ROCC Business Meeting Minutes

07-14-14

**Announcements**:

Jen Parker announced that interested members could meet at the True Grit restaurant after the meeting for a social hour.

**Approval of May meeting minutes**:

Next Al Lowande made a motion to approve the May 15 minutes and Rein van West seconded this motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**:

ROCC’s Treasurer, Scott Williams, was not present at the meeting but he left a Treasurer’s report, which Roze Evans presented. There is currently $18,940.52 in the bank accounts. The income was $4,831.19 and net income was $2,343.27.

**Parking Lot Sale Committee Report**:

Eve Becker-Doyle presented a report on the Parking Lot Sale. Net revenue from the sale was $1,700.00 as compared to $854.28 in 2013 and $566.02 in 2012. So the parking lot sale was a big success. Eve thanked all the members on the Parking Lot Committee and all the volunteers who helped. Eve has graciously volunteered to chair the Parking Lot Committee next year.

**Membership Report**:

JoAnne Williams gave the Membership Report. She reported that the membership party in May at Chris Lance and Howard Green’s house was a success and she thanked Chris and Howard for hosting the party. The next membership house party will be in September. ROCC membership retention rate has stayed around 80 percent, which is good.

**Secretary’s Report**:

Dudley explained that the meeting agendas, meeting minutes, ROCC Alerts, and ROCC Announcements can be found on the ROCC website under the Communications Page.

Alerts are more urgent emails issued within one week of an event happening where ROCC member’s participation is needed. Announcements are emails issued one week or more ahead of an event or are of a more general informational nature than alerts.

Dudley then polled the members to see if anyone was having trouble receiving ROCC emails or having trouble opening attachments. No one was.

Dudley asked members to contact him ASAP when they change their email address, phone number or physical address.

Dudley explained that the ROCC membership list is updated once of month by WCC in Grand Junction and then Dudley derives his ROCC email list from this membership list.

**Next ROCC Talk**:

Jen Parker announced that the next ROCC Talk would be the Uranium Drive-in movie, which will be shown at the Sherbino Theatre in Ridgway at 7 pm on Thursday, August 21. It will be an ice cream social event.

**Alpine Ranger Program Report**:

Chris Pike attended last Tuesday's BOCC meeting and reported that while Ouray, San Juan, Hinsdale and San Miguel Counties all have rangers to monitor OHV usage on the mountain roads and trails, the other three alpine counties have stricter regulations of their own pertaining to licensing requirements and have funded a full-time ranger.

At present Ouray County does not require licensing but does require insurance, and only has funding for a part-time ranger. There is concern that the conflicting laws (requiring insurance, driver licensing) and underfunding of this program presents a health and safety issue in the county.

Because the other alpine counties have enacted laws that require licensing of drivers or insurance, some commissioners from other counties and our district forester point out that funding has been cut or eliminated by the Colorado OHV Trust Fund to those counties.  Even the U.S. Forest Service has been denied ranger patrol and enforcement funds from the OHV Trust on three occasions, according to Forester Tammy Randall-Parker.

Rather than going "rogue" with stricter laws in Ouray County to address these shortcomings, Comm. Padgett asked and the BOCC agreed to endorse a Colorado bill similar to what was pitched to the legislature in recent years that would require OHV drivers throughout the state: to have a driver's license, to have liability insurance, to follow the rules of the road, licensing of vehicles, to have eye protection if they are 18 years or older, to have helmets if they are younger than 18 years and not to exceed 35 mph.   
  
Among the more serious issues are that under Colorado law children 10 years and older can drive OHVs without a license or insurance, which is why the alpine counties have gone their own way with more strict regulations and funding in the past.

Pike asked the commissioners that the same requirements in the bill as presented be supported and also that proficiency training and testing also be considered in the future by the county and/or the City of Ouray.

**Public Access Group (PAG) Report**:

Roze Evans presented a slide showing that in Colorado public roads can be roads, trails, horse and footpaths, wagon roads, and mining roads. The BOCC will be meeting on July 22 at 1:30 pm at the 4-H Events Center for the purpose of considering the adoption of Proposed Resolution 2014-014 for the purpose of updating county maps.

It was noted that the PAG Committee has spent hundreds of hours working on the new County Road Map. The map will set legal precedent for pubic access to trails.

Chuck Wrye made a motion that ROCC should write letters to the BOCC and newspapers in support of the new draft county road map. Chris Pike seconded the motion. After discussion the motion passed.

**Update on the Adopt a Park Program**:

Judi Chamberlin and Nick Williams asked for volunteers to pick up trash after the Thursday Night in the Park Concerts and to also help clear and weed flowerbeds.

Volunteers are also needed for events on July 24 and July 31 and volunteers will get to wear the yellow ROCC vests.

John Clark said a volunteer is also needed to drive the compost truck up to Delta to the commercial composting facility there.

People attending the events in the park can help by bringing reusable water bottles, plates, and silverware.

Nick also said the bulletin board in the park will be cleared of old posters and announcements. Then one side will be dedicated to event posters and the other two sides will be dedicated to employment and sales ads.

The Town of Ridgway, ROCC and Transition OurWay have teamed up to do a composting and recycling initiative in Ridgway at town events.

**Gas and Oil Update**:

Al Lowande reported that Governor Hickenlooper’s special session went nowhere.

**WCC Report**:

Al Lowande gave an overview of Ballot Initiatives 88 and 89, and Amendment 48.

Initiative 88 would require oil and gas drilling setbacks of 2,000 feet from homes, schools, and hospitals. The current required setback is 500 feet. WCC supports this initiative.

Initiative 89 is labeled as an environmental bill of rights to the state constitution. Apparently parts one and two of this initiative are good, but part three is vaguely worded and might be interpreted as a threat to Colorado’s prior appropriations water law and thus private water rights. As a result most county and local governments are against this initiative. WCC supports this initiative. But there was significant opposition to this initiative among the ROCC members present.

Amendment 48 would require labeling of GMO ingredients, but failure to conform to the labeling requirements does not create a right of action. WCC passed a motion (RN B 14-24) that WCC supports the principle that consumers in Colorado and the U.S. have the right to know if food products are in part or in whole genetically engineered and thus supports the mandatory labeling of foods that are genetically engineered.

Rein van West made a motion that ROCC supports Initiative 88 and will help collect signatures for the initiative. Ken Lipton seconded the motion. After discussion the motion was passed.

Ken Lipton made a motion for ROCC not to support Initiative 89. Chuck Wry seconded the motion. After discussion the motion was passed.

Dave Jones made a motion to support WCC’s position on Amendment 48 on ROCC’s website and in a letter. Motion was seconded by Al Lowande. After discussion the motion was passed.

Al also reported that Rein van West and Randy Parker have decided to run for another two-year term as President and Treasurer of WCC respectively.

WCC is also posting an employment notice for an executive director, since it has been with out one for a number of years.

WCC is also looking into diversifying its membership to include more Latinos and youths.

**Land Use Committee:**

Don Rogers reported that the BOCC’s supposedly housekeeping cleanup (spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.) of the land use code ended up involving substantial changes to the land use code, such as Section 17.1. And the Planning Commission meeting minutes are either not published or are incomplete, and have become action only minutes. And citizen input at the Planning Commission is being subverted. Therefore, someone from ROCC needs to be at each Planning Commission meeting and each BOCC meeting where the land use code will be discussed.

**WORC Report**:

Rein van West had no report and gave his three minutes to Jan van West to report on the Colorado Forest Landscape Restoration. An overnight field trip was run by Tammy Randall- Parker on the Uncompahgre Plateau to show how prescribed burns can be used to help selectively restore areas to their nature state.

The next field trip will be on the north side of the plateau.

**New Business**:

Jen Parker reported that the ROCC annual picnic will be held in September at a date and time to be determined.

On August 27th there will be a Sage Grouse bus tour in the Olathe area.

WCC will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 12 at CMU in Grand Junction. WCC is soliciting silent auction items for this meeting. Please contact Rein for the silent auction form if you wish to donate items.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:50 p.m.