



# Middle South Platte River Alliance

*Envisioning a Healthy and Resilient River Corridor for all Stakeholders*

## Meeting Notes – 1-20-16

The January Meeting of the MSPRA Steering Committee was called to order by Chuck Sylvester at 12:02pm.

**Steering Committee Attendance:** John Barnett, Randall Ferguson, Steven Roach, Chuck Sylvester, Glen Werning, Watershed Coordinator – Kacey Blum and Interim Watershed Coordinator - Chad Reischl

**Not in Attendance:** Martin Grenier, Sheryl Trent

**Other Attendees:** Sherwood Langley, Don Magnuson (Lower Latham), Gene and Jan Kammerzell, and Brian Murphy (CDM-Smith),

1. Public Comments:

- a. Mr. Langley asked if there were any plans to clean up around the County Road 396 Bridge on the Big Thompson River. – RESPONSE: This Bridge is not within MSPRA's Jurisdiction. We believe that the master plan for the Big Thompson does include this bridge. We will check with the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition for more information.

2. Announcements:

- a. We are canceling the Quarterly Meeting originally scheduled for next week Wed (27<sup>th</sup>) on account of CDOT's not being quite ready to present. We will reschedule for the End of February or early March.

3. Financial Statement:

- a. Chad passed out the financial statement showing the status of the current grants that are in the works and/or pending

4. Old Business – Presented by Chad Reischl

- a. South Platte River Restoration Master Plan
  - i. Brian Murphy has placed our priority list and cost estimates in the master plan and the revised plan has been posted
  - ii. With no further issues the final plan is now fully adopted
- b. Sediment Transfer and Feasibility Study:
  - i. CDM-Smith has finished collecting all samples, and has completed all cross sections of the river. They are currently running a bed-load analysis and are putting all this data into the model for analysis. The full model should be ready by March.
- c. NRCS-emergency watershed protection program

- i. Following conversations with CDOT at the last meeting, we worked with NRCS to complete a new Damage Survey Report at Highway 60.
      - ii. Todd Boldt from NRCS completed the DSR in the field, created a scope of work and noted the cost of the project to be around \$580,000.
      - iii. If MSPRA were to pursue the project we would need to come up with 12.5% match for the project or around \$73,000.
      - iv. MSPRA will apply for this money in the next round of CDBG-DR grants.
    - d. Next Round of CDBG-DR Planning Grants:
      - i. We are currently working on drafting two grant applications. One for the Highway 60 project (above) and one for work at highway 85.
      - ii. At our previous meeting, there had been a long discussion regarding work at highway 85 and the Latham Ditch, we had agreed that we should put in an application for regrading at the bridge and some implementation work at the Lower Latham Diversion.
      - iii. Chad sat down with the team at the Lower Latham to talk about the possibility of working with them to implement the soon to be awarded feasibility study. The representatives from the Lower Latham made it clear that while they were willing to see the results that come out of the feasibility study, they were not, at this time interested in going beyond that. In that light the application was trimmed back to just the regrading work at Highway 85.
      - iv. Kacey is working on an income survey of households in the immediate vicinity of the Bridge to determine if a majority of them fall into the low-to-moderate income category (less than 80% Weld county median income). Documentation of this would make the grant much more competitive.
- 5. New Business – Presented by Kacey Blum
  - a. New meeting time:
    - i. Both Diana Aungst, Weld County Floodplain Manger, and Jeff Crane (DOLA), asked us if there was a possibility of moving the meeting back a half hour or so in order that they might more regularly attend.
    - ii. Kacey suggested moving the meeting to 12:30. Glenn and Chuck both suggested just moving it to 1pm. There was general concurrence that 1pm made sense, so we'll make it so.
  - b. Adding new members:
    - i. At the last meeting there was talk about adding new members to the steering committee, most specifically someone from the Lower Latham Ditch Company.
    - ii. The draft bylaws currently state that the steering committee should be comprised of 7-15 members with a balance of landowners and stakeholders. There was general agreement that adding a few more members would be good for the org – especially if some choose to leave at some point.
    - iii. Lower Latham would be good as they are both stakeholders and property owners. Don said that they'd be willing to attend and that they'd need to discuss this further.

- iv. Chuck also suggested adding Gene Kammerzell to the Steering Committee as he has a long-term knowledge of the river and represents interests in a portion of the river that is currently not represented in the Steering Committee.
      - v. All decided that we would ask for official nominations at the next meeting.
    - c. Board Structure and Meeting Expectations:
      - i. Kacey handed out some questions for the SC members to fill out in order to help her get a better sense of what the general goals/expectations of the SC are. Please take some time to fill these out and bring them to the next meeting.
- 6. Next meeting: Februar. 17<sup>th</sup> **at 1pm.**
- 7. The meeting was Adjourned around 1pm.