

## **ROCC Agenda Annual Meeting/Potluck Dinner**

Many ROCC members donated cash and nonperishable food items to the Ridgway Food Bank at the Potluck Dinner. Thank you for your many generous donations.

The ROCC Annual Meeting was brought to order at 6:15 pm.

### **Approval of September 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes**

Sheelagh Williams made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Howard Greene. There was no discussion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Treasurer's Annual Report and Budget – Scott Williams**

Scott reported that the net worth of ROCC as of December 2, 2014 was \$19,842.08. Year to date income was \$6,878.29 and year to date expenses totaled \$3,642.39, which resulted in net income of \$3,235.90.

In 2015 ROCC's draft budget will be \$6,030 in income and \$8,905 in expenses, which will result in a net income of (\$2,875) and a year-end net worth of \$16,967.

### **Announcements**

#### **Spaghetti Dinner**

The dinner will be held on February 28 at Ouray Community Center at 6:00 pm. The musicians Heather and Douglas will be the entertainment for the night.

Jen Parker asked for some additional volunteers since some of our volunteers from last year's dinner cannot be at this year's dinner. A number of members stepped forward and volunteered to help at the dinner.

#### **BOCC Visual Impact Regulation (Section 9) Hearing**

The hearing will be held on December 10 at 6:00 pm at the Ouray County 4-H Center. We need as many members as possible to attend this meeting and speak on this issue.

## **Citizen of the Year Nominations - Chris Pike**

The closing date for nominations will be December 13<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that the Awards Committee will meet on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> in the Ridgway Library Conference Room at 4 pm. Chris Pike, Roze Evans, Al Lowande, Dudley Case, Jen Parker, and Kate Kellogg have volunteered to be on the committee.

## **Ice Park Festival – Jared**

This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival and it will start on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> and run through Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Jared asked if ROCC members would work about 70 person hours turning away unauthorized vehicles at the entrance to Camp Bird Road in exchange for the festival donating \$800 to \$1,000 to ROCC. The ROCC membership was in favor of doing this. So please volunteer to help out at the Ice Park Festival.

## **Annual Committee Reports**

### **Adopt a Park - Nick Williams**

This year the committee assisted in cleanup following all concerts; sanded/refinished a park bench (will do another or two over the winter); weeded out Hartwell flower beds, and cleaned up the Hartwell Park Bulletin Board.

### **Energy - Al Lowande**

This year the committee organized ROCC members to testify (both in person in Denver and by phone) at Air Quality Control Commission hearing on emissions from oil & gas facilities. This effort successfully countered efforts by “gas patch” politicians to exempt the west slope from regulation. The result (statewide) is the nation’s strongest regs for oil & gas emissions.

The committee convinced the Ridgway Town Council & the Ouray County BOCC to write letters supporting strong emission regulations for oil & gas (again countering attempts by “gas patch” counterparts to exempt west slope). WCC lobbied heavily (and successfully) against efforts to lower state requirements for renewable energy percentages in utility portfolios.

The 2015 goal for the committee is to pursue good local control and setback regulations for oil and gas facilities. Please send your comments to the commission at: [ogtaskforce@state.co.us](mailto:ogtaskforce@state.co.us) .

## **Land Use Committee - Don Rogers**

This year the committee followed the progress of the county land use code through the “housekeeping” updates and changes. We presented our concerns and suggestions at workshops and public hearings to keep the code, especially Section 9, strong, sensible and protective of the county’s unique visual assets. This “housekeeping” process has been by directives from county commissioners to county land use staff without substantive input from the Planning Commission in an unusual departure from how the code has been modified and updated in the past.

There is no record of portions of the communications between staff and commissioners, so following the process has been time consuming. I want to thank our Land Use Committee members for their hard work, especially in the last few months as the new draft of Section 9 has been created.

The proposed Section 9 draft, seriously and irresponsibly weakened, will come before the BOCC on Dec 10th at 6 pm in the 4H center.

Our ROCC Land Use Committee goal at this point is to defeat the adoption of the new Section 9 draft and have it revisited by the new BOCC in 2015.

To this end, we need help from ROCC members.

1. To email the BOCC: [hhollenbeck@ouraycountyco.gov](mailto:hhollenbeck@ouraycountyco.gov) telling them to vote not to adopt the proposed Section 9 draft.
2. Contact friends to do the same.
3. Speak at the hearing – talking points will be provided
4. Volunteers to distribute Sec. 9 literature and talk to citizens about Sec. 9 outside of Mountain Market and the Ridgway Post Office between now and the hearing next Wednesday.

## **Local Foods - Robyn Cascade**

This year the committee conducted four one-on-ones as part of listening campaign to explore needs, desires and challenges related to local foods. (2 producers; school food service director; chef)

One ROCC member serves as liaison/representative to WCC committee and has attended trainings and meetings.

The committee distributed fact sheets on the Cottage Foods Act at Ridgway Heritage Days and gathered names of folks interested in local and statewide Food and Ag issues.

We had many individual conversations with current and potential producers about upcoming 2015 legislative campaign to expand the Cottage Foods Act.

With respect to the Right to Know GMO Labeling Initiative the committee collected signatures to get (what became) Proposition 105 on the November ballot.

We canvassed door to door with information in support of Proposition 105.

Although ultimately the proposition failed at the polls (due in part to huge influx of money, \$16 million, from Agribusiness opposing GMO labeling) the initiative raised awareness, educated the citizenry and heightened the dialogue related to consumers' right to know.

In 2015 the committee's goal with respect to the Cottage Foods Act is to Pass legislation to expand the Cottage Foods Act to include: acidified foods (pickles, relishes, salsas, hot sauces, etc.) and fermented foods (sauerkraut, kim chi, etc.). And we want to elevate the new Food and Ag Narrative throughout campaign.

In 2015 we also want to conduct one-on-ones with members and potential members in an effort to discern local values and interests related to food and agriculture. And we want to convene a ROCC Food and Agriculture Committee to consider actions/campaigns upon which to focus.

We are hoping that our activities will also increase ROCC and WCC's membership as a result of the above goals. We specifically hope to reach out to ethnic populations not currently represented in ROCC (in coordination with WCC's effort to increase diversity amongst membership).

### **Membership - JoAnne Williams**

ROCC gained 5 new members this year and had no net loss of membership.

The Committee called all members to solicit membership renewal and called all new members to thank them for their support.

The committee also assisted with a new member house party at Howard Greene and Chris Lance's house.

### **Public Lands - Jim Stephenson**

During 2014 the committee worked on the San Juan Wilderness Bill and the Hermosa Wilderness Bill.

The transition from Senator Udall to Senator Gardner is looking positive. And Senator Bennett will help with the San Juan Wilderness Bill.

We also worked on the BLM's Uncompahgre Resource Management Plan.

GOALS: Continue to build support for the San Juan Wilderness Bill by building business support and continuing the post card initiative.

The committee needs volunteers. So please help us if you can.

### **Recycling Committee - Judi Chamberlin**

A team of ROCC volunteers manned two recycling/composting stations during each of the five Summer Concerts in the Park. These volunteers put in more than 120 hours of work. And we collected 20-25 large bags of compostable/recyclable materials. We also helped Danny pick up trash after each concert and we transported bags of compost to the commercial composting facility in Delta. ROCC paid the \$35 composting fee for the Town of Ridgway.

ROCC volunteers also provided recycling support during the Ridgway Rodeo, August 29-31.

ROCC volunteers provided recycling/composting support during the Ridgway River Festival (an Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP) event) on June 28.

The committee's 2015 goals are: to find a bigger pool of volunteers for the Summer Concerts so no one has to work more than a two-hour shift; to encourage youth volunteers; to provide better labeling on the containers to make it easier for people to sort their trash; and to encourage the Town to ask vendors to purchase compostable serving containers and to allow people to refill beer cups.

### **ROCC Talks - Roze Evans**

The ROCC Talk Committee members are: Sharon Case, Kate Kellogg,

Jan van West, Jen Parker, Roze Evans and Dudley Case.

Five ROCC Talks were held this year with 275+ in attendance overall.

Roze asked for suggestions from the members and received quite a few good suggestions.

**Community Support Committee - Dave Jones**

This committee's members are Jen Parker, Chris Pike, Donna Greene, Scott Williams, and Dave Jones.

The committee's goals are: to understand – and continue - ROCC's legacy of financial support to local like-minded non-profits; review past ROCC contributions; understand what ROCC can give (\$) and set targets; and capture/share ROCC community contributions.

Collected History of ROCC Grants to Local Non-Profits (\$3205 since 2007)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Ridgway Cares</i>	\$200	\$300	\$400		\$400		
<i>Black Canyon Land Trust</i>			\$200				
<i>Town of Ridgway Summer Concert Series</i>				\$250			
<i>Ouray Trail Group</i>				\$200			

<b>Yankee Boy Conservation Foundation</b>				<b>\$100</b>			
<b>Community Pantry</b>					<b>\$100</b>		
<b>Transition Ourway</b>							<b>\$175</b>
<b>UWP</b>					<b>\$277.50</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$102.50</b>

No past formal grants documentation. Average \$458 in grants/year.  
Data pulled from prior ROCC budgets and posted on the ROCC web site.

The committee developed a ROCC Grant Application Form, which asks for a description of the organization & its mission/goals; how will these funds be spent; how the organization will use this support to benefit the community and to support ROCC's mission; other considerations.

Awardees are required to submit a report on how the funds were used within 1-year of award.

Four initial groups identified for potential grants:

- UWP/Ridgway River Festival
- Ridgway H.S. Solar Car project
- Ridgway Solar classroom project
- Ridgway Community Garden

\$1500 was budget for 2014 and \$250 was awarded.

One grant application was received and \$250 given to UWP toward Ridgway River Festival. Their post-event report has been received. The committee is now standing by (dormant).

Should we or how should we promote this program?

Other grant awardee ideas?

UWP - Support for school-based education & water testing...

School projects?

New community park? (in planning/approval process)

Social Justice programs:

Ridgway Food Pantry  
Ridgway Cares (Xmas presents & food)

Develop better ways to capture and recognize other non-monetary ROCC  
Community Support?

### **Social Justice** - Dick Engdahl

In the spirit of improving the quality of life for EVERYONE in Ouray County we are forming a “social justice” committee.

This group will brainstorm how ROCC might want to advocate for younger and lower income residents and workers on issues such as: hunger, affordable medical care, housing and transit, employment/livable wages, etc.

This is a relatively new arena for ROCC, one that might offer exciting opportunities to improve our county’s spirit of community.

### **Uranium** - Dudley Case

At the beginning of 2014 we were known as the Western Colorado Congress (WCC) Uranium Issue Group. From January thru April we worked with Emily Hornback and Kevin Williams to become the Western Colorado Congress Uranium Committee. And in May the WCC Board of Directors voted to have us become the WCC Uranium Committee.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the WCC Uranium Committee is to protect the resources and the people of the Western Slope and to promote healthy local communities by formulating and recommending policies and issue priorities to WCC, community groups and the public on issues related to the uranium industry (included but not limited to mining, milling, and reclamation) through:

- education,
- communication
- community organizing
- grassroots advocacy and engagement

**Makeup of the Committee:** The Uranium Committee will be open to any and all WCC members who wish to participate and have enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to work on uranium issues. The current make up of the committee is as follows:

WCC Board Rep: Randy Parker

Chair/Facilitator: Jen Parker

MESA Rep: Janet Johnson

ROCC Rep: Dudley Case

UVA Rep: Noalini Terry/Marv Ballantyne

Organizer: Emily Hornback

In February the committee started working on a campaign for uranium mine cleanup which would specifically focus on the U.S. Department of Energy's Uranium Leasing Program's Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, the BLM's draft Uncompahgre Resource Management Plan, the U.S. Department of Energy's Abandoned Uranium Mine Report and Colorado's Rule Making Part 18 involving licensing of uranium mills.

In April some committee members went on a lobbying trip to Denver to talk to state representatives and senators about proposed changes in Colorado's Radiation Control Act, other uranium issues in Colorado and about some bills in the legislative session that affected uranium mining and milling.

On April 24 members of the committee met with Barb Sharrow, head of the Montrose BLM office, to discuss the BLM's draft Uncompahgre Resource Management Plan issues concerning abandoned uranium mines on BLM property.

On May 31 Jennifer Thurston led the Uranium Committee on an Abandoned Uranium Mine Tour in the Paradox Valley area where we visited a number of abandoned uranium mines to see first hand the problems that such mines cause.

On July 31 the committee members testified at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) Radiation Control Act Hearing at the Holiday Inn in Montrose.

At the committee's August meeting committee members reported back to the committee on various sections of the Department of Energy's Abandoned Uranium Mine Report. Also in August the committee sent a comment letter to the CDPHE on the Pinon Ridge License transfer from Energy Fuels to Mr. Glasser's company.

In 2014 the committee lobbied for passage of the Cottage Foods Bill - It didn't pass but has a good chance to pass in 2015.

The committee was successful in helping defeat legislation that would have lowered state requirements for renewable energy percentages in utility portfolios.

We fought off an attempt by utility companies to do away with and/or weaken net-metering.

wage Supported the passage of the "Stolen Wages" bill in Colorado which gave the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) authority to enforce and hour laws by assessing fines and increasing investigative resources.

We will continue to support the passage of the Cottage Foods Act in Colorado to allow the sale of acidified foods (pickles, relishes, salsas, etc.).

We will continue to fight against legislation that would weaken the alternative energy industry.

We will continue to support legislation that gives local control of gas and oil facilities and sets up reasonable setbacks from homes, schools and public areas.

### **WCC Report - Rein VanWest**

WCC has hired David Reed as the new executive director, and he will start his job on January 1<sup>st</sup>. He has been development and communications director for the Wilderness Workshop since 2003. All five of WCC's organizational members have contributed dues back to WCC to help make this happen.

This year WCC will phase out its Five Year Strategic Plan and replace it with a new designer plan from its members. On January 24<sup>th</sup> WCC will be holding a retreat to focus on this new plan.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

**Election of Officers – Tom McKinney**

Pursuant to the revised ROCC Bylaws officers will now service two year terms rather than one year terms.

The following officers have volunteered to again serve as officers:

President – Jen Parker (Co-Chair)  
Vice President – Roze Evans (Co-Chair)  
Secretary – Dudley Case  
Treasurer – Scott Williams  
Board of Director-at-Large – Bob Green

There was a unanimous vote by proclamation to reelect these five officers.

There are two directors' positions up for election since Al Lowande has decided to step down as Representative to WCC and Jan van West has decided to step down as Alternate Representative to WCC.

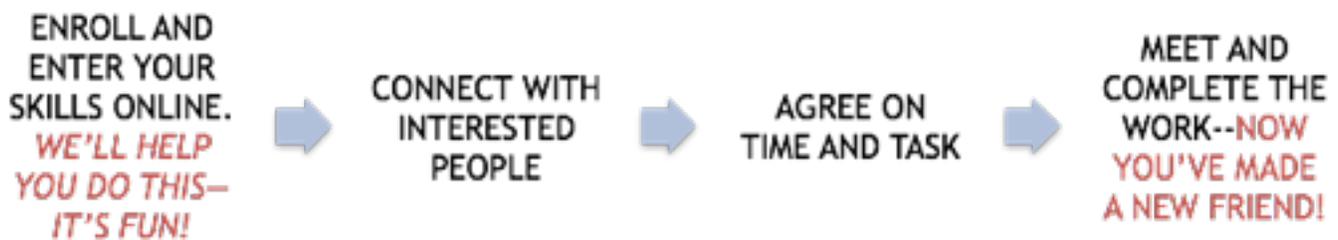
Chris Pike was nominated for the position of Representative to WCC and Al Lowande was nominated to be the Alternate Representative to WCC.

There was a unanimous vote by proclamation to elect these two nominees as directors.

### **Join the Time Bank for \$50 - Robyn Cascade**

We share our skills and time equally. For example, I water your plants, and someone fixes my plumbing for free. Everyone's time is equal.

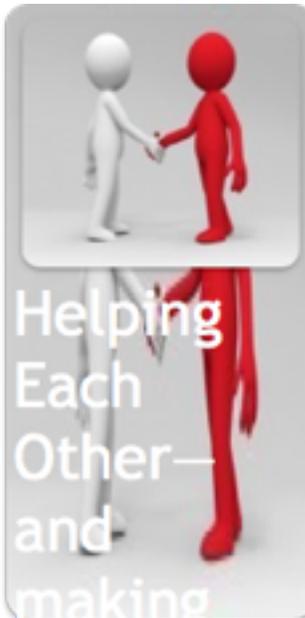
HOW DOES IT WORK?



THEN ENTER YOUR TIME—DONE!

# TBR exchanges are not bartering and not an issue for the IRS.

WHAT'S THE POINT?



new  
friends!

## WHAT'S THE DONATION TO JOIN?

\$30 for individuals

\$25 for seniors 60 and over

\$35 for senior household (all members 60 and over)

\$50 for household

\$15 for students

\$50 for an organization

## CURRENT OURAY COUNTY TBR ORGANIZATIONS:

Ouray County Food Pantry

Ridgway Community Garden

Ridgway School District

Second Chance Humane Society

Sherbino Theater

Top of the Pines

Town of Ridgway

Transition OurWay

Weehawken Creative Arts

Voyager

After Robyn's Time Bank presentation Howard Greene made a motion for ROCC to pay the \$50 membership fee and join Time Bank of the Rockies. Nick Williams seconded the motion. After some discussion on how exactly the debits and credits work for an organization the motion passed.

Jen Parker then asked for a volunteer to carry the "Red Bag", coffee pot, and other items to the meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at about 9:00 pm.