

ROCC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
May 21, 2015

The meeting was brought to order by Roze Evans at 7 :10 pm.

**Jeff Brown Poetry Reading**

Roze Evans introduced Jeff Brown who is a local poet. Jeff read five of his poems. Jeff specializes in community and environmental based poetry and lives near the Potter Ranch.

**Approval of March 19 Minutes**

Chris Pike made a motion to approve the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and Scott Williams seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

**Treasurer's Report – Scott Williams**

As of May 18, 2015 ROCC has \$18,109.47 in its two Alpine Bank accounts. For the year to date ROCC has had income of \$5,195.88 and expenses of \$1,289.93 for a net income of \$3,905.95. Scott is projecting assets totaling about \$14,000 by the end of the year.

**Announcements**

1. The Western Colorado Congress's (WCC) Annual Meeting will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Camp Kiwanis (now Camp Hope) on Grand Mesa.
2. Roze Evans and Chris Pike passed out a number of WCC's Annual Meeting surveys and then members were given a few minutes to fill out the surveys. The survey will help plan and shape this year's WCC annual meeting.
3. The Western Organization of Resource Councils' (WORC) 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Board & Staff Meeting will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup> in Palisade, Colorado. Certain workshops are open to WCC members on a first come first serve basis at no charge. WORC is the umbrella organization for WCC and handles issues such as energy, food, farming and ranching. WORC is headquartered in Billings, Montana.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Adopt a Park – Nick Williams**

Hartwell Park is ROCC's adopted park. Later this year we will need volunteers to help stain the gazebo and to cleanup the park after the Concerts in the Park events. Nick asked Dudley to send out a ROCC Announcement for volunteers to help cleanup Hartwell Park.

ROCC and UWP are also helping with the cleanup of the Cottonwood Creek Park.

### **Energy – Al Lowande**

The committee has been somewhat inactive since the Governor's blue ribbon committee was formed. Basically the committee was a stalling tactic so that no real oil and gas reform would take place in Colorado. Al suggested that in 2016 conservation groups should sponsor initiatives rather than politicians.

Al made a motion to have ROCC ask WCC to take an active role in oil and gas conservation sponsored initiatives in the 2016 election within WCC's capabilities. JoAnne Williams seconded the motion.

The motion was then discussed. Al felt that there should be more local government involvement in oil and gas regulation. Several members felt that we should table the motion until the July ROCC General Meeting since there were so few members at this meeting.

Scott Williams made a motion to table Al's motion until the July General Meeting and to have ROCC's Secretary send out a ROCC (informational) Announcement on Al's motion. Under Robert's Rules of Order this type of motion takes precedence over a regular motion. Rein van West seconded the motion.

This motion was then discussed. A number of members stated that ROCC members need to be attending the ROCC meetings more often and participate in these discussions on motions, otherwise they will have no input into motions that are made.

Motion passed.

### **Land Use Committee – Tom McKenney**

The BOCC has had two public meetings on the Land Use Code cleanup. The next BOCC public meeting will be at 9:00 am on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> in the conference room at the County Building on Mall Road. Land Use Code Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, and Historic Structures will be discussed at this meeting.

### **Local Foods – Roze Evans**

WCC actively lobbied for the passage of an expansion of the Cottage Foods Act and WCC was successful in this.

The Cottage Foods Act was expanded to include pickled vegetables, fruit empanadas and tortillas - exactly what that means will be determined in the upcoming rule making sessions. The Colorado Department of Health is asking for more oversight ,so this will be a process in which WCC staff and members will be involved.

### **Membership – JoAnne Williams**

Membership has been holding steady in the 80 to 82 percent range.

### **Public Lands – Jim Stephenson**

The Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be out in the next couple of weeks. This is a large-scale plan to address forest-health issues and increase forest resiliency on 70,000 to 120,000 acres of forest over a 10-year period with a combination of commercial logging and non-commercial, non-mechanical treatments (such as prescribed fire).

ROCC is partnering with the Public Lands Partnership to facilitate a panel discussion of the Draft EIS. Jim Stephenson, Tom McKenney and Gary have volunteered to help with this.

Dr. Siebold, a CSU professor, has opposed the Federal Forest Service's position on the beetle kill because it supports local lumber mills rather than dealing with the long term health of the forests.

It should be noted that tree cutting is not allowed in wilderness areas or roadless areas.

### **Recycling – Roze Evans**

Town of Ridgway would appreciate volunteers again for the concerts in the park in July. We need more volunteers! Anyone interested in helping can email Judi Chamberlin at [drdjc@gmail.com](mailto:drdjc@gmail.com) or sign up on the sign-up sheet. So far Dick and Suze Gingery, Nick and Joanne Williams, and Dave and Judi Chamberlain have volunteered.

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

ROCC Talks begin at 7:00 pm with refreshments at beginning at 6:45 pm.  
The remaining ROCC Talks for 2015 are:

**June 17 - *Mining Today in the San Juans* - Wright Opera House**

**August 20** - *Ralph Tingey - Life in the Wilderness* – Sherbino

**October 15** - *The Colorado River & Draught - Who Gets the Water*  
Doug Kenney - University of Colorado Boulder –  
Ridgway Town Hall

**Community Support Committee** – Roze Evans

ROCC has \$1,400 for grants for other community organizations.

UWP has requested a \$500 Community Grant to help fund the River Fest.

Jim Stephenson made a motion to give UWP a \$500 Community Grant.

Chris Pike seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

If there are any other organizations that would like to apply for a ROCC Community Grant Dave Chamberlain has the applications form.

**Social Justice** – Al Lowande

The committee is working on a pamphlet on services that are available in Ouray County for low income members of the community, such as child care, food services, etc.

It has been suggested that low income community members should participate on this committee.

Committee meetings are held at 4 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at the Church of the San Juans.

**Uranium** – Dudley Case

In April Matt King was assigned as the WCC Organizer to work with the committee. And he has been a big help so far with all his enthusiasm and hard work.

Last year the committee received a Western Mining Action Network (WMAN) mini-grant for \$3,000 for a project of our choosing. So the committee has decided to use the money to produce a brochure and post card on the theme of The Legacy of Uranium Mining with a sub-theme of either human health issues or air, water and land quality. The brochure will have a map of uranium mines and processing plants and mills in western San Miguel, Montrose, Delta and Mesa Counties.

As part of our theme of The Legacy of Uranium Mining the committee will have three

Eco-flights out of the Grand Junction Airport on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. The flights will go over major uranium mines and mills in west central Colorado. We will be able to accommodate 15 people in the three flights, including such people as reporters, state senators or house representatives.

We are trying to time the release of our brochure and postcard with the release of the Montrose BLM Office's Regional Management Plan this Fall.

The committee is also looking into the feasibility of holding an International Uranium Film Festival in Grand Junction in 2016.

Our next meeting will be in Montrose at Naolani Terri's house on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am should any of you like to attend the meeting.

### **WCC Legislative Report – Roze Evans**

WCC supported 14 bills (7 died; 7 passed) and opposed 11 bills (10 died; 1 passed).

### **WCC Report – Chris Pike and Rein van West**

Approximately 100 WCC members have completed the WCC survey on strategic planning. But we need more members to complete the survey.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> (Saturday and Sunday) the WCC will hold Leadership Training Workshop, which will be lead by Kevin Williams of WORC. The charge for the workshop is \$20 and the workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Montrose. The training will cover the principles of community organizing, identifying and planning kick ass issue campaigns, grassroots fundraising and more.

### **Old Business**

Wrap up on Parking Lot Sale – Roze Evans

Although there were only about 20 vendors at the sale due to threat of rain or snow the vendors were having good sales results. The ROCC booth brought in about \$400 and ROCC got \$45 in booth fees despite the decision being made not to charge the vendors a booth fee this year due the poor weather conditions.

### **New Business**

Reconsideration of the \$5.00 charged at ROCC Talks for non-members – Rein van West

It was pointed out that non-members might not want to contribute to ROCC but might want to attend the ROCC Talks. So charging a fee might discourage non-members from attending the talks.

Members of the ROCC Talks Committee pointed out that they viewed the charge as a way to fundraise and check membership renewals at each talk. Also, the committee decided to do this for all the talks in 2015 and then to evaluate whether or not the charging of fees had a significant impact on fundraising, membership renewals and gaining new membership.

Jim Stephenson made a motion to discontinue charging a non-member fee at ROCC Talks. Scott Williams seconded the motion.

More discussion ensued and then Nick Williams made a motion to table the original motion until the ROCC Annual Meeting in December. Rich Niemeier seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at about 9 pm.