

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
June 15, 2017 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Janet Caille, Gerry Cashman, Jim Greuel, Randy Ratliff, Mike Reynolds, Margaret Shaklee, Holly Young and Kevin Cannon (USFS Liaison).

Board Members absent: Jeff Dean, Shannon Keigan, Alan Meyer, Bob Meyer, and Celia Walker

Advisory Board Members: Fred Allen, Mike Corbin, Sandy Erskine, Jerry Hanley, Bob Manuel, Jacques Rieux, Karl Ritters, and Jim Shaklee

PWV Members: Peter Skiba

PWV Guests: None

AGENDA. The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES. The April minutes were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A) CHAIR REPORT. Margaret Shaklee said in May PWV was thoroughly engaged in preparing for our annual Kick-Off night and Spring Training and weather and a potential federal government shutdown couldn't stop us. We prevailed! Margaret expressed her sincere thanks for everyone who worked so hard to pull off this year's event and she is proud and honored to be Chair this year.

In April, the Executive committee was asked to make some decisions about the number of weeks for the Larimer County Conservation Crew for Restoration work and to approve subsidizing PWVs certifying and/or recertifying via a revised First Aid/CPR blended program. Mike Corbin interjected that the decision from NWSA regarding the grant should be reached on Friday.

At May's **Chat with the Chair**, Celia Walker, Jim Shaklee and Margaret assembled the goody bags that are still to be distributed. They will be passed out at the July 19th get together at Odell's. Margaret cruised among tables at the Affiliation meeting on May 8th. On June 2, Margaret invited PWV members for a KON and ST debrief and brainstorm session at the USFS office and Mulligan's. Twenty-two PWVs attended the **Chat** and several others submitted suggestions.

Plan B for ST: With an impending storm about to hit the Jack Nicol Cub Scout Camp on the Thursday before ST, an amazing team led by Fred Allen and Bob Manuel, moved the entire event and created a completely new Training Trail on the grounds of the federal complex around the USFS office in Ft. Collins in 48 hours. PWV certified 40 new members and for the first time, recertified 23 returning members. Most regrettably, due to the snowstorm, Margaret was unable to attend.

Non-Trail Activities: Margaret has recently requested an email be sent to all members about the importance of reporting non-patrol activities. She has asked the Web Team to add it to the PWV.org site.

Quorum: Margaret stressed the importance of Board member attendance. With 5 members missing tonight, quorum was almost an issue.

Certificate of Recognition: When the snowstorm hit, many members had to work quickly to make ST happen. All pitched in with optimism, originality and organization. Two PWV members went above and beyond: Fred Allen and Bob Manuel. Margaret expressed appreciation to Bob for his work on moving the Training Trail and to Fred for his chairing of ST, and gave them both Certificates of Appreciation. Bob & Fred also thanked Kevin Cannon for all his support.

B) USFS REPORT. Kevin Cannon said the **North Fork** bridge is now complete. The USFS/CLRD is re-looking at safety check in and check out procedures but this doesn't change anything for the volunteers. It is still recommended for volunteers to go out in pairs. The Forest Service is investigating possibilities of a contract with DeLorme for the inReach product. Kevin doesn't know if PWV will get a break but explained how it could potentially work to go through the government pricing. The volunteer use of DeLormes is propelling this change.

When asked about new radios, Kevin said the new radios are still coming in July but with the radio technician gone, the existing radios may have to be used through this season. The new radios are lighter and the batteries should last 32 hours.

When asked about Cheley Camp and **North Fork** for stock, Kevin said North Fork is officially open and stock cannot go through Cheley Camp after June 1. Until the gravel is on the bridge, it could be hazardous, and he suggested walking the stock through. Other PWVs did mention that stock should not have a problem going through.

C) TREASURER'S REPORT. Bob Meyer was not able to attend but had sent the Financial Statement. Margaret asked for questions or comments. Fred Allen said he has been tardy in getting receipts for Spring Training to Bob but the total comes out about the same as last year, approximately \$2000.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A) NOMINATING. Randy Ratliff would like to have his successor identified and announced at the October meeting. Randy is willing to have a nominating committee if that would help and asked for suggestions. Margaret volunteered to assist and suggested that Randy call individuals and invite them to be on the committee. Randy asked if the board has ideas, suggestions, to please let him know.

B) SPRING TRAINING & KON. Fred Allen and Bob Manual talked about Spring Training. Bob was concerned with the move into town but was pleased everyone stepped up and made it happen. Getting everyone involved was key; communication was a concern. All committee chairs stepped up. Appreciation was expressed to Jerry Hanley for involving his church for the Saturday dinner. A couple of stations, like the horse camp, had to be eliminated from the Training Trail. Bob said the role players did an exceptional job creating the scenarios.

The weekend PWV has to have ST if Jack Nicol Cub Scout Camp is used is a concern. Possible alternate locations for next year are being investigated: Colorado Outdoors, Magic Sky Ranch and Buckhorn United Methodist Camp. Jeff Dean has started conversations with Buckhorn. Discussion was held about the importance of having ST at an offsite location for the following reasons: the bonding of recruits via the socialization possibilities and the available PWV member volunteer onsite work force.

This year is the first time the Training Tail hasn't been at Jack's Gulch or the cub scout camp. However, three years ago, ST was split and part was also held in town. The weekend after Memorial Day is a safer weekend to hold ST with higher chances of good weather. The in-town ST also was an issue for supplement training, with people not attending, and communication was a problem.

Discussion was held on using the website to get more communication out to the members. Part of the issue is members must log on to register. Bulletins would have to be limited to membership or those attending ST. This year, invited personnel for the Saturday dinner were sent a link to register.

Discussion turned to who will be Spring Training Chair for 2018. A short history was given of who has assumed that position in past years; sometimes it has been the past Chair. Fred said that with the good committee chairs we have, ST Chair is more of a logistics job.

Mention was made that Plan B should be added to the details that Jerry Hanley has for ST documentation. This information should be added to the Organization Handbook. There is a current write-up on ST in the Organization Handbook about ST but the write-up needs to be updated with Jerry's more current documentation.

When asked if the board would need to make a decision on ST location, Fred said it was probably not necessary for the board to act, but it is time to start exploring the possibilities.

Margaret expressed thanks to Kevin Canon. ST could not have been held in Ft. Collins without him.

C) PHOTO/VIDEO. Karl Ritters made the following motion which was seconded:

Motion: to add Photo Video committee write-up to PWV Organization Handbook. The write-up is as presented to the Board as part of Information Sharing for the 6/15/2017 Board Meeting.

Karl started the discussion saying that should he want to no longer be chair of this committee, he would like to give his successor some guidelines on how the committee functions. He has reviewed the write-up with the committee which includes a calendar of events and the structure.

The long term plan is to have a system to organize the photos. PWV currently has two Flickr websites, one has 7000 photos, which in recent years include the year and the event. However, about 6500 of those photos have no dates. Another Flickr website has about 1000 photos and a Google site has another 1000. Karl also has some DVDs from Jim Shaklee. To get

all these photos organized has been and will continue to be a challenge. The Photo/Video committee is now four years old. Karl would like to get it approved to put the document in the Organization Handbook. The motion passed.

Karl Ritters made the following motion which was seconded:

Motion: to nominate and elect Peter Skiba as chair of the Photo/Video Committee replacing current chair Karl Ritters.

Karl introduced Peter giving a short biography of his skills, including several photo shoots with PWV activities, an associate degree in photography, photographer for a newspaper, for weddings and other events including a Milwaukee photo book. He is a very skilled photographer and very organized.

Peter said he has great respect for Karl, PWV and what PWV does. He likes interacting in a mostly casual way and he enjoys documenting. He has attended the photo/video meetings and enjoyed and thinks there are some new personnel on the committee who show great skills. The motion carried. Appreciation was expressed to Karl for starting the Photo/Video committee.

D) HISTORY & FUTURE OF THE NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM. Jim Shaklee talked about the history and future of the noxious weeds program for PWV from his Information Sharing documents. Questions for 2018 are: whether or not there will be a noxious weed program, what will it look like, who will lead it and will it be coordinated with the new head of CLRD Range Management & Weeds? Jim went through some of the history and accomplishments of the Weed Crew which was established in 2007. Jim was the initial and so far the only leader.

In the first years, the committee revised the weed chapter in the Field Guide and developed a Training Manual. Currently 22 species of interest to the district and Larimer county, and therefore to PWV, are described. They also initiated a focus on 5 common noxious weeds all PWV's are expected to know how to identify, report and participate in the treatment of (2008-2016).

The weed crew has provided expanded weed training, focusing on 22 species of weeds. The 2017 plans are to hold 13 weed pulls throughout the summer season at 5 locations.

Jim has the following three concerns: declining PWV participation, no current CLRD Range Management weed person and his stepping down as PWV Weed Crew Leader & Noxious Weed trainer in 2018. Jim has received no indication of interest by any PWV member(s) to take over this role.

Per the Information Sharing document submitted, Jim went through the overview of accomplishments of the weed crew. He detailed future decisions for PWV and the board:

How important is a noxious weeds program to PWV?

If important, what portion of PWV patrols and/or volunteer hours should be allotted to a noxious weeds program?

How important is a PWV noxious weeds program to the CLRD?

What should a future PWV noxious weeds program look like?

In recent months, the suggestion has been to eliminate the 90 minute Sunday morning noxious weed training sessions at Spring Training and instead add a weed pulling/identifying patrol for new members. Jim feels a day spent pulling weeds would be much more effective versus the 90 minute training. Jim is not sure how the board would react to adding a weed training patrol.

Jim's next slide focused on wilderness vs. non-wilderness. The thirteen weed pulls for 2017 are in wilderness (or non-wilderness close to wilderness). Acreages covered this year and the past two years are approximately 105 acres. Jim showed locations we have treated in the past but don't have staffing for now (268 acres). Adding the acreages, current and past (105 + 268), would represent 35% of PWV hours needed in order to staff.

One suggestion was made to potentially hire a crew for weed pulling. When asked if CLRD cares, Kevin said the district wants to see the program to continue. Kim Oberle liked the program and she used PWV as much as she could. Kevin said until Kim's position is filled, some of the questions will have to wait. Someone new in Kim's position could get volunteers to help, hire a crew and have public work days.

Jim concluded saying his intent was to present decisions the board will need to make. Margaret asked that anyone with further questions to please contact Jim.

E) MEMBER RECOGNITION. Sandy Erskine and Margaret have met and Sandy will be bringing a motion to the next board meeting to change the name of this committee to potentially Member Relations. This newly named committee could include the Hospitality committee, and could expand on how PWV members are recognized and nominated for appreciation awards, including: allowing PWV members to nominate others, Member of the Month, recognition for members who have patrolled in all four wilderness areas, etc. Additionally, this committee could focus on retention and why members leave PWV.

E) FUND DEVELOPMENT. Margaret asked Mike to relay the **NWSA grant** status. Trail crew applied to NWSA for a grant for a \$15,000 grant to cover 2 weeks of the county crew for trail building and trail maintenance. Randy Welsh of NWSA said the plan is to complete the award decision by Friday, June 16. Mike has been working with the county, but there are still some issues with scheduling.

Margaret was hoping Shannon could give a status update on the NEEF grant, which was to pay for some wilderness first aid training, the training manual production, and completion pins for recertification. Margaret said we would find out about this grant sometime in June.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) PUBLIC OUTREACH. Mike Reynolds looked into the meet-up hike changes as a follow-up from the April board meeting. The initial question was should we be directing people to the meet-up hikes. Mike said Madeleine Lecocq, who conducts the hikes, is very open to

suggestions and the hikes are going very well. The hikes introduce people to LNT, patrolling, and the Authority of the Resource, and that seeing Madeleine interact with the public without ever bringing up the regulations is impressive. Two issues, liability and letting non-PWV members wear PWV shirts, have been addressed. Mike feels these issues are both resolved and not an issue. Madeleine represents PWV very well. She has people who are regulars who get a real taste of stewardship. Four to five of the meet-up hikers transition to PWV each year.

B) TRAIL CREW. Bob Manual made the following motion which was seconded and passed:

Move that PWV allocate \$400 to the Trail Crew for cross cut saw handles.

C) ADOPT A HIGHWAY. Holly reported that no one had yet signed up for the first Adopt a Highway day, July 15. It was suggested that Holly send a reminder email to the PWV membership.

NEW BUSINESS

A) KIDS WITH PWVs ON PATROL POLICY. Tabled.

B) UPDATE POLICIES & PROCEDURES PART OF THE HANDBOOK .
Tabled.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Janet Caille, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **July 20, 2017 6:30 p.m.**