



Middle South Platte River Alliance

Envisioning a Healthy and Resilient River Corridor for all Stakeholders

Meeting Notes – 5-18-16

The following are the minutes from the May 18, 2016 Meeting of the MSPRA Steering Committee.

Steering Committee Attendance: John Barnett, Martin Grenier, Steve Roach, Sheryl Trent, and Glenn Werning

Not in Attendance: Gene Kammerzell, Randall Ferguson, Chuck Sylvester, .

Other Attendees: Jeff Crane, Don Magnuson, Chad Reischl

- I. Call to Order:
 - a. The March 16, 2016 Meeting of the MSPRA Steering Committee was called to order by John Barnett (elected as vice-chair at previous meeting), at 1:05pm
- II. Public Comments:
 - a. None
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes Approved
- IV. Announcements:
 - a. Kacey Blum has given us her resignation as Watershed Coordinator. The City has re-opened the hiring process. We will be accepting applications for a short time period and will set up interviews in the near future. Jeff Crane indicated that he would like to be on the interview panel with Steering Committee approval – Steering Committee gave approval. Sheryl asked the board what sort of characteristics they would like to see in the coordinator. The list of qualities/characteristics generated follows the Minutes (as appendix A). Jeff Crane reopened discussion about hiring both a coordinator and an assistant as it is still a possibility. We had decided against the assistant early on, but perhaps we would be open to the possibility after we get the coordinator position up and running again. – Sheryl indicated that space for housing staff at the Evans Complex is very tight, but hopefully we could make it work.
 - b. This discussion led to more discussion on “if there were tasks that needed to be worked on in the interim” while we worked on getting a new coordinator on board. Immediate goals included:
 - i. Finishing mission/vision/work plan – Sheryl will continue to work on this
 - ii. 501c3 process: if our goal is to get this in place by end of year, we’ll need to work on this soon. – John and Martin volunteered to start working on this;

Sheryl indicated that the City's attorney could help review the paperwork if necessary.

- c. Chad indicated that his Canoe Trip with the conservation community on June 4th would likely be postponed due to continued high waters and dangerous conditions. He will be working with UNC Outdoor Ventures to come up with a new date.
 - d. Sediment Transport Study update – Chad gave an update provided by Brian Murphy. The contents of the announcement follow the minutes (as appendix B). Brian's team will be at the June meeting for a formal update.
- V. Old Business:
- a. Approval of Strategic Plan Documents
 - i. The group wasn't quite ready to approve the documents – decided to postpone to next meeting. Sheryl will send some information weekly between now and then, please provide input so we can get closure on this next meeting. Also may need to make next meeting a bit longer to finish up this work and hear from CDM-Smith, re: Sediment Study. Please be prepared to stay a bit longer.
 - b. Lower Latham Feasibility Study
 - i. Chad indicated that the RFP has been drafted, approved by the Lower Latham Ditch Co. and the State of Colorado. He intends to put it out for bid on Friday.
- VI. New Business
- a. Vision and Mission Statement Decisions
 - i. The steering committee spent some time discussing a mission statement. Committee members felt it needed to be a bit more active and talk about projects.
 - ii. The mission statement that came out of the discussion was as follows
 - 1. *"The Middle South Platte River Alliance builds and enhances relationships by sharing information with our partners. We seek funding, and manage/facilitate projects to repair damage, increase capacity, improve the ecological condition of the river, and mitigate further flooding to protect life and property along the Middle S. Platte River."*
 - iii. More discussion to come
 - b. Sheryl indicated that she is looking to talk to the City of Evans re: getting newly elected Councilwoman Laura Speer to be Evan's representative to MSPRA. It might be good to have direct connection to elected official. Some concern was raised about potential issues of having "City issues" to be brought before Alliance because of Council member presence. Sheryl also indicated that there could be "Ex Officio" members – members who are present for meetings and add to discussion but do not vote on Steering Committee business due to their elected status. More discussion to follow.
 - c. Report on City of Evans services to MSPRA
 - i. Chad had put together a list of services and associated costs that the City of Evans is currently providing to the alliance. These include things like office space, heat, water, internet, supplies, training, etc. These costs will be

important when thinking about overall budget for the Alliance – He will send this out to everyone so that they can look at it.

- d. Highway 60 project – CDBG-DR application was denied based on lack of existing time frame for bridge replacement. Could come back to us in future rounds of funding.
 - e. Canoe portage signs/locations – Chad gave a brief update on his work to date on this, will send out more info soon.
- VII. Next Meeting – June 15, 2016
- VIII. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Appendix A: List of characteristics for Watershed Coordinator (as generated by SC on 5/18/16)

Personable
Run a meeting
Good organizational skills
Local connection
Drop names
Develop projects
Construction skills to know the basics of what to do
People skills
Talk to landowners on their level
Gravitas: stand up in front of City Council and be believed
Credibility
Technical experience
Grant writing
Passion/interest
Resource to solve problems
Permit system
Feel comfortable calling CWCB/DOLA
Communication skills
Knowledge of existing watershed funding programs out there that are NOT attached to flood programs

Appendix B: Sediment Transport Update.

Current status of the Sediment Transport and Feasibility Study for you to share with the MSRPA.

- Completed sediment budget model for existing conditions
- Completed sediment transport model for existing conditions
- Completed bank erosion rate analysis
- Identified options to include in the feasibility analysis
- Working on feasibility analysis by updating sediment budget and sediment transport models to include feasible options
- Started working on a draft of the Study report (anticipated submittal date on or before June 1)

The draft report will include preliminary results from the feasibility analysis; however, we will not finalize it (or the report) until after we have met with the MSPRA at their June meeting.