPCF”) on the creation of the Fountain Creek Watershed Trust by the PPCF.

b. TAC Meeting. Ms Baker gave the following TAC report.

-The TAC sponsored a water rights panel discussion, which was very informative and well attended by the TAC and members of the public. Mr Henrichs made a recommendation to attempt to capture the names and contact information for attendees because no sign-in sheet was provided.

-The U.S. Geological Survey (“USGS”) study was discussed briefly. Both the TAC and the USGS are working on identifying fourteen flood control alternatives to be evaluated in the study. The USGS is building the model and will begin evaluating the alternatives in February. Alternatives will be evaluated without regard to cost.

-The TAC will be addressing membership and other administrative details as required at their next meeting on January 4, 2012 at 1:00pm, Fountain City Hall.

-After the TAC report was given, a discussion about what was learned by members from the water rights panel ensued with Mr Henrichs giving some additional history, information and clarification. Discussion also took place regarding the possible alternatives for the USGS study, including water transfer to Chico Creek and a dam on Fountain Creek.

c. Outreach Group. Ms Baker reported the following from previous Outreach and other meetings.

-The group is looking at ways to get people to the Creek, such as an adopt-a-waterway program.

-Colorado State University – Pueblo has completed their survey, but there was no report from the last meeting.

-The Group discussed Water 2012 especially the educational attributes; a follow up meeting is scheduled for later today.

-The website was again a topic of conversation – keeping content up-to-date, events, making it user friendly, etc.

-The Fountain Creek Watershed Forum conducted on November 29th was considered a success from both an attendance and participation perspective. Good suggestions for partnerships, contacts, where to go for funding and the like came out of the workshop. A key take away is that matching funds are required for leveraging many of the funding opportunities.

-The Great Outdoors Colorado (“GOCO”) Board will be meeting next Tuesday to review the concept applications submitted. Out of \$16-\$18 million available for the River Initiative, the Fountain Creek Watershed District (“FCWD”) applied for \$7 million for a total of \$15 million (with match) in projects along the Creek. If successful, the FCWD will need to submit a full application package by early next year. The Board approved preparation of the application by THK. Ms Baker thinks our projects have a good chance of getting some amount of funding.

-The next Outreach Group meeting has not been scheduled.

5. Current Business

a. Re-Appointment of CAG Members

Members were asked to consider re-appointment for the next year. Ms Miller stated that she does not want to continue. Those present expressed concern about members who have not been attending, their status and future as CAG members. Eva Montoya will not be a member of the CAG as a newly elected Pueblo City Councilperson. Eric Cefus, Pikes Peak Community Foundation, was suggested as a possible member. Representatives from business, development, and other designated categories are desirable. Between now and the January CAG meeting, Mr Hart requested members to consider continuing to serve or providing contact information for new potential representatives. Appointments will be made at a January 2012 Board meeting. Topics further discussed included retaining active members, recruiting new members, keeping interest

levels high in a period of limited funding, communicating better among members, ensuring value and purpose of meetings, and involving more members in outreach activities such as adopt-a-waterway.

b. 2012 CAG Meeting Schedule

The CAG will continue to meet on the 2nd Friday of the month. October – March meetings will be held in Fountain. Various tours around the watershed were mentioned as desirable. Mr Hart will draft a calendar with other suggested locations elsewhere in the watershed for April – September meetings and/or tours.

c. Draft Fountain Creek Restoration Master Plan, Status Report: Comments by 12/16/11

The Master Plan will be presented to the Board on December 16th for approval. Comments will be accepted at any time for future consideration and updates. Sources of potential future funds were discussed as was the status of the Fountain Creek Foundation.

d. Website Working Group: Status Report/Feedback

This is a subgroup of the Outreach Group. There is a lot of energy around keeping the website functional and up-to-date. Mr Jeff Besse, Colorado Springs Stormwater Engineering, agreed to take the lead on this topic. The CAG will ask for a status report from him at the next meeting.

6. Other Business:

a. **Newsletter.** Mr Small sent members a copy of the latest Colorado Springs Stormwater Engineering newsletter. He found the article on Cottonwood Creek particularly interesting.

b. **Summit Economics Report.** Ms Kornelly inquired about the status of subject report. Summit Economics will be presenting to funders in the near future and should be ready in March to present their findings and recommendations to the CAG. The scope of the effort has been expanded, which has extended the time for completion.

c. **Oil and gas development in the watershed.** Ms Barber inquired about whether there was anything to update relative to El Paso County draft regulations for oil and gas exploration and development. Ms Frost commented that the County comment period ended last month. Draft/Final regulations are anticipated in January 2012. The City of Colorado Springs has imposed a six month moratorium. The State is also looking at proposed regulations with regard to hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) for oil and gas. A recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) report concluded water contamination in WY may have occurred from fracking processes. The CAG will continue to monitor this issue because of potential impacts on water quality, quantity and the watershed.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Executive Session: None Required

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CAG meeting will be January 13th, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:05.

DRAFT