

**MINUTES**  
**PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**June 20, 2019 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Tom Adams, Janet Caille, Elaine Green, Bob Hansen, Jack Morgan, Randy Ratliff, Linda Reiter, Mike Shearer, Sandy Sticken, Celia Walker, Jim Zakely and Kevin Cannon (USFS Liaison).

**Board Members absent:** Jeff Dean and Katina Mallon.

**Advisory Board Members:** Fred Allen, Jerry Hanley, Alan Meyer, Jacques Rieux, Karl Ritters, and Mark Snyder.

**PWV Members, Other:** None.

**PWV Guests:** None.

**AGENDA.** The agenda was adopted as amended.

**MINUTES.** The April minutes were approved.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**A) CHAIR REPORT.** Tom Adams said a lot has happened since the last Board meeting including Spring Training, Stock Evaluation, Mentor patrols, etc. Tom even did his first weed patrol ever.

**B) PAST CHAIR REPORT.** Randy Ratliff said one of our new recruits has offered a horse for mentoring so Randy can now go on stock mentor patrols. Our stock community has had a couple of injuries on stock recently, one on a trail maintenance trip, and another newer member who was not on a PWV patrol but injured while riding, breaking a rib and collapsing a lung. For the injury while on the trail maintenance trip, workman's comp is being pursued. Although the injury occurred, a good day's work with the concrete was accomplished with 6400 pounds of concrete being taken up to 2 future bridge locations on Young Gulch.

**C) CHAIR ELECT.** Elaine Green stated that she had no report but would have a motion to present later in the meeting.

**D) USFS REPORT.** Kevin Cannon said the lower gate on Deadman is now open. Old Flowers road is still closed. The road to Beaver Creek is still closed due to culvert work. Sky Ranch is accessible for local traffic only. Crown Point road still has snow but will be open and Granite Ridge is now open. Kevin talked to the USFS Range person, Kelly Stover and she said that Sean Uhle, will be coordinating the weed program while he is here. Because the USFS wasn't able to give money to the county the past 3 years, the county lost their weed expert. The county is now pursuing hiring a new weed expert. With Kevin's upcoming retirement in December, Kevin suggests Canyon Lakes District Ranger, Katie Donahue, be invited to a Board meeting.

When asked about Long Draw, Kevin said Long Draw typically doesn't open until July 1<sup>st</sup>. On Young Gulch, crews have been building bridge number 2. Mike Corbin has the Larimer County Youth going in this next week to work on bridge number 2 without installing railings. Without railings, materials to the next bridge can be transported more easily. Kevin has been

trying to get a helicopter to move steel I-beams, but that may not happen this year. Larimer River Road is muddy but accessible.

**E) TREASURER'S REPORT.** Sandy Sticken said almost all the money from the Red Truck has been received. Sandy is waiting for REI to pay \$108.72 for Trail Guides. Trail Guides sold total just over \$900. Sandy said not a lot of change has occurred in the PWV Statement of Financial Position. Regarding the Financial Statement of Income and Expense, Sandy explained PWV has a negative income due to Spring Training expenses. PWV doesn't usually make money on Spring Training. With the inclusion of printing expense for Training Manuals (\$1030), the loss for Spring Training is \$1677. The following motion was made, seconded and passed:

*Move to approve the June 20<sup>th</sup> financial report as presented.*

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

**A) NWSA WSP GRANT STATUS.** Janet Caille gave a recap of the PWV NWSA WSP Winter 2019 grant request. PWV was awarded \$1975 (and was to use \$425 of PWV Trail Restoration Funds). In actuality, the signs came to \$1655.69. No Trail Restoration Funds have been spent to date. Kevin has installed a bilingual sign at Big South (but this was not related to this grant). The signs are ready and will be installed by the end of July by the USFS at Emmaline Lake, Link/McIntyre and Trap Park. Janet expressed thanks to Kevin for his help writing the final report to NWSA.

Janet had written an NWSA WSP Spring, 2019, grant request for PWV. In total \$8,311.21 was requested, of which \$1,162.21 for NOLS LNT Training for June Chapman in Minnesota and \$7,149.00 for video equipment and training. PWV was not awarded this grant.

Janet reached out to Randy Welsh for feedback on why the PWV grant wasn't accepted, Randy said it was due to:

- No Cash match
- A supportive role but no tangible on the ground results
- NWSA purchased a lot of film equipment last year, raters were not inclined to do so again this year
- A lot of competition!

Some discussion was held on cash matching funds for future grant writing.

**B) BURGERS AND BEER AT THE RED TRUCK BREWERY.** Janet Caille reported that all 50 tickets for PWV Fund Raiser "**Burgers and Beer**" to be held at Red Truck Brewery, Wednesday, June 26, from 6-9 p.m. have now been sold. All who purchased a ticket will be comped one burger and one beer. Janet has now given all \$1000 to Sandy Sticken, Treasurer. Red Truck will take a picture with some PWV members with a large (fake) check. PWV is the first in Ft. Collins to take advantage of a Red Truck Burger & Beer event.

**C) GEAR FEST/GEAR GIVE-AWAY UPDATE:** Janet Caille presented her created power point with the following statistics.

- \$735 came in 'pre-sale' with donation jar
- 26 people emailed requests; 24 received items
- \$387 came in on June 2, 2019
- **TOTAL RAISED on the donation of Shaklee equipment: \$1122**

Celia Walker assisted Janet with the drawing for various items.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the following 7 expert presenters were present:

- Ultra light: David Fanning, Karl Ritters
- Backpack: Curt McDonald, Gerry Cashman
- Daypack: Russ Smith, June Chapman, Mike Corbin
- Food Hydrate/de-hydration: Mike Corbin

Unfortunately, while a significant amount was raised (\$1122), and 9 PWV members worked shifts and brought food, only 10 additional members attended the sale and Gear Fest, so attendance was disappointing. Last year about 30 members attended. Janet speculated on why attendance was down. The point was made that 24 people had picked up items from the pre-sale. The Gear Fest is under the auspices of the Trail Patrolling Committee and the committee will be discussing and considering future involvement. Janet said remaining items will be displayed at the Midsummer Event, with Donation Jar present. A silent auction will be held for a Yeti cooler.

Adult beverages were furnished by Avery Brewery and 287 Craft Spirits. Leftover adult beverages will be used for the Midsummer Event, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 6-8:30 p.m. Food was provided by members of the following committees: Trail Patrolling, Member Relations and Fund Development.

**D) SPRING TRAINING COMMITTEE.** Elaine Green said a Spring Training debrief was held with the Spring Training Committee. Elaine reported on a couple of things from that meeting. Elaine had asked for everyone to do a summary of evaluation on using Buckhorn, which Elaine will post on Google Drive. Consensus at the debrief meeting was for PWV to return to Buckhorn, with a couple of caveats. The first is that we work hard on the sound issue at Elkhorn Lodge, either working with Buckhorn to fix their system, maybe change location for some meetings or bring our own working sound system. Besides improved housing and facilities, the work done on establishing a new Training Trail all favor a return to Buckhorn. The following motion was made and seconded:

*Move to return to Buckhorn for Spring Training next year.*

Fred Allen started the discussion, asking for a discussion making plan B, plan A. Spring Training twice in 24 years has needed a last minute Plan B sort of Spring Training. Fred would like to have a well-planned Plan B option, without taking all of Spring Training into the mountains for the weekend. The goal of Spring Training is to train recruits and PWV wants to be effective, efficient, and enjoyable. When training was held at Jack's Gulch, PWV was fortunate with the weather and training was held the weekend before Memorial Day. Fred recommended that a hybrid approach might be something worth looking at: letting people go home for the night, feeding them in town, and keeping the Training Trail in the mountains.

Fred said Spring Training is a 6 month effort from recruiting, through Kick-Off Night, to the actual training, and requiring approximately 25% of our volunteer hours. Fred believes Jack's Gulch offers the best Training Trail around but is not a good site for camping. Fred said the first 12 years or so, Spring Training was chaired by the Chair of PWV, and consisted of much of what goes on today, and only involved 2 months of member time. Fred said for next year we are still fine at Buckhorn for food and lodging. Regarding the bonding issue, nothing was done for Plan B. Recruits were still trained but without the bonding experience. Fred thinks this could be expanded with an in-town experience. About 8 years ago, we started encouraging existing members to come to Spring Training for continuing education. The issue with this is

that if the weather isn't good a lot of members who signed up for classes wind up not attending. This year about 25 people didn't attend dinner; in 2018, approximately 65 did not attend dinner.

Jerry Hanley said weather became an issue in 2014. The decision was made at that time to come up with a viable Plan B. We still really don't have such a plan, although Plan B was also used in 2017. We really don't have a Plan B to compare with what is currently done (Plan A). Jerry recommended that we put together a Plan B, compare with Plan A (listing pros and cons) and make a rational decision on what would work best going forward. Jerry would support an effort putting together a committee to develop a viable Plan B. Jerry thought timing might be such that we stay at Buckhorn this year and then put together another plan and compare possibilities.

Celia Walker mentioned that we need to break apart the various components, saying that it is becoming hectic with the third track of current members coming up for supplemental training. While there are advantages to this approach, there are also disadvantages and one is that recruits can't attend the supplemental training offered at Spring Training. If this training was offered at a later time in the summer, recruits could attend. Training components to be considered could be food, AGL training, supplemental training and food and look at each of these. Another component to be looked at is the satisfaction of people that attend Spring Training. After the 2017 recruits attended Spring Training in 2018, their response was 'we got cheated; this is so much better; so much more fun'. This needs to be one of the components investigated. Celia feels this speaks to the difference between urban and the mountains.

Elaine Green thinks that the way we've been doing Spring Training the last few years is a real strength of the organization, the way it brings us together as an organization, and that people staying together is a real strength. Some of the differences we've had in the past are ameliorated by going back to Buckhorn. Members can tent camp, stay in provided housing, bring an RV, etc. If the Board approves the later date, the snow issue is resolved. Elaine recommended continuing on our current path until we find something better. Our Spring Training is something we as an organization are known for. Feedback we received from AGLs this year was very positive.

Mike Shearer recommended also having a well-developed Plan B. Linda Reiter expressed concern that PWV will have the people-power to continue doing per our current plan. To this Alan Meyer agreed that we have a small percentage of an aging group we continue to ask, but expressed concern that we need to be reaching out to our newer members, giving an example of one of our new members in the food service industry who is eager to be involved. Randy Ratliff, said he thinks it's very healthy to step back and look at the whole Spring Training process that gets the job done and cut out some of the repetition and try out new things. People who come out of Spring Training are so excited. The actual training has changed very little over the years. Fred Allen proposed that an ad hoc committee be formed to come up with a Plan B. Jerry Hanley suggested that this idea be put on the Strategic Plan. The committee meets soon and Jerry will bring up for discussion.

Janet Caille expressed concern that developing a viable Plan B will take time and an ad hoc committee. Janet said that Mike Corbin (and Janet) thinks the bonding experience is very important. Janet also said the Supplemental Training expressed frustration at the low attendance, and perhaps this training should not be emphasized at Spring Training but presented at a later time so that recruits can also attend. It was mentioned that the Board had moved to develop a Plan B but no action was ever taken. The motion was called to question and was passed.

Regarding a possible date for Spring Training, Janet Caille presented a power point with May 29-31, 2020, as a possible date, and considering some pros and cons around this date. For

2019, PWV originally requested the weekend after Memorial Day. Per Austin, the Rubicon group historically has come to Buckhorn that weekend. In 2019, Rubicon moved to May 15-17 (approximately). Camp director, Austin Hubbard offered the weekend after Memorial Day to PWV. At which time, Janet asked Austin to pencil PWV in for that date until the timeframe could be discussed by the Board on June 20.

Janet presented cons for this weekend:

- Mentor Patrols would have to be after May 31, 2020
- In 2019, 15 mentor patrols were held between ST and May 31<sup>st</sup>
- One option might be to offer pre-ST patrols
- Due to weather in 2019, many mentor patrols were rescheduled (probably true in 2017 also)
- Might be at the beginning of some member vacation time

Pros for this weekend are:

- Hopefully no snow, warmer weather
- Cabins, meeting spaces would all be warmer (and hopefully comfortable)
- Use of the outdoor patio would hopefully be more, since warmer condition
- Buckhorn road conditions would hopefully be less treacherous
- Wouldn't be a Graduation weekend (for CSU and local high schools).

Kevin Cannon concurred that graduations are frequently an issue. The following motion was made and seconded:

*Move that 2020 spring training be held at the Buckhorn Camp May 29 – 31.*

When asked if a deposit was needed, Janet said that was not necessary. In 2019, Sandy Sticken took a \$500 to Austin at the start of Spring Training. Janet said that Austin was very pleased with PWV. Janet didn't feel we would be obligated if weather became an issue. PWV would still be cleaning up the camp probably in early May. The motion carried.

Jerry Hanley said Plan B will be put on the Strategic Plan agenda. Results will be presented at the next Board meeting.

**E) BUCKHORN CAMP WISH LIST.** Janet Caille presented the wish list that Austin had emailed several of us who were involved in Spring Training. PWV had asked Buckhorn for a wish list, because some members of the committee were under the impression that PWV gave a gift to the Cub Scouts each year, when using their facilities. No dollar amount had been discussed in detail with Austin Hubbard, Buckhorn Camp Director. The camp had paid to have the Gaylord system cleaned but the cleaning was not very successful. Fred Allen and crew put in a large effort cleaning and removing dead rodents. Janet said typically spending a weekend at Buckhorn for a family of four would be approximately \$200. Janet presented the items on the Buckhorn Wish List:

- (200) Hercules Stacking Banquet Chairs \$19.99/chair
- (25) Holmes 20 inch, 3-Speed box fans \$19.99/fan
- (12) 1,500-Watt Utility Milkhouse Fan-Forced Portable Heater with Thermostat \$19.97/heater
- (12) Lifetime 22901 Folding Utility Table, 6 Feet, White Granite, \$100.23/table.

Austin emailed that Buckhorn is also in need of 2 washing machines and a dryer. Ideally Buckhorn would like a new matching set for the new lodge. Janet's personal recommendation

was to give a small gift to Buckhorn. Mike Shearer mentioned that the value of Buckhorn Camp for Spring Training was greater than the value of the Cub Scout Camp. So if sweat equity was not enough, perhaps purchasing heaters would be a good way to go. The following motion was made and seconded:

*Move that we buy \$500 worth of equipment for Buckhorn.*

Discussion ensued. The point was made that the Buckhorn Camp affords us a greater value than the Cub Scout Camp or Jack's Gulch. If sweat equity was enough for the Cub Scout camp, maybe it's not quite enough for Buckhorn and the nicer facilities. The question is how much more value and how do we compensate for that value. If we go with only recruits and recerts next year, we will use less of the facility. PWV did pay \$500 for the use of the utilities at the camp. Randy Ratliff expressed concern about setting a precedence of a yearly gift plus we contracted with Buckhorn and carried through with our commitment. Discussion continued on getting funds potentially for PWV equipment to help offset the cost of Spring Training. Jim Zakely concurred with Randy on the setting of a precedent and recommended giving a small donation, not specific equipment. A friendly amendment was offered and accepted as follows:

*Move that we buy \$250 worth of equipment for Buckhorn.*

When called to question, the motion carried with three opposed.

**F) AGL CO-CHAIR RESIGNATION:** Janet Caille presented her letter of resignation as AGL Co-Chair to Tom Adams. Janet will secure Role Players for next years' spring training.

**G) RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM.** Mike Shearer had the Recertification program this year. Mike contacted all the members on the list. A great number didn't reply and looked at Recertification as an optional program. Mike is proposing that two years out, we send recertifying members a letter and giving them basically two chances to recertify. If members choose not to recertify, we give them options of other non-patrolling ways they can serve. The following year these same members would get another letter. They've now had two years to plan at time to recertify. We need to do a better job of getting people to recertify.

Discussion ensued. It was mentioned that some members are somewhat insulted when asked to recertify. It was mentioned that changes in our computer system and regulations make recertification important, not to mention practicing Authority of the Resource. Currently, for those not recertifying there have been no repercussions. Next year is when the 7-year recertification program will likely start and their Volunteer Agreements may not potentially be accepted. Non-patrolling options will need to be presented. About 28 members will need to recertify next year. They will only have a one year notice. They might need to be non-patrolling for one year and then jump in the next year. Per Kevin Cannon, two waivers have been given both of which were medical. There isn't an official grace year. Jack Morgan liked the two years and giving them a non-patrolling option. When asked if there are any other ways of recertifying, i.e., mentor patrols, Kevin said that's been discussed and no, because mentor patrols do not encounter all the situations presented on the training trail.

For recertifying members, Mike thinks the Training Trail can probably be shortened for recertifying members. Discussion was held with the AGLS about reducing the number of stations. Recertifying members might be actually able to go home a little early and submit an actual Training Trail report. They would still have Jeanne's report class. Alan Meyer mentioned there were 50 plus members Member Relations contacted about returning to PWV. Of those contacted only one had an actual issue with PWV. Mike Shearer said there are members from

2001, 2003, 2005 that have not yet recertified. It is possible we may lose some of those members. The suggestion was to include remarks from the evaluations as a marketing tool. The following motion was made, seconded, and passed.

*Move that members who fail to recertify after 7 years are no longer patrolling members until they recertify.*

One issue is that members can't just be switched to non-patrolling without a sponsor, etc. The non-patrolling Chair would need to handle the influx. It should be mentioned that being an AGL counts as recertification.

**H) NEW RECRUIT PATROL SCHEDULING.** Alan Meyer talked about things that have come up post spring training. For several years in a row for mentor patrols, trails like Fish Creek were used; no people were seen, no campsites, etc. This was the original scheduling program. The Corbins and members of the Trail Patrolling Committee provided to Fred Sprague a list of blackout dates specific to certain trails, so that scheduling will more likely be timed for activity on the trails. So we have a little bit more smarts in the programming this year.

Secondly, this year one Coyote recruit said she had asked for only easy trails in the Trail Preferences survey, and she got trails that were not easy. In talking to Fred Sprague, there are different 'secret' lists of trail difficulties. These lists originate from one developed several years ago and which are published to PWV members. Alan has been working with Fred to arrive at only one list of trail difficulty.

Thirdly, Alan asked if we should be scheduling fewer patrols for our new recruits? Jacques Rieux confirmed that 6 assigned patrols has always been our standard and Kevin concurred. There are some great benefits in doing this. Recruits don't have to schedule patrols.

The downside of scheduling 6 for them is that unless they do more than 6 patrols, they don't learn how to schedule on their own. The Board voted this last year that a recruit can do a weed patrol as one of their 6 patrols. There is no mechanism in place to schedule this or determine if a recruit would opt to do this. We don't know the dates weed patrols will be scheduled and we don't know if a recruit would choose a weed patrol. During the AGL debrief, meeting, the idea was discussed to only schedule 5 patrols for new recruits, and the recruit could then schedule a patrol, be that a regular trail patrol or a weed patrol (or other type of patrol such as LNT). AGLs should be monitoring the number of patrols recruits have completed. General consensus was given by the Board. The suggestion was made that LNT, Trail Maintenance, and other types of patrols be included in the list of possibilities for new recruits. The suggestion was made that dates be available at Spring Training, although it was noted these dates are frequently not known by Spring Training and show up later as "need a partner" patrols. Based on Board consensus, Alan Meyer will pursue further.

**OLD BUSINESS** None.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Janet Caille, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **July 18, 2019 6:30 p.m.**