



**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District  
Citizens Advisory Group Meeting Minutes  
Friday, September 8th 2023, 9:30 am via Zoom**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99749871376>

(Meetings are open to the public)

**1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions**

Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

In attendance:

Terry Hart, Committee Chair  
Alli Schuch, Executive Director  
Ian Hartley, Citizen at Large  
*Alex Jouney, CPW*  
Jessica Mills, Lower Arkansas Cons.  
Dist.

Mary Barber, Citizen at Large  
Judith Rice-Jones, Citizen at Large  
Hannah Mooney, FCWD  
Annie Berlemann, TAC  
*Melody Daugherty,*

A quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests: Cory Ashby (COS Fire Department), Susan Finzel (FCWD),  
Mariah Hudson (El Paso County & Central Colorado Conservation District), Savannah  
Robar (Nature Conservancy)

**2. Add New CAG Member**

a. Member Woolley motioned to approve Mariah Hudson as a new CAG member,  
Member Hartley seconded, and unanimously agreed upon by those present. New  
CAG Member Mariah Hudson was approved.

**3. Approve Meeting Agenda**

Member Hartley motioned to approve, unanimously agreed. The meeting agenda was  
approved.

**4. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting**

a. August 11th, 2023  
Member Hartley motioned to approve, seconded by Member Berlemann, and  
unanimously agreed. The prior meeting minutes were approved.

**5. Committee Member Comments**

a. Member Barber: request to add to New Business a brief discussion of Strategic Plan.

- b. Member Rice-Jones: Heritage History Series at Broadmoor - Amy Ortega shared restriction to watering 1x/wk may occur soon. Erin Elder's exhibit opened at Colorado College Fine Arts Center last week (open until November 9, 2023).

## 6. Presentations

- a. Cory Ashby - Wildfire Program Coordinator, COS Fire Department
  - i. Facilitate mitigation work including education and outreach, most of funding (from TABOR) goes toward protecting the greater COS area from high fire danger. Can be used outside of city limits.
  - ii. Projects: 130 acres in Palmer Park, 200 acres planned in Cedar Heights/Glen Eyrie/Black Canyon Quarry, USAFA/Blodgett Peak, Fisher's Canyon in SW. Focus now on South slope of CSU lands going into Ruxton Canyon. Do smaller project work in house (up to 10 acres), larger projects contracted out.
  - iii. Collaborating with large stakeholders (such as CSU, USFS, City of COS, El Paso County, military installations) allows for precise movements & strategy to combat wildland fires.
  - iv. Education: work with 143 HOAs & neighborhoods in COS area. Chipping program, "sharing responsibility" with the communities to mitigate. Host Town Halls as well.
  - v. COS area is less fire resistant and has more overgrowth than before 1860s due to suppressing fires, etc.
  - vi. Discussion around fire mitigation and evacuation. What can CAG do to help share fire related information and resources? CWPP resources shared.
- b. Susan Finzel - Xcel Energy Foundation Grant Report
  - i. "Developing Watershed Warriors in Pueblo, CO"
  - ii. 2022-2023 Accomplishments: Creek Week participation, Fishing Derby, 3 Pueblo area breweries joined the Brewshed Alliance, Great American Cleanup participation, lots of school presentations, tabling at festivals/fairs/symposiums.
  - iii. 2023-2024 Goals: Creek Week recruitment, host another fishing derby, increase stormwater pollution prevention in middle & high schools, plan and host "Ride the Watershed" bike tour along Fountain Creek in Pueblo.

## 7. Reports

- a. Governing Board – Alli
  - i. Added a section related to agriculture to the Strategic Plan.
  - ii. Presentation from Max at Piper Sandler which will be handling the investment account for MMF finances.
  - iii. Robust discussion related to Hwy 47 project and summer weather impacts. Matrix doing alternatives analysis.
  - iv. Next meeting, Oct 15, 2023 9am, live at Fountain City Hall or on Zoom.
    - 1. Presentations scheduled from GEI related to the in lieu fee program & Matrix projects update.
- b. Projects – Alli
  - i. Eagleridge project has been permitted in record time; hope to open up for a bid in November. Southmoor Dr project data has been collected, 90% design, awaiting permit.

- c. 2024 Budget – Alli
  - i. 2 full time staff, 1 part time. Proposing contracting an HR expert to develop personnel manual and policies Jan 2024 and remain on retainer for rest of year; PT/FT Operations Manager.
  - ii. Seeking grant funds for maintenance assistance and fluvial hazard mapping, water quality project, effectiveness project, greenway master planning, update district signage, debris removal, rain barrel sale, project maintenance budget (as there is presently no maintenance budget).
  - iii. New FCWD mission & vision statements in development.
- d. MMFAC – Alli
  - i. Next meeting, September 20, 2023 via Zoom
    - 1. Updates on Effectiveness projects and Hwy 47 alternatives analysis.
- e. TAC – Annie
  - i. Met on September 6, 2023
  - ii. Presentation from THK on grant applications to pursue.
  - iii. Rest of the meeting was a lengthy discussion of the strategic plan and sustainable funding options. Discussed how to develop maintenance budget; are interest funds from MMF funds available in any way? Identified how TAC can assist with strategic plan objectives and deadlines.
- f. Outreach Coordinator Committee – Hannah/Susan
  - i. Hannah: Creek Week planning focusing on marketing and media, Impactful IPA brew day & release day, outreach events at UCCS & CC
- g. Website – Mary
  - i. None.
- h. AFCURE – Annie
  - i. None.

## **8. New Business**

- a. Strategic Plan
  - i. To discuss at next CAG meeting: how can CAG support objectives and implementation of the plan?

## **9. Old Business**

None.

## **10. Public Comments**

None.

## **11. Next Meeting**

- a. Annual Projects Tour: Oct 13th 8am-2pm
- b. Google invite will be sent by Alli.

## **11. Adjourn**

Member Rice-Jones motioned to adjourn, Member Hartley seconded, and unanimously agreed. CAG Meeting adjourned.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LBX54xEPIDuQ46JoRcYzsXIWXqVot2IgTnL2SrdwpcY/edit?usp=sharing>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V3SmfLfyWcz4OngpKl8eZ7H4rjouVwvgYeXFV2oUaDg/edit?usp=sharing>