

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
April 18, 2024 - 6:30-7:44 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting

ATTENDANCE

- **Board Members:** Jennifer Collins, Joe Cox, Donald Gibbs, Ruth Janitscheck, Randy Jones, Jim Medlock, Steve Musial, Sean Orner, Jeff Randa, Dan Schultejan, Mark Snyder, Anne Yakos, Jim Zakely, Matt Cowan (USFS Liaison)
- **Board Members Absent:** Rich Cappello
- **Advisory Board Members:** Chuck Bell, Mike Corbin, Elaine Green, Karl Ritters, Bruce Williams
- **PWV Members, Other:** Dave Carpenter, Tom Collins, Jeanne Corbin

ESTABLISHING QUORUM AND MEETING GROUND RULES

Sean Orner welcomed everyone in attendance and a quorum was established.

AGENDA

The April 2024 meeting agenda was adopted.

MINUTES

The March 2024 BOD meeting minutes were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

(A) CHAIR REPORT

- Sean Orner thanked all who contributed to a successful Kick Off Night. She informed all of a recent patrol on Hewlett Gulch by Celia Walker and Lorann Stallones in which a trail runner had notified them of a smoldering unattended fire they had attempted to put out. They went up and located the fire and recruited the help of 2 hikers. The four of them successfully put out the burning log that had been poorly extinguished using trash bags to haul water up from the creek. We are grateful to Celia, Lorann and members of the public for preventing a wildfire.

(B) CHAIR ELECT

- Nothing to report from Joe Cox.

(C) IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR REPORT

- Mark Snyder is now working on the newsletter and invited anyone to email him with thoughts and additional articles. They always have a spot or 2 open. He asked for a 2-week lead time.

(D) USFS STAFF REPORT

- Matt Cowan is looking forward to a busy season. Youth Corps are coming on board in June. Both the County and Rocky Mountain Conservancy Youth Corps will be put through crosscut training. RMC plans to do a lot of work in the Rawah while Larimer County will work on Comanche Peak Wilderness with another high tree fall year expected. The Forest Service has given funding to Wildlands Restoration Volunteers for a 2-year agreement to finish the Lady Moon Accessible loop, connecting the Elkhorn Creek trail and continuing work on the Rawah Trail. They also entered into a 2-year agreement with the Overland Mountain Bike Association. They will now have a paid year-round trails coordinator working with multiple agencies to work on National Forest with a 4-person seasonal crew. Their target work this year will be finishing up improvements on the lower part of Roaring Creek and some bigger, reroutes on the upper part of Roaring Creek as well as a reroute on Donner Pass and Lower Dadd Gulch. We have a new concessionaire who has won the permit for the next 10 years and they'll be operating all our campgrounds and day use areas. Mt. McConnell will now have a day use fee to park at the trailhead and they're working on a solution so we can patrol without having to pay the day fee by use of a placard.

(E) SECRETARY REPORT

- Nothing to report from Ruth Janitscheck.

(F) TREASURER

- Jim Medlock reviewed his treasurer's report. He reported that he has nearly completed the IRS form 990 and is just waiting for one additional item before sending it to the IRS prior to the deadline.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Jim Zakely reminded us that our retention rate is actually pretty good compared to other organizations like us. Every year they do a survey for those who aren't renewing their volunteer agreement, and many of those people are leaving PWV for reasons we can't control. They also ask recruits why they want to join and compiled some top responses. Those responses all share a desire to matter to the organization. Often when members leave, it's due to a sense of not fitting in. He feels that people who stay in PWV for 3 years are likely to be long term members. Some things we can do include inviting newer members to your activities, engaging new members about their experiences and skills, and providing support. He would like to know what members of the board think we can do to improve retention. Bruce Williams felt we could do more to invite new members into our conversations at Spring Training. Jeanne Corbin emphasized the AGL's role in helping people feel that they matter by maintaining a relationship with their recruits throughout the year. Joe Cox suggested members get involved by being wilderness first aid class "victims"

and we could ask for volunteers at Spring Training. Randy Jones noted that it can be more difficult to bond for folks who didn't get a full Spring Training experience due to weather. Mike pointed out that we keep everyone very busy at Spring Training and maybe we can extend Sunday through lunch to allow for more socialization. Bruce and Jim plan to take these ideas and others and come back to discuss it again later.

(B) NEW RECRUIT TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Mike Corbin reported that he has all his AGLs. Kick Off Night went well. We started with 61 recruits and are down to 57. He has all his role players for the training trail. He has formed a small animal group of just members who couldn't make it to Kick Off Night. They plan to do a couple of days of trail work at the Buckhorn Camp before Spring Training and again in the fall.

(C) SPRING TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Jeff Randa reported that so far 78 people have registered for Spring Training. Dee Woodcock is a wonderful addition to the leadership, and they've looked at improvements based on lessons learned last year. They plan to set up a horse camp on Friday night for recruits. Chuck Bell is a marquee speaker on Saturday. Jeff emphasized that we should try to be conscious of our behavior to make people feel comfortable and welcome.

NEW BUSINESS

• MOTION TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR MEDICAL KITS

- Jeff Randa moved to add \$2,600 to account 6261 -- Field Items -- Maps, FA Kits, and Misc. to support the acquisition of 200 medical kits.
 - o The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

• CO/WY REGIONAL GATHERING

- Jeff Randa shared that they reached out to the organizations who came to last year's Spring Training and asked if they would be interested in getting together again and got an overwhelming response of groups who are interested so they're planning some gatherings. He and Mark Snyder are on a small planning team to network with other similar organizations, build relationships and share practices. Matt Cowan has reached out to the region 2 manager, and she will probably attend and participate. They are building an agenda and asked for topic suggestions in addition to topics he listed in his presentation document.

CLOSING

Sean Orner adjourned the meeting.

Next Board Meeting: **June 20, 2024, 6:30 p.m.**