

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

The meeting was held at:
Colorado Springs Utilities Mesa Environmental and Conservation Center
2855 Mesa Rd
Colorado Springs, CO

1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions

The September 9, 2011 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed Citizens Advisory Group (“CAG”) was called to order by Chairperson, Mr Terry Hart, at approximately 9:35am. In attendance were the following designated members of the CAG:

Terry Hart – Chairperson	Carol Baker
Vice Chairperson – Irene Kornelly	Mary Barber
David Kinnischtzke	Tom Ready
Eva Montoya	Sally Miller
Dan Henrichs	Ross Vincent
Dieter Erdmann	

Members not present:

Gary Barber
Dennis Maroney
Richard Skorman – CAG Representative to the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (“FCWD”) Governing Board
Ferris Frost – Alternate CAG Representative to the FCWD Governing Board

Ms Elaine Kleckner, Vice Chair of the FCWD Technical Advisory Committee (“TAC”) was also present.

A quorum was noted.

2. Approve Agenda of September 9, 2011 Meeting

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the September 9, 2011 agenda was approve as modified. Membership/Attendance was added under “Other Business”.

3. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting(s)

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the June 10, 2011 minutes were approved; the July 8, 2011 minutes were approved; and, the August 12, 2011 minutes were approved as amended.

4. Reports

- a. **Governing Board Meeting.** Ms Kornelly gave the meeting report as follows:

-A clean 2010 audit report was presented and approved.
-The TAC report was heard. The TAC is reviewing the Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan. Also, three new members were appointed as members of the TAC: Pat Coffee, Pueblo County; Joan Armstrong, Pueblo County; and John Chavez, El Paso County.
-Mr Larry Small, Executive Director presented the preliminary budget. Subsequent reviews will be conducted. Mr Small also noted the following:
-He has given FCWD progress reports to multiple governmental entities since the last Board meeting.
-Great Outdoors Colorado (“GOCO”) members will be conducting a tour of parts of Fountain Creek.
-The District has received good press since start-up of the sediment collector in Pueblo. Some water rights issues are yet to be resolved.
-The next Board meeting will be held September 23, 2011, in Fountain at 1:00pm.

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

-The TAC has drafted some procedures for land use, which will be presented to the CAG.
-Summit Economics will be presenting their preliminary results at the next meeting. A joint meeting with the CAG is under consideration. A USGS report will be given to the TAC on October 5, 2011 at 1:00pm in Fountain. After discussion a separate meeting for the CAG members will be preferred.
-The TAC moved to recommend approval of the Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan with a list of proposed changes. A few written and several public comments were received and addressed.
-The TAC has had several discussions on the drainage manual. The City of Colorado Springs is requesting funds to expand the criteria to encompass the entire watershed,
-CAG members are invited to a meeting with El Paso County Park Advisory Board on October 12, 2011 in the Commissioners Hearing Room on Vermijo Street, Colorado Springs. The presentation focus will be recreation, especially awareness of the FCWD projects and potential collaboration.

c. Outreach Group. The Group continues to talk about how to get more involvement from youth groups and students. Professor Jeff Stout, Colorado State University – Pueblo will have his students prepare a survey with questions about Fountain Creek to get feedback on expectations for the creek. The survey may be repeated for trending. Volunteers are being sought to help with a ½ acre wetland planting planned for September 24, 2011, from 8:00am to 12:00pm at Clear Springs Ranch.

5. Current Business

a. FC Watershed District Public Notice Procedure. Ms Elaine Kleckner presented the procedure drafted by the TAC specific to public notice.

-The FCWD has land use authority in the portion of the Fountain Creek corridor south of Fountain to the confluence of the Arkansas River in Pueblo. The District has recommending authority in the rest of the watershed.

-The TAC has the lead on drafting the procedures. In addition to the draft procedures for review today, additional procedures will be needed for submittal requirements, fees, scheduling and others. The purpose of the procedures is to provide predictable, simple procedures for development review and public involvement.

-Ms Kleckner reviewed the draft public notice procedures for applicants. The draft procedures are similar to other governmental procedures in terms of requirements. The intent is

to minimize the burden to applicants as much as possible. The District intends to create Memorandums of Agreement with other jurisdictions or request modification of current land use requirements relative to projects outside the corridor and within the watershed. The CAG reviewed and discussed the draft procedures with suggested clarifications and recommendations.

-Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the members endorsed the public notice procedures with comments. Ms Kleckner will refer the comments to the TAC for consideration.

b. Draft Fountain Creek Restoration [Corridor] Master Plan, Status Report. The CAG members discussed the draft Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan. Discussion items included:

-A larger default font size for printing is desired for legibility.

-Several members were concerned about the adequacy of the water quality section, especially with regard to the current situation, pollution sources and potential solutions to water quality concerns. An expanded section or annex to better clarify these items would be desired.

-Mr Erdmann inquired why the Colorado Open Lands Front Range Trail Plan was not included in the plan, and he would like to see it referenced. Discussion ensued about the value of trail projects, the risks to private landowners in the corridor and a need for more involvement in the trail planning process by potentially affected landowners. In particular Mr Kinnischtzke thought the overall concept of a Front Range Trail was good but thought the potential issues for individual landowners were not adequately considered. Mr Kinnischtzke commented that better collaborative relationships are needed between the District and landowners. He believes that more targeted relationships with landowners will be imperative as the District attempts to move forward with a mil levy or other request for funding for approval by taxpayers. The members will consider revisiting collaboration with landowners along the Creek at a future meeting to be determined.

-Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried (9 For, 1 Against, 1 Abstention), the CAG recommended Board approval of the draft Fountain Creek Corridor Master Plan with the exception that the water quality section should be further evolved and acknowledge additional documentation will likely come forward.

d. Website Working Group, Status Report. Comments are being incorporated into the final web design for the District. The website should be updated by the end of September.

e. GOCO River Corridors Initiative Concept Paper. A GOCO Rivers Corridor grant requires a concept paper in October. The grant requires a \$1,000,000 match. The CAG will recommend Mr Small go to the Board to discuss preparation of the application.

6. Other Business:

a. Attendance at CAG Meetings (ADDED). Attendance has been such that a quorum was not made at the last two meetings. Mr Hart requested that the members make every effort to attend the remaining meetings this year. We will address the particulars of our meetings for 2012 in the future. The next meetings will be:

-October 14th, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall

-November 4th, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall

-December 9th, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall

b. Mr Henrichs made the members aware that the Arkansas Valley Ditch Association has filed a letter to the Division of Water Resources requesting an augmentation plan for water diverted as part of the side detention project. The opinion expresses objections that the project changes the timing and location of the water available for downstream water rights holders.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Executive Session: None Required

9. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location

The next regularly scheduled CAG meeting will be October 14, 2011, 9:30am, Fountain City Hall.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50.