**ROCC General Meeting Draft Minutes**

**Thursday, June 23,2016**

1. High Alpine Regulation - Jen Parker

A. Ways You Can Help

1) 227 people have signed the online Keep Our(AY) Alpine Wild letter shown below. Please sign the letter if you haven't done so already by emailing Roze Evans or Al Lowande at evanslowande@gmail.com.

Macintosh HD:Users:mdudleycase:Desktop:form letter to BOCC.pdf

2) Please sign the Keep Our(AY) Alpine Wild Declaration of Support Petition.

3) If possible please collect Declaration of Support Petition signatures.

4) Please speak at the Ouray County Planning Commission public hearing on July 19 at the 4-H Events Center.

5) If you are not comfortable speaking in public Rachel Zatterstrom will hold a Public Speaking Coaching session on July 12 at 6:00 pm at the Ridgway Community Center

B. Important Dates

July 6 - Final High Country Regulation Draft and Report to BOCC

July 19 - Planning Commission Public Hearing

C. Discussion on High Alpine Regulation

The following is a break out of the size of the 841 mining claims above 9,500 feet:

less than 1 ac. - 20 claims

1 ac. - 23 claims

2 ac. - 24 claims

3 ac. - 24 claims

4 ac. - 52 claims

5 ac. - 76 claims number of claims greater than 5 ac. = 693

number of claims less than 5 ac. = 148

6 ac. - 69 claims

7 ac. - 87 claims

8 ac. - 89 claims

9 ac. - 137 claims

10 ac. - 214 claims number of claims less than 10 ac = 606

number of claims greater than 10 ac. = 235

11 ac. - 2 claims

13 ac. - 4 claims

14 ac. - 2 claims

16 ac. - 1 claim

18 ac. - 1 claim

19 ac. - 1 claim

20 ac. - 5 claims

21 ac. - 3 claims

31 ac. - 1 claim

65 ac. - 1 claim

Rein van West stated that there should be more restrictive acreage and square footage in the high alpine zone.

Scott Williams stated that the 35-acre zoning applies to new subdivisions, but smaller acreage is allowable for legal, non-conforming lots, such as mining claims. However, there is a site- development review process that these mining claims would have to go thru in Ouray County.

Al Lowande suggested writing letters to the Planning Commission and the BOCC as individuals and not as ROCC members.

The next High Alpine Regulation Leadership Committee Meeting will be at 10:00 am on July 1st at Jen Parker's house.

It appears that the BOCC wants to prevent building above timberline, because any building in the Alpine Tundra would be harmful to the fragile tundra ecosystem.

The Leadership Committee has talked about hiring an attorney to give an opinion letter on various legal issues that might be raised with regard to this High Alpine Regulation. Scott Williams is talking to a number of attorneys who have been recommended to the committee.

Marti Whitmore, the county attorney, has expressed the opinion building development can be limited by the regulation without that being a taking, but that limitations placed on mining claim development would be a taking.

2. Business Meeting

A. Approval of May 19, 2016 Minutes

Rein van West made a motion to approve the minutes and Jim Stephenson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Treasurer’s Report - Scott Williams

Net Income for the year is $6,362.71 and expenses for the year are $8,773.09, which includes $6,500 in grants. Therefore, net income for the year is <$2,410.38>.

So far from the $10,000 anonymous donation given to ROCC last year, $2,500 has been expended to cover part of Rachel Zatterstrom's salary. And $5,000 has been expended on the Ridgway Public Schools LED Program.

C. Committee Reports

1) Public Lands - Jim Stephenson

See proposed By-Law change on the next page.

Jim Stephenson made a motion to adopt the By-Law change and Tom McKenney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Seagate Backup Plus Drive:Dudley's Files :ROCC:ROCC - Meeting Minutes:ROCC - Minutes 2016: ROCC Agenda and Reports 05.19.16:PDF Public Lands Suggested Bylaw Change2016 04 .pdf

Seagate Backup Plus Drive:Dudley's Files :ROCC:ROCC - Meeting Minutes:ROCC - Minutes 2016: ROCC Agenda and Reports 05.19.16:Public Lands May 19, 2016.pdf

Next Jim Stephenson updated the Public Lands Committee report shown above from the last ROCC General Meeting.

Item 1 - Won't happen in the near future.

Item 2 - The BLM Uncompahgre Field Office Resource Management Plan has been released and comments on the plan are due by September 1. Lands with wilderness characteristics are important in this plan.

Item 3 - The Forest Service agreed to enhance monitoring notification and WCC registered four complaints on SPEADMER.

Item 4 - GMUG's Forest Management Plan Revision release has been push back to 2017.

2) Grants Committee - Scott Williams

The committee has received two grant requests, which can be paid out of the remaining $2,500 from the anonymous $10,000 donation to ROCC.

a. Top of the Pines, Inc. has requested $1,000 for designing and building new hiking trails and a family oriented bike trail.

b. Trust for Land Restoration has requested $1,500 to help acquire patented mining claims.

Tom McKenney made a motion to email a letter to ROCC members asking them to help support the buying of mining claims by the Trust for Land Restoration. Jim Stephenson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Rein van West made a motion to approved a $1,000 grant to Top of the Pines, Inc. with the proviso that we express concern about over-signage at TOP and that there should be separate trails for hikers, bikers and skiers. Chuck Wyre seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jim Stephenson made a motion to approve a $1,500 grant to the Trust for Land Restoration. Tom McKenney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Scott mentioned that there is still $1,250 left in the general grant budget for this year.

3) Clean Energy Committee - Rein van West

The topic at the last committee meeting was about solarizing Ouray County. The idea is to make 100 percent of Ouray County's energy production from renewable energy by purchasing such things as solar panels in bulk with large discounts. The more people who sign up to purchase solar panels, the larger the discounts.

The committee spent a lot of the meeting discussing the pros and cons of solarization and the committee members' enthusiasm for tackling this issue.

Leif Juell will work up the numbers on the $/watt cost of solar panels using solarization.

4) WCC Report - Rein van West

Six coal hearings are being held all over the U.S. about the future of coal in the U.S. One of the hearings was in Grand Junction today.

The BLM has put a three-year moratorium on new coal leases.

Mountain PACT is an advocacy organization that is working on this coal issue.

The big problem is that well paid coal miners (on average $80,000 salary) are losing their jobs and having to take less well paying jobs. So there has been a suggestion to increase coal mining lease fees and use the increased fees to retrain coal miners to get jobs outside of the coal mining industry.

D. New Business

This Saturday River Fest will be held in Rollins Park from 9 am to 6 pm and music begins at 3 pm.

Tom McKenney thanked all the ROCC members who helped with the Adopt-a-Highway cleanup.

Next ROCC General Meeting will be on Wednesday, July 20th at the Ridgway Community Center.