

ROCC Business Meeting Minutes

09-18-14

1. Approve Minutes:

Rein van West made a motion to approve the minutes and Tom McKinney seconded that motion. Motion was passed.

2. Treasurer's Report:

It was reported that ROCC has \$18,949.52 in the bank. ROCC's income was \$4,831.19, its expenses were \$2,487.92, and its net income was \$2,343.27.

3. Announcements

a. Health Net Survey

Dave Jones reported that the survey is almost done and about 1,000 people have completed the survey.

b. ROCC Talk

The next ROCC Talk will be on October 16th at 7 pm. Heather Knox Rommel, Executive Director of Eco Action Partners, will be talking about "Where Do Your Recyclables Really Go?"

c. WCC Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will take place on October 12th at 1 pm at Mesa State University in Grand Junction. There will be a silent auction at 3 pm and Winona LaDuke will be the guest speaker at 4:30 pm.

WCC needs volunteers to help out with the annual meeting. Jan, Tom, Robyn, John, and Rich volunteered.

d. Wilderness at 50!

John Fielder will be speaking on November 20th at the Montrose Pavilion at 7 pm. Tickets are \$5.00. Mr. Fielder will have a slide show and book signing. There is also a VIP reception with Mr. Fielder, which will cost \$35.00. Volunteers will be needed to help with this event.

4. Committee Reports

a. Public Lands – Jim Stephenson

Rep. Tipton was given 800-signed post cards showing support for the San Juan Wilderness Bill. But Rep. Tipton's office has never returned Jim's phone calls about meeting with Rep. Tipton.

The Durango Herald has also reported that the wilderness bill that Rep. Tipton was supporting has undergone some mysterious changes for the worse. ROCC may need to send some letters to Tipton's office about these unwanted changes.

Next Monday there will be a luncheon meeting on this issue. If you are interested in attending this meeting call Jim.

b. Land Use – Don Rogers

The committee is looking for an attorney to advise ROCC on Section 17 of the Land Use Code.

On September 24 at 9 am the BOCC will be meeting in the Land Use Office conference room on additional roads to be added under Section 9 of the Land Use Code. Please attend this meeting if you can.

On September 23 at 7 pm the Planning Commission will have a meeting on the Historic Properties section of the Land Use Code and then will be holding a work session on Section 22 "Definitions" of the Land Use Code. Marti Whitmore, County Attorney, is suggesting that mandating which buildings are to be considered historical structures would be a "taking" under Federal law.

The committee is recommending that the blending formula in Section 9 of the Land Use Code be changed as follows:

Zero blending = 0 points

Minimum blending = 10 points

Moderate blending = 40 points

Exceptional blending = 80 points

The committee is also recommending that all roads in the county be subject to Section 9.

The committee is also recommending that the Visibility Point System should be:

0 points for 90 – 99% visibility

10 points for 80 – 90% visibility

c. Uranium – Dudley Case

The committee met on July 22 and discussed the questions and issues we would raise at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Radiation Control Act Hearing on July 31. And the committee also started planning our Abandoned Uranium Mine Campaign.

On July 31 a number of the committee members attended the CDPHE Radiation Control Act Hearing at the Holiday Inn in Montrose and asked many questions and expressed many concerns about the amendment of the Colorado's Radiation Control Act being required by the U.S. Gov't.

In late July the U.S. Dept. of Energy released its Abandoned Uranium Mines Report to Congress. And each committee member was assigned to review a specific part of the report and then report back to the committee at the August 11th committee meeting.

At our August 11th meeting the committee decided to send a short comment letter to the CDPHE on the Pinon Ridge License transfer from Energy Fuels to Mr. Glasser's company. Then we did a debriefing on the July 31 CDPHE Radiation Control Act Hearing. And finally we each reported on our assigned section of the Abandoned Uranium Mine Report. The committee also decided to contact Senator Udall's office to find out what Congress will do with this report. It was the opinion of most of the committee members that the report was not well written and will not be of much use to the anyone, including Congress.

Then on September 11 Emily Hornback sent out an email to the committee detailing the latest court decision on the Pinon Ridge Uranium Mill License. Last week the District Court judge ruled that the hearing process for the mill license did not comply with the 2012 District Court order. The judge ruled that a hearing officer must review the record established at the November 2012 hearing and make an initial decision as to whether Energy Fuels' license application has met all criteria under state law.

In October or maybe November the committee will be taking an Eco-flight over Paradox Valley and the Dolores Canyon with decision makers to look at abandoned uranium mines from the air.

d. Energy – Al Lowande

WCC and other groups were working on two ballot initiatives, one of which was setbacks for oil and gas drilling, and when it became apparent to Governor Hickenlooper that we had to votes to get these initiatives on the ballot he withdrew them. And instead, he formed a blue ribbon commission to work on these issues.

e. Membership – JoAnne Williams

JoAnne reported that membership is holding steady.

f. WCC Legislative – Roze Evans

Rep. McLachlan is in a very tight race with J. Paul Brown. There will be a debate in Montrose on October 2.

5. New Business

a. WCC Request for Grant Funds from ROCC – Rein van West

WCC has 4 ½ employees and 3 contract people on its staff.

WCC has had no executive director for the last four years.

Hiring an executive director will allow WCC's Board of Directors to spend more time on governance and less time on management. And it will also give the staff more time to work on issues.

WCC is proposing that ROCC give WCC \$5,300 in 2014, \$4,000 in 2015 and \$2,670 in 2016 to help fund the salary of the Executive Director that WCC is planning on hiring. The CAYV, GVCA, UVA, and WCC-MC groups are also being asked to fund some of the salary. Much of the salary will come from grants that the new executive director secures for WCC.

After much discussion of this proposal, John Hollrah made a motion "To endorse WCC's proposal to ROCC concerning the funding of the Executive Director's salary for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016".

Tom McKinney seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. Food and Ag Report – Robyn Cascade

Proposition 105 on the November ballot concerns labeling genetically modified food in Colorado starting on July 1, 2016.

Robyn circulated a petition that members can sign to expand the Cottage Food Act.

- c. Austin Ray made a motion "That ROCC do a fund drive to raise \$20 from each ROCC member to help fund the first year of ROCC's commitment to fund part of the new executive director's salary". Chris Pike seconded the motion. After some discussion the motion passed.