

ROCC Business Meeting
December 8, 2017
United Church of the San Juans

Announcements:

None

Adoption of Minutes:

Chris Pike made a motion to approve the minutes. Jen Parker seconded the motion.
Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

See report on pages 6 and 7.

ROCC received an individual donation this year of \$5,000 which enabled ROCC to make a \$2,000 grant to the Ridgway Community Garden.

The 2018 budget will be Income of \$6,503, expenses of \$6,000 and net income of \$503.
And grants will again be \$1,500.

Jen Parker made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Tom McKenney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Special Discussion – Vicki Huggins

The BOCC's opposition to appointing ROCC members to the Ouray County Planning Commission.

Vicki believes that the BOCC has given ROCC an opportunity to tell the public what we do for the community and that we work for the betterment of the county. ROCC membership is diverse and members live throughout the county. ROCC also monetarily supports a number of community groups. ROCC members care about the communities in the county and are civically engaged.

There was a long discussion on how ROCC should respond to the BOCC. Among the suggestions were: ROCC officers writing a letter to the editor, ROCC members attending the next BOCC meeting and speaking out at the "call to the public", ROCC members writing individual letters to the BOCC, and have a non-ROCC member write a letter to the editor.

Scott Williams made a motion to have the ROCC President and Vice-President draft a letter to the editor for the Ouray Plaindealer. John Hollrah seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

2018 Spaghetti Dinner Update – Chris Pike

The dinner will be held on either February 3rd or 10th at the Ouray Community Center.

Chris talked to Art Goodtimes and he is interested in being the dinner speaker. And Chris is seeking someone, like David Nunn, to provide music for the dinner.

More award nominations are needed for both the Special Appreciation Award and the Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award. The ROCC Secretary was asked to send another ROCC Alert asking for award nominations.

Committee Reports:

ROCC Talks – Kate Kellogg

See summary of the 2017 ROCC Talks listed below on page 8.

The next committee meeting will be in January and the committee needs some new members. So please become a member of the committee if you can.

Craig Fetterolf suggested that ROCC collaborate with other groups and the Sherbino Theater to put on joint talks.

It was also suggested that there be ROCC Talks on affordable housing and immigration.

Robyn Cascade and Rein van West stated that there is a niche for ROCC Talks in Ouray County.

Tom McKenney suggested topics such as Section 24 of the Land Use Code, the GMUG plan, San Juan Wilderness and candidate forums.

Kate suggested that the committee focus on fewer ROCC Talks and make each one as good as we can.

Clean Energy – Dave Jones and Rein van West

See 2017 Annual Committee Report (PowerPoint slideshow) below on pages 9 – 13.

The committee holds monthly meeting at the SMPA conference room in Ridgway. The next meeting will be on December 14th at 9:00 am.

Public Lands – Jim Stephenson and Robyn Cascade

See WCC Objectives and Activities for the Conservation Alliance Grant re: San Juan Mountain Wilderness (SJMW) Bill below on pages 14 and 15. WCC has formed an alliance with three other groups (Great Old Broads for Wilderness, San Juan Citizens Alliance, and Sheep Mountain Alliance) and applied for a \$42,000 grant. Approximately 10,000 will go to each group if the grant application is successful. Robyn circulated postcards to Senator Gardener for attendees to sign in support of the SJMW bill.

Jim reported that the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison (GMUG) Forest released the Assessment Reports in the pre-NEPA phase of the GMUG Forest Plan Revision process. ROCC signed on to coalition comments for the following assessments: Designations, Recreation, Infrastructure, Timber. Robyn passed around a petition for attendees to sign in support of a coalition proposal to the GMUG for additional designations. Proposed areas on the Ouray District include Baldy Mountain and Baldy Trail, Bear Creek Trail and watershed, Hayden Mountain, Abram and Brown Mountains, etc.

Social Justice – Vicki Huggins

See committee's 2017 Year End Report below on page 16.

The committee is primarily working with the Ouray County Affordable Housing Committee (of which Chris Pike is a member) on affordable housing in the county. D3 Indivisible has taken the lead on the immigration and victim rights issues.

Robyn Cascade has been talking with CIRC and HAP on the immigration issues including a Rapid Response Team and the Dream Act.

Grants – Dave Jones

See committee's 2017 Grants Report below on pages 17 – 19.

The members of the Grants Committee are: Jen Parker, Donna Green, Chris Pike,

Dave Jones, Judi Chamberlin and the four ROCC Officers (Don Swartz, Kate Kellogg, Dudley Case and Scott Williams). The committee could use some additional members so please join the committee if you are interested in its work.

The committee has the power to approve grants for ROCC up to \$500. Larger grants must be approved by ROCC.

Dave Jones and Judi Chamberlin wrote a grant and got the grant for the Town of Ridgway for an electric charging station to be located in the newly paved parking lot to the south of the Ridgway Town Hall.

Judi and Dave also have written a grant for the Town of Ridgway for bear proof garbage bins. Hopefully this grant will also be approved.

WORC Ag and Foods – Robyn Cascade

Robyn is Chair of the WCC Food & Ag Committee. She attended a three-day WORC Ag and Food Team meeting in Billings, Montana this Fall.

The WORC committee will be dealing with the 2018 farm bill which will be dealing with sustainable meat production and trying to get away from factory farming. The committee will be working on changes in trade legislation and treaties, such as NAFTA, and on a project called Home Grown Stories, which will video tape small farmers and ranchers telling their stories about farming and ranching. Some WORC members will also focus on local procurement policies.

Membership – Roze Evans

WCC has been having a lot of trouble with their membership system and software over at least the last two years. And as a result of this WCC has not been sending ROCC membership renewal notices to members on a timely or consistent basis. Therefore, ROCC has decided to create a new membership system and Austin Ray is managing the new system. WCC will no longer be collecting the membership dues for both ROCC and WCC. From now on all membership dues will be collected on a calendar year basis starting this year with the 2018 dues. And ROCC will be collecting both the ROCC and WCC membership dues on a 60 percent/40percent split with WCC. ROCC will keep 60 percent of membership dues and send WCC their 40 percent split of the dues.

WCC – Plans for Reorganization – Al Lowande

Dave Reed has resigned as the Executive Director of WCC and Emily Hornback has been appointed as the new Executive Director of WCC.

Currently WCC is working on changing its name to Western Colorado Alliance (WCA), changing its mission and vision statements, changing its branding, membership, and organizational structure. If everything works out well with its strategic planning, WCA will be a much larger alliance of groups and organizations on the Western Slope than WCC was. WCA will also organize state and regional campaigns and programs, and offer its organizational services to these other groups and organizations. It will also pick campaigns and programs that have much broader appeal to residents of the Western Slope.

WCA is also planning on starting an IRC 501(c)(4) political organization with the help of WORC, which will be called "Colorado Rural Voters".

New Business:

2018 Parking Lot Sale – Rich Niemeier

Rich asked the membership whether they would prefer to use the 4-H Events Center facilities or the lot north of the Ridgway Library for the parking lot sale. After much discussion Dave Jones made a motion to hold the parking lot sale at the 4-H Events Center. Sharon Case seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The parking lot sale will be held the third weekend in May. Hopefully the Town of Ridgway will also hold its Love Your Valley Festival that same weekend, since these two events when held on the same weekend bring out a lot of attendees to both events.

Adjournment:

Rein van West made a motion at about 9:20 pm to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed.

12/5/2017

Net Worth - As of 12/5/2017

Page 1

Account	12/5/2017 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Alpine Checking	18,558.84
Alpine PayPal	1,000.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	19,558.84
TOTAL ASSETS	19,558.84
LIABILITIES	
	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	19,558.84

Account

12/5/2017
Balance

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts

Alpine Checking

18,558.84

Alpine PayPal

1,000.00

TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts

19,558.84

TOTAL ASSETS

19,558.84

LIABILITIES

0.00

OVERALL TOTAL

19,558.84

ROCC Talks Report – Kate Kellogg
2017

May -- Retired Colorado Supreme Court Justice Greg Hobbs spoke on water issues and recited his water poetry.

July -- (Postponed from April) Scott Braden, of Conservation Colorado, spoke on "The Future of Our Public Lands in a Shifting Political Landscape" with Emily Hornback of WCC.

September -- "Composting -- Backyard and Beyond," Kris Holstrom, project manager for EcoPartners of San Miguel County.

November -- Film, "Dolores River of Sorrows," and talk by filmmaker Cody Perry of Rig to Flip Productions and Wade Hanson, of the Dolores River Boating Advocates*.

We need volunteers for the 2018 ROCC Talk Committee, which usually meets just once per year. No one person should have to organize more than one talk per year.

We also need to decide if we want to continue ROCC Talks or take a break, or just have a couple talks in 2018.

*More than 80 people attended this talk at the Sherbino Theater. Good educational/environmental films are a sure draw.

ROCC Clean Energy Committee

2017 Annual Report

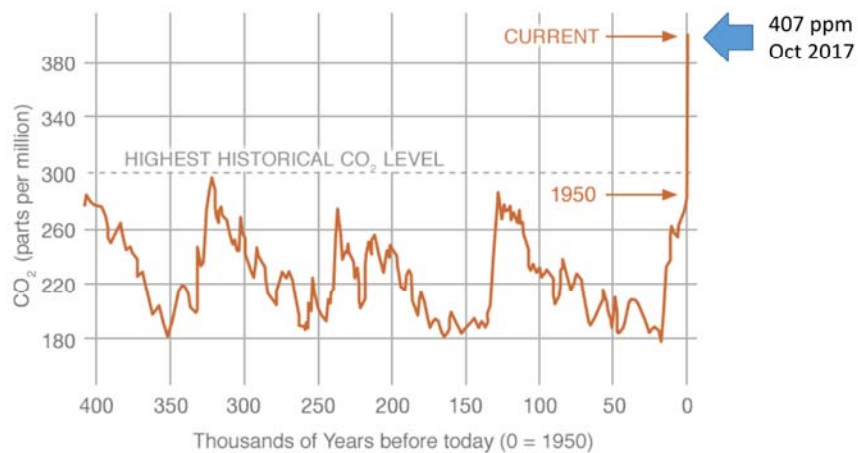
PROXY (INDIRECT) CO₂ MEASUREMENTS

Data source: Reconstruction from ice cores. NOAA

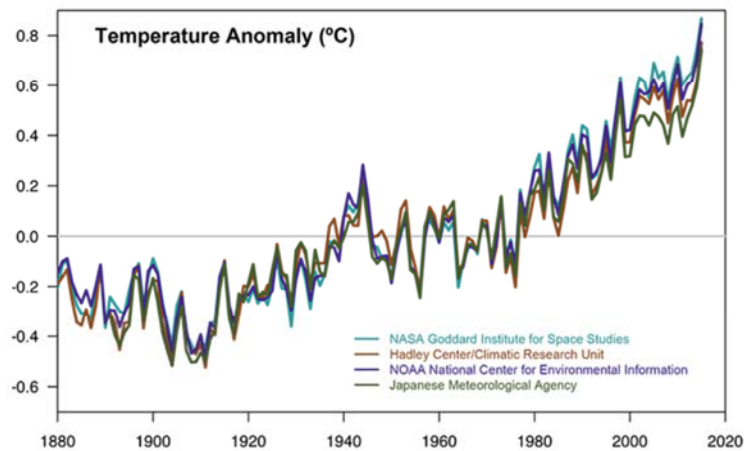
Last time global CO₂ levels >400 ppm was a few million yrs ago:

Earth was 3.5-5.5 degrees warmer

Sea levels were 50-80 ft higher



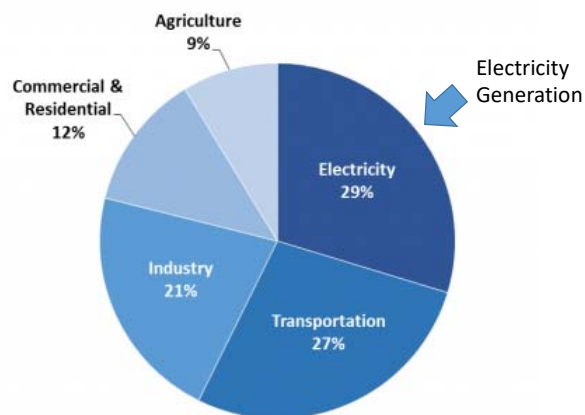
Global Warming Trend



16 of the 17
warmest years
on record have
occurred since
2001

Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2015

US Data,
from EPA



ROCC Clean Energy Committee

- Established - January 2016
- Goals – to lower CO2 emissions through :
 - Education (ours and others)
 - Promotion of Energy Conservation
 - Promotion of new Renewable Energy Sources
 - Encourage Prudent Regulations/Legislation
- We think big - but our main focus is local (Ouray County)
- We now meet (roughly) monthly in the SMPA conference room
 - ROCC & non-ROCC members, SMPA staff & board, interested others....
- We partner with others – e.g. EcoAction Partners, SMPA

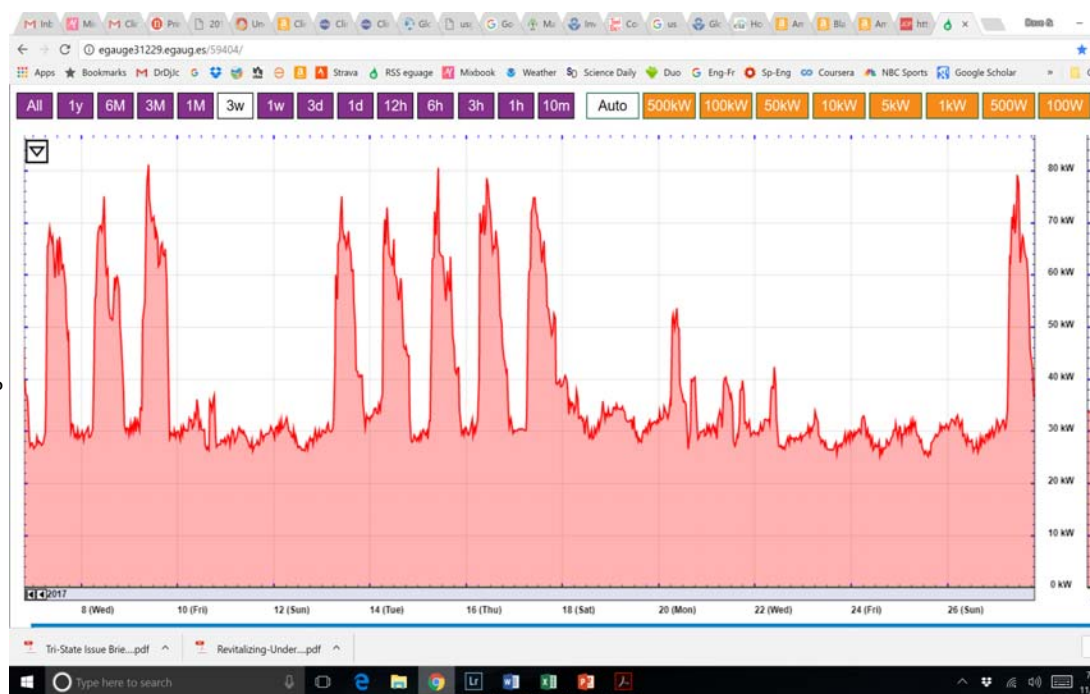
2016 Focus areas

- Education
 - Promote SMPA Green Blocks → Green Fund
 - Purchase renewable energy credits to offset one's energy consumption.
 - One block = 100 kilowatt hours of renewable energy and costs \$1/month.
- Promotion of Energy Conservation
 - **LEDs in Ridgway Schools**
 - August 2016 - \$7000 school stimulus grants + school investment
 - One year data for the combined Ridgway schools:
 - 17.6% reduction in electricity used
 - 16% reduction in power bills → saved \$14,900 (per year)

2017 Focus areas

- Education
 - Green Blocks
- Promotion of Energy Conservation
 - **School Energy Audit (4/2017) & electrical use tracking →**
 - **Wrote EV charging station grant for Ridgway → installation 12/2017!**
- Promotion of new Renewable Energy Sources
 - Lobbied Tri-State to allow more (than 5%) local Renewable Energy projects
 - Endorsements from Ridgway Govt, Ouray County, Telluride & San Miguel Co, ...
 - Tri-State declined to increase the cap - but agreed to re-look in two years
- Prudent Regulations/Legislation
 - Promotion of C-PACE

Why such a high baseline electricity use?



2018 Potential Focus areas

- Education
- Promotion of Energy Conservation
 - Encourage home LED installations (very short payback!!, great light!!!)
 - Push **FREE** Home energy audits
 - Assess why the Secondary School has such a high baseline electricity demand
 - Promote EcoAction Partners Green Business program
 - Promote SMPA Green Blocks – do you run on 100% Green electricity?
- Promotion of new Renewable Energy Sources
 - Home solar installation → average payback now 7 years, last 25+ years
 - New local solar farm → encourage SMPA Community Solar pledges
 - If new solar farm → push for school/town to buy solar panels w possible grants...
- Prudent Regulations/Legislation
 - Encourage Ouray BOCC to approve C-PACE (funding program for commercial energy-efficiency upgrades)
- Other opportunities???

What Can You Do?

- **Request more information** by signing our sheet
 - No obligation. We will be in touch to discuss further.
- **Buy Green Blocks** – The funds you spend to buy green energy are used to promote Green projects.
- Get a free **Home Energy Audit** & reduce your energy consumption
- **Install LEDs – or Solar Panels** - at home
- **Join Us!** (1. Get better educated, 2. show your support of renewables and energy conservation, 3. get involved in select areas)
 - Thursday, 14 December, 0900-1100, SMPA Conference Room

Western Colorado Congress Objectives and Activities for Conservation Alliance Grant re: San Juan Mountain Wilderness Bill

Organizational History of Engagement on the bill:

Western Colorado Congress is a grassroots, democratic organization dedicated to challenging injustice by organizing people to increase their power over decisions that affect their lives. WCC's community groups and members work together to create healthy, sustainable communities, social and economic justice, environmental stewardship and a truly democratic society.

WCC has a long history of engagement on the San Juan Mountain Wilderness Bill. WCC and our local affiliate group in Ouray County, the Ridgway-Ouray Community Council (ROCC), organized the first stakeholder efforts in Ouray County in 2007 and worked with our member-leader, Jim Stephenson, to draw the first boundaries for the Whitehouse Addition. Since then we have been involved every year trying to get it passed, working with our conservation partners from across the region and with national organizations. Our focus has been on organizing grassroots support for the bill as well as endorsements from Ouray County Commissioners and Western Slope business. We have also organized grassroots support from across Western Colorado, working with our county affiliate organizations to ensure our Congressional Delegation sees region-wide support for the proposal.

Objective 1: Increase visible grassroots support

- ☐ Sign over 1,000 post-cards from individuals to Sen. Gardner and Rep. Tipton asking them to support the San Juan Wilderness Bill
- ☐ Table at 3-4 highly visible community events in Ouray County throughout 2018 (Ouray Ice Festival, Ridgway River Fest, Love Your Valley Festival, Summer Concert Series, etc)
- ☐ Host one ROCC Talk focusing on the bill
- ☐ Work with other WCC affiliate organizations in Montrose, Mesa, Delta, and Garfield County to educate and do outreach to the public in their communities in support of the Bill.

Objective 2: Maintain support from Ouray County local governments and businesses

- ☐ Stay in touch with Ouray County Commissioners and ask for another formal endorsement, if needed
- ☐ Continue to collect signed, individual letters of endorsement from Ouray County businesses
- ☐ Organize 1-2 meetings of Ouray County business leaders with Rep. Tipton and Sen. Gardner staff

Objective 3: Increase pressure on Congressional Delegation

- ☐ Once we have 1,000 signed post-cards, organize a public event where we submit them to the Congressional Delegation

- Organize region-wide call in days to Sen. Gardner and Rep. Tipton in support of the bill
- Organize series of meetings and walk-ins to Sen Gardner and Rep. Tipton regional offices in support of the bill throughout the year
- Organize turn out to any public events Congressional Delegation members host in our region to raise the San Juan Mountain Bill

Objective 4: Increase media attention

- Place series of letters to the editors in support of the bill in regional papers throughout the year
- One earned media story in the Grand Junction Sentinel highlighting our joint efforts with conservation partners on the bill

Objective 5: Support conservation partners efforts and activities

- Organize participation in appropriate activities with conservation partners
- Co-host a hike with conservation partners in Ouray area highlighting the wilderness proposal to members of the public
- If appropriate, send a WCC member to D.C. with conservation partners to lobby in support of the bill
- Participate in coalition strategy meetings and coordination calls throughout the year

Budget:

Staff Expenses

Community Organizer	\$5,000
Management and support staff	\$1,000

Media	\$500
Printed Materials (maps, ads, flyers, etc.)	\$1,000
Travel and Meetings	\$1,500
Overhead and Logistics (rent, phone, etc.)	\$1,000
Conservation Alliance Request	\$10,000

Social Justice Committee

2017 Year End Report

ROCC's Social Justice Committee meets on the last Monday of each month at the Church of the San Juans in Ridgway from 3 – 5.

Although our primary focus has been affordable housing in Ouray County, we also spent time on the following issues.

Victim Advocacy – After being approached by a member of the community expressing concerns about the lack of victim advocacy in the county, we met with other community members and were involved in two forums. One involved representatives from agencies regarding services available and the other involved town, city and county law enforcement leaders. D3 Indivisible has formed a committee to continue work on this issue and as a result our committee has decided to support their efforts as they take the lead. We have helped with distributing information in the community advertising the services that are available.

Immigration – D3 Indivisible has an active committee focusing on local immigration issues so we have also chosen to support their lead.

One of our committee members addressed the Ridgway town council to suggest wording on the town website be modified to include a message regarding embracing diversity and inclusion. The town council agreed that this was an important time to do that. They also agreed to the creation of a banner to be included on the park sign with similar wording to be created with input from ROCC.

Affordable Housing - We have continued research possibilities regarding affordable housing in Ouray County. We have focused primarily on considering the opportunities in Ridgway because it appears that the town is the most receptive of the three entities. One of our members, Chris Pike, is now a member of the Ouray County Housing Authority Advisory Committee. We have requested that OCHAC make a recommendation to the town, city, and county about standard guidelines that would increase affordable housing (% deed restricted, in perpetuity, employer responsibility, etc.). OCHAC will be addressing this at Dec. 14 meeting.

ROCC Grants 2017 Report

Committee Members

- Jen Parker, Donna Green, Chris Pike, Scott Williams, Dave Jones
- Added this year: ROCC Officers

Grants Committee Process

- Interested applicants fill out a ROCC Grants application form
- The ROCC committee reviews applications/votes
 - Committee can approve grants up to \$500
 - Notify members at the next meeting
 - If approved by the committee, requests for over \$1000 are brought to a general meeting for discussion/vote

2017 Grants

- \$500 – UWP for Riverfest
- \$500 – Ouray Beautification for trees in park upgrades north of town
- \$2000 – Ridgway Community Garden (supports grant application - funding a new Riverpark Community park and garden)
- \$500 – Ridgway Cares for Ouray County holiday baskets

2018 Grants Committee

- Are you interested in becoming a member?
- New ideas for:
 - Groups to support?
 - Projects to support?
- Other recommendations ?