

**Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District  
Citizens Advisory Group**

**Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2021**

The meeting was held online via Zoom

**1. Call to Order, Establish Quorum and Introductions.** The January 8, 2021 meeting of the Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District (FCWD) Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) was called to order by Mr. Terry Hart, Chair, at 9:32 a.m. A quorum was noted, with the following CAG members attending via Zoom.

Terry Hart, CAG Chair  
Mary Barber – CAG Vice Chair and Web Manager  
Jack Wallick – CAG Secretary  
Annie Berlemann – TAC Representative to the CAG  
Samantha Bailey  
Nancy Bernard  
Velma Campbell  
Ian Hartley  
Judith Rice Jones  
Irene Kornelly  
Kevin Sparks  
Jamie Valdez  
David Woolley

**Also in attendance:**

Bill Banks, FCWD Executive Director  
Allison Plute Outreach Coordinator  
Matthew Johnson, WaterVation  
Lucas Babbitt, WaterVation  
Chris Wiseman, Pueblo County Commissioner and FCWD Board of Directors

**2. Approve Agenda of Meeting.**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the January 8, 2021 Agenda was approved.**

**3. Approve November 13, 2020 Minutes.**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the November 13, 2020 Minutes were approved.**

#### **4. Presentation: Riverside Restoration Project, Lucas Babbitt and Matthew Johnson, WaterVation.**

Lucas and Matt gave a presentation on the unique approaches used to stabilize the 35 foot cut banks in Fountain that were threatening Riverside Drive and forced the closure of Riverside Mobile Home Park.

- Lucas provided the history, in which the two eroding banks were caused by sharp meanders and a confined floodplain. The aquatic habitat was shallow, sandy runs; there were no deep habitats for larger fish and no protected habitat for spawning and protection of smaller fish. The riparian habitat suffered from a discontinuous floodplain and lack of wetland vegetation. Large cottonwood trees were at risk because the water table had dropped as a result of erosion. Flooding in 2013 and 2015, as well as wildfire debris flow had caused most of the problems.
- Environmental hazards associated with an old landfill on the terrace precluded addressing the vertical bank itself. The goal was therefore to make sure the bank did not erode further. Flood control was a major goal. In addition, restoration of the aquatic and riparian habitat was to be consistent with stable and natural features within the corridor.
- Funding was through El Paso County from a HUD Community Block Development Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) because of threatened infrastructure. The grant was for 3.3 million dollars.
- Matt Johnson elaborated on design features. The goal was to design a naturally functioning stream system using natural materials found in the Fountain Creek corridor, consistent with Palmer Land Trust's vision for the conservation easement. As a result, the team used natural materials, including the abundant wood resources in the corridor. Specific, functional goals were to:
  - Protect the two cut banks, providing resiliency.
  - Improve the stream's sediment transport capacity.
  - Improve the aquatic habitat, and
  - Preserve and improve the riparian habitat.
- Moving through the project area, from north to south, the design elements were:
  - Creation of an overflow channel along the east bank splits the flow, relieving pressure on the cut bank. That channel is protected by flood plain assemblages, native log structures also known as apex jams.
  - Toe wood log jam structures above buried boulders protect endangered banks on the west side and along the 90 degree bend, along with buried boulder protection of utility and infrastructure and the roadway along Bandlely Drive.
  - Below the bend, constructed riffles provide channel stability and the channel cross-section encourages efficient sediment transport.
  - At the second bend, most of the same elements are used, without an overflow channel.
  - At various locations deep pools, greater than five feet, are created that provide refuge for fish during flood conditions.
- A corridor cross-section shows the low flow channel with imported river cobble to produce riffles for sediment transport, a bankfull high water channel, and a floodplain bench. Riparian revegetation included coir mat soil protection, seeding, willow plugs and cottonwood plantings.
- Matt did not present the engineering calculations and modeling used to validate the design prior to construction, but they exist and were presented to the TAC.
- The presentation ended with before and after photos of construction and post-construction vegetation.
- A good place for viewing the project area is along Bandlely Drive in Fountain.

#### **5. Reports.**

##### **a. Governing Board Meeting.** Bill Banks reported on the December 4 and 28 Governing Board meetings.

- The budgets for 2021 were approved on the 28th.
- The 13th Street project in Pueblo is ahead of schedule. The project is using an in-stream borrow pit, in which sediment-laden creek water is diverted into a cofferdam. The flow rate decreases, so sediment drops

out, and the water flows on downstream. The pit is periodically harvested for needed fill, and the project realizes savings over imported fill.

- Bill asked that anyone who wants a tour of the 13th Street project to contact him and he'll set it up.
- Bill has heard from Steve Welchert in December with regard to a survey to determine watershed residents' perceptions about the value of the District's work. That survey will take place in late winter/early spring.
- In response to Ian's question, Bill followed up on the topic of mitigation banking, which he had discussed in November's meeting.
  - He will meet with Josh Carpenter of the Corps of Engineers, which has a role in the process.
  - He described the arena as challenging. There have been meetings with Colorado Springs Stormwater exploring requirements and options. It's a complex landscape and he hopes to come to some resolution over whether the District can benefit.
- Velma commented on the 13th Street project, saying that it has already made an improvement in the area. The meanders give it a natural appearance despite being an engineered endeavor. Jamie Valdez added that the bendway weir is a nice touch. Bill replied by noting that many of the solutions being used in Fountain Creek are creative and unique in the field of stream restoration.
- The next Board meeting will be the 22nd of January.

**b. TAC Meeting.** Annie Berlemann reported on the January Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

- The TAC elected its 2021 officers.
- Rich Mulledy gave a presentation on the consent decree between Colorado Springs and the EPA and other parties.
  - Essentially, the city's MS4 violations are viewed as debits, and the city can offset those either with financial credits or project credits.
  - Additionally, actions resulting from the IGA between the city and various parties are not eligible for use under the consent decree.
  - Next steps for the city are revisions to the Criteria Manual; a project auditor, and a contractor for construction of consent decree requirements.
  - In response to a question from Judith Rice Jones, Annie affirmed that the consent decree contains requirements for green infrastructure. Annie added that implementation details are yet to be determined.
  - Terry and others agreed that a presentation by Rich Mulledy would be needed, once all the details are worked out.

**c. Outreach Group.** Alli Schuch gave the 2020 Outreach summary.

- We (mostly Alli) participated in 12 events, worked with interns from local schools, an E coli project with UCCS, made presentations in the community, and increased our visibility in the community.
- We raised over \$28,000 through our various activities, like the Brewshed Alliance and virtual film festival, and, of course, Creek Week.
- Creek Week had its 7th year of watershed-wide clean up. COVID 19 kept participation a little lower, but we followed recommended guidelines and had a successful clean up, fishing derby, and forestry project.
- Alli's Watershed Outreach Coordinator Reports are appended to these Minutes.
- Alli's 2021 Outreach Planning includes increased communications and a continuing presence with and within all watershed jurisdictions. She'll also have interns requiring oversight, CAG webpage upgrade, more virtual Brewshed Liquid Lectures (topic suggestions requested) and other interesting activities, Scoop the Poop events with local veterinary offices and 4H kids and of course Stools and Ghoul's, a pollinator event, more work with TOSC, water festivals and a family fun day, and much, much more. Please see the appended worksheet and volunteer liberally.
- Alli always needs help with these events; please contact her to volunteer. Ideas for outside organizations for future collaboration are also requested.

- Alli's 2021 Planned Outreach Activity Worksheet and her Watershed Outreach Activity reports are appended to these minutes. Please review the planned activities and sign up with Allie to help out on the ones of interest to you.

**d. Monetary Mitigation Fund Advisory Committee.** Annie reported that the MMF met in November to discuss three projects in Pueblo for possible inclusion in the 2021 CIP. These are Eagle Ridge, Sandoval, and Pueblo Levee/Confluence. Refer to the November CAG Minutes for detail on these projects. There was no December meeting. Terry added that there had been discussions with Pueblo County about the projects, and that redlines will be considered at the next MMF meeting.

**e. Website and Facebook Page.** Mary Barber asked that website users contact her for suggestions for making the site more useful and convenient.

#### **6. Current Business.**

- Terry asked the CAG to clarify our representation to the Governing Board, in which the CAG Chair is the representative, and Mary Barber is the Alternate.

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the CAG representative to the Governing Board will be Terry Hart, the Chair, and the alternate will be Mary Barber, the Vice Chair.**

- Bill's report earlier in these minutes covered project reports.

**7. New Business.** Alli asked that members respond to the survey by Bachman PR.

**8. Public Comment.** There were no public attendees. Judith spoke to emphasize the importance of archiving watershed records, to include presentations, maps and other material. A great deal of archival information was apparently lost or misplaced after Rich Muzzy left PPACG.

**9. Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be held February 12, 2021, virtually via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. Members will be notified prior to the next meeting, or may use the link, faithfully updated by Mary, on the web site calendar.

#### **10. Adjourn.**

**Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.**

Appendix A:

**2021 Proposed Fountain Creek Watershed District Outreach Programming**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Audience</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Needs</u>	<u>Helpers</u>
2.4	6:30PM	Friend's Group Meeting - CW Overview	Virtual	Friend's Groups	40			Alli
2.18	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		Birgit Landin - CSU - Your Water from Snowflake to Showerhead. \$1 off crawlers from Red Leg	get the word out	
3.18	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		CPW - Bear Aware	brewshed partner/beer discount	
April	tentative	Arkansas Basin Forum	Salida	Conference Attendees/general public		Sponsor/table	Attend, help with table	Alli
2.24	9am	Great American Cleanup	El Paso County-wide. FCWD site Monument Crk at Uintah					Alli, _____ _____ _____ _____
4.3	9am	April Stools Day	Bear Creek Dog Park				tabling	_____ _____
4.15	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		Michael from Songbird and Orchid to talk about pollinators, attracting wildlife	brewshed partner/beer discount	
5.1	10am-1pm	Family Fun Day	Fountain Creek Nature Center	General Audience			Staff table - watershed plinko	_____ _____
May	tentative	District Tour	Watershed-Wide	Board, TAC, CAG			Pre-tour logistics, event-day logistics	Allison, Annie, David
5.20	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		El Paso County - 50 Years of Parks (P4P)	brewshed partner/beer discount	
5.14, tentative	9-1	Pikes Peak Children's Water Festival	Pikes Peak Community College	4th Graders			Deliver Stormwater Soup program	
6.17	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		Jerry Duncan and Brewshed member - Direct Nonpotable Reuse pilot project	brewshed partner/beer discount	
June 21-27		National Pollinator Week				TBD		Alli, _____ _____ _____ _____

June	tentative	Feast of St. Arnold's Beer Fest		Brewshed partners				
June?	tentative	Fishing Derby	Catamount Reservoirs	Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo			Set up, help kids fish, take down	Alli, _____ _____ _____ _____
7.15	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		TBD	brewshed partner/beer discount	
June-Aug	tentative	Concrete Couch Camps						CC students
8.19	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Creek Week Crew Leaders	general		Katherine Sturdivant - Ftn Crk History (P4P)	brewshed partner/beer discount	
9/25 - 10/3	daily	8th Annual Creek Week Cleanup	Watershed-Wide	General Public				Alli, _____ _____ _____ _____
October	30-Oct	Ghouls and Stools	Bear Creek Dog Park	Dog Owners		Tabling/ outreach	Promote, presence? Education - Scoopy, Eli, handouts?	
9.16	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		Crew Leader Training (P4P)		Alli
Sept-Oct	tentative	District Tour	Watershed-Wide	Board, TAC, CAG			Pre-tour logistics, event-day logistics	Allison, Annie, David
10.21	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Pollinators	general		Jerry Cordova - Becoming a Watershed Warrior	brewshed partner/beer discount	
11.18	6pm	Virtual Liquid Lecture	Online	general		EPC - Sustainability Series TBD (P4P)	brewshed partner/beer discount	
December		Virtual Wild and Scenic FF	online					

## **Appendix B:**

### **NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021 WATERSHED OUTREACH COORDINATOR REPORT**

**11/12 Wild and Scenic host clip filming at Fox 21**

**11/13 WnS work, virtual meeting**

**11/16 Statewide Water Festival Coordinator virtual meeting, PR meeting**

**11/17 2020 Outreach summary work, film festival planning, Ocean Conservancy webinar on trash pickup events**

**11/18 Grant research, District MMF meeting, Wild and Scenic planning meeting**

**11/20 2021 outreach planning, website updates, social media post development**

**11/23 Brewshed Alliance planning for 2021**

**12/1 WnS planning meeting**

**12/2 District TAC meeting, 2021 outreach planning**

**12/3 CC student work planning, prize drop-offs to TOSC, Watershed Conservation webinar, Post-Fire water impacts webinar, Wild and Scenic Film Fest**

**12/4 WnS follow ups, FCWD Board meeting**

**12/7 Water education research, District PR meeting**

**12/8 Call with Terra Cycle about cigarette butt recycling program, Water Education Colorado trivia event**

**12/10 WaterNow grant application work, 2021 outreach planning**

**12/11 American Rivers webinar, Wild and Scenic follow ups, thank yous, WaterNow meeting with previous recipient**

**12/14 Call with Steve W. about District funding, Outreach summary 2020**

**12/15 Brewshed Alliance work, submitted Colorado College PIFP application**

**12/16 District MMF meeting, Brewshed follow ups, e-newsletter work, Concrete Couch call/grant work**

**12/21 District PR meeting, social media postings, website updates**

**12/23 Wild and Scenic 2021 call/planning**

**12/28 District Board meeting, pollinator planning, District website work**

**1/1 Social media updates, newsletter work, CW 2021 planning**

**1/4 District PR meeting, outreach summary work/2021 planning**

**1/5 Concrete Couch grant edits, District PR work – develop PIO contacts list, Brewshed Alliance work**

**1/6 Brewshed call with Collin from VA, District TAC meeting**

**1/7 District Zoom meeting downloads, website updates, meeting with Dana from El Paso County, Google Analytics, Facebook Insights – 2020 summaries, call with CSU about 2021 initiatives, call with Amy about Brewshed Alliance**

**1/8 Social media 2020 summaries, District CAG meeting, Wild and Scenic call about marketing, District grant research**

**1/11 Brewshed/CSU programming research, call with Green Mtn Falls, Brewshed contacts list updates**

## **JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021 WATERSHED OUTREACH COORDINATOR REPORT**

**1/15 Researched Waste Management grant for CW, 2021 outreach planning**

**1/18 PR meeting and follow ups**

**1/19 Website updates meeting, call with Alex PIO from Manitou Springs, Brewshed Alliance calls**

**1/20 District MMF meeting, Great American Cleanup meeting, Educator's Collaborative meeting, Ocean Conservancy grant webinar**

**1/21 CW meeting prep, call with Manitou Pollinators**

**1/22 PR follow ups, call with Billie PIO from Ft. Carson, Brewshed calls, call with Ryan PIO from EPC, FCWD Board Meeting**

**1/25 Liquid Lecture coordination, grant research, Brewshed calls**

**1/26 Call with Jerry Cordova CS Stormwater, District meeting archiving**

**1/27 Brewshed calls, call with Adam PIO from Pueblo County, call with Dawn PIO from Palmer Lake, website updates meeting**

**1/28 Presentation prep, Brewshed call, Liquid Lecture coordination, social media coordination, newsletter work**

**2/1 PR meeting and follow ups, Liquid Lecture coordination, grant work**

**2/3 Call with CDPHE about Brewshed Alliance, website updates, TAC meeting, grant work**

**2/4 Brewshed calls, Ocean Conservancy grant, Virtual meetings workshop, website updates meeting and follow ups, Friends Group presentation with EPC and TOSC for 40 people.**

**2/8 Creek Week planning and grants work, PR summaries for Facebook, website update work**

**2/9 Website updates, social media planning**

**2/10 Grants, Ark Basin Roundtable meeting, Liquid Lecture coordination and marketing, Brewshed updates, website updates**