

ROCC General Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2015
(Revised 7.17.15)

Welcome:

Approve minutes from:

Donna Green made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes and Chris Pike seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Williams

ROCC has \$18,105.66 in the bank accounts. The year-to-date income is \$6,019.07 and the year-to-date expenses are \$2,116.93. This results in a year-to-date net income of \$3,902.14.

Announcements:

Amy McBride asked Dudley to announce that the Sherbino is looking for presenters for the inaugural Ignite Sherbino on Wednesday, July 22nd at 7 pm. Anyone can talk for 5 minutes on any topic that they are passionate about. Amy will be doing one on Mushrooms: Edible, Poisonous, and Magical. And Kelvin Kent will be doing one on Nepal.

Robyn Cascade announced that there will be dancing and live music at the Sherbino Contra Dance this Saturday, July 18th at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 for kids, \$25 for couples, and \$10 per person for groups of four plus.

Committee Reports

Adopt a Park – JoAnne & Nick Williams

This Saturday, July 18th, the pavers for the Fountain in Hartwell Park will be installed.

The painting of the gazebo in Hartwell Park is on hold for now.

On July 22nd from 2 to 6 pm there will be a blood drive in the Ridgway Community Center.

Energy - Al Lowande

Al will present his Energy Committee report at the September general meeting.

Land Use Committee –

The Land Use Committee is looking for a new chair so if you are interested in the job please contact Jen or Roze.

Randy announced that Section 17 of the Land Use Code will remain in its original form. The

next BOCC work session on the Land Use Code is set for Wednesday, August 5th at 1:30 pm in the Land Use office.

Local Foods - Robyn Cascade

WCC has formed an Agricultural Committee and Rachel is the organizer for the committee. Robyn is the ROCC representative to the committee. Rachel would like to see two representatives from each of the WCC groups.

The Colorado Cottage Food Act expansion bill passed and goes into effect on August 15th.

The Agricultural Committee's first meeting will be in October with various stake holders.

Membership - JoAnne Williams

The committee is looking at holding a house party this Fall in the hopes of getting a few new members and doing some fundraising.

Public Lands – Bob Green

Under the "Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response Plan (SBEADMR) the U.S. Forest Service is planning to have 12,000 acres cut each year for the next 10 years. Public comments on this project must be submitted by July 31st.

At yesterday's meeting in Delta, Rocky Smith talked about all the problems with this plan.

There will be a conference call at noon on Friday, July 17th about this project.

Bob handed out a draft talking points memorandum for SBEADMR developed by Emily Hornback. Bob also handed out a two-page summary of this plan and our concerns with it.

It seems that the underlying purpose of this plan is not so much about healthy forests or fire mitigation as it is about cutting trees to help the logging industry. And this logging will end up killing a lot of the young healthy spruce trees.

This plan will also result in some 40 to 200 miles of new forest service roads for logging.

We are not supporting any of the alternative plans being proposed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Recycling Committee –

A problem has developed since Telluride had too high of a volume of compostables from their festivals. So now the Delta recycling facility wants compostables chipped. But to do that we need a commercial compost chipper. So for now the compostable trash is being stored in John Clark's and Dave & Judi's garages.

ROCC's Concert in the Park recycling needs more volunteers.

It was also announced that Nick Williams is Ridgway's newest councilman.

ROCC Talks - Roze Evans

The next ROCC talk in August will be in the Sherbino Theater and is entitled "A Life in the Wilderness".

The ROCC Talk on Mining at the Wright Opera House brought in about \$300 and had about 90 attendees.

Community Support Committee - Dave Jones

Dave is out of town so there was no report.

Social Justice - Dick Engdahl

Rachel is the committee's organizer and she gave the committee a training class.

The committee will be working on an affordable housing project and will be meeting with Don Batchelder and John Clark about this issue.

The Ouray City Council apparently seems to think they don't have an affordable housing problem in Ouray, but rather a transportation issue.

Ouray County has a Housing Authority that we might be able to work with on this issue.

It has been suggested to the committee that some people who actually need affordable housing be members of the committee.

The committee meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 4 pm at the United Church of the San Juans.

Uranium - Dudley Case

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.

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

Eco-flights out of the Montrose Airport on Monday, July 27th. The flights will go over major uranium mines and mills in west central Colorado. We will be able to accommodate 10 people in the two 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 on August 11th at the Montrose Public Library at 1 pm.

WCC Legislative Committee - Roze Evans

There will be a retreat for the committee on August 1.

WCC Report – Chris Pike

Chris shared a WCC July 15 report about its WORC sponsored membership drive, which is based upon a WORC \$7,500 challenge grant. WCC has set a goal of increasing membership from the current 797 to 898 by November 30, 2015. A discussion about various ways to increase membership followed.

Sharon Case suggested that yearly membership should be put on a calendar year basis.

It was also suggested that the group that called all the members about a year ago be resurrected to again reach out to our members to find out what their concerns are and how they feel ROCC is doing with respect to their concerns.

Robyn made a motion to offer ½ price memberships at the ROCC Talks for first time members only. Scott William seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Tom McKinney asked Robyn Cascade to explain how Time Bank of the Rockies works with respect to ROCC. Robyn explained that there are 11 organizations in Ouray County in Time Bank. Individual members of ROCC can join Time Bank and then volunteer their services to ROCC and get an hourly credit in Time Bank for their work with ROCC. In essence ROCC acts as an incentive for people to join Time Bank.

Dudley Case acts as the Time Bank administrator for ROCC and can post announcements asking for people to volunteer for various ROCC projects.

New Business:

Dave Reed, the WCC Executive Director, mentioned that WCC is now part of a state wide oil and gas coalition.

WCC has also received a \$30,000 research management grant from the Conservation Alliance for research into SBEADMR.

Matt King will be the WCC organizer for both a clean energy project and a social justice project in Mesa County.

The WCC annual meeting will be held on September 19th and 20th.

WCC will also be holding a communication workshop at which the ROCC brochure can be discussed.

Scott Williams, on behalf of the UWP Board of Directors, thanked ROCC for being a music sponsor for River Fest.

Next the group discussed the annual ROCC picnic. It was decided to hold the picnic on Saturday, August 29th at 5 pm at Hartwell Park. The picnic is pot luck, BYOB, and bring your own plates and silverware.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:45 pm.