

ROCC Business Meeting
December 1, 2018
Ridgway Community Center, 7 p.m.

Election of Officers – Kate Kellogg

Rein van West made a motion to reelect the current Board of Directors to another two-year term. Tom Heffernan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kate asked if there were any volunteers for the Secretary's job since Dudley Case will be stepping down as Secretary when he moves to Wyoming in January. The Secretary's job could also be split into a Recording Secretary and a Correspondence Secretary. There were no volunteers, so this issue was tabled to the January 17th business meeting.

Al Lowande also stated that he has been the ROCC's WCA Representative for six years and he would like to see someone replace him in this job.

Approval of October 18 Business Meeting Minutes

Al Lowande made a motion to approve the minutes. Kathy Heffernan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Announcements

Rein van West introduced Carolyn Dresler as a guest at the meeting. Carolyn had worked on the Diane Mitsch Bush campaign.

Treasurer's Report – Scott Williams

See report below.

Scott said that we have had a 60 percent increase in membership dues since ROCC started handling its own membership dues at the beginning of 2017.

Dave Jones suggested that we give each of the committees a \$250 budget (Clean Energy, Dark Skies, Land Use, Membership, Social Justice, and Public Lands).

Rein van West suggested that we could fund ROCC members who wanted to go to POCO training. The cost would be about \$500 per person.

Tom Heffernan suggested that ROCC help pay for an entrance sign for the Town of Ridgway.

Roze Evans made a motion that ROCC give \$250 to each of its committees to spend on work that each committee is doing. Dave Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

11/27/2018

Ridgway Ouray Community Council Net Worth - As of 11/30/2018

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Account	11/30/2018 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Alpine Checking	28,476.82
Alpine PayPal	1,000.35
PayPal	1,736.05
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	31,213.22
TOTAL ASSETS	31,213.22
LIABILITIES	
	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	31,213.22

ROCC Income / Expense
12/1/2017 through 11/30/2018

11/27/2018

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Category	12/1/2017- 12/31/2017	1/1/2018- 11/30/2018	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME			
Grant Income	0.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Interest	0.23	2.61	2.84
Member Donations			
ROCC	1,760.00	10,202.00	11,962.00
WCC	290.00	-290.00	0.00
TOTAL Member Donations	2,050.00	9,912.00	11,962.00
Membership Dues			
Dues Collected by ROCC	4,315.00	2,804.50	7,119.50
ROCC Share of Dues Collected by WCA	0.00	1,392.00	1,392.00
WCA Share of Dues Collected by ROCC	0.00	-2,567.80	-2,567.80
TOTAL Membership Dues	4,315.00	1,628.70	5,943.70
Other Donations	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
ROCC Talk	0.00	665.00	665.00
Rummage Sale	0.00	685.00	685.00
Spaghetti Dinner	0.00	1,977.00	1,977.00
TOTAL INCOME	6,365.23	24,870.31	31,235.54
EXPENSES			
Uncategorized	0.00	0.00	0.00
Awards Expense	0.00	107.95	107.95
Bank Charges	59.85	45.46	105.31
Dues Expense	0.00	225.00	225.00
Grants			
General	500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Special	0.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
TOTAL Grants	500.00	13,000.00	13,500.00
Leadership Training	0.00	500.00	500.00
Legal Fees	0.00	1,905.00	1,905.00
Liability Insurance	0.00	667.50	667.50
Miscellaneous	0.00	265.99	265.99
Postage	0.00	75.80	75.80
ROCC Talk Expense	0.00	831.49	831.49
Rummage Sale Expense	95.00	66.00	161.00
San Juan Wilderness	0.00	150.00	150.00
Spaghetti Dinner Expense	33.09	1,283.13	1,316.22
Supplies	0.00	269.90	269.90
TOTAL EXPENSES	687.94	19,393.22	20,081.16
OVERALL TOTAL	5,677.29	5,477.09	11,154.38

2019 ROCC Budget DRAFT

12/1/2018 - 11/30/2019

INCOME

Grant Income	\$0.00
Interest	\$3.00
Member Donations	\$2,000.00
Membership Dues	\$4,500.00
Other Donations	\$0.00
ROCC Talk	\$665.00
Rummage Sale	\$750.00
Spaghetti Dinner	\$2,000.00

Total Income \$9,918.00

EXPENSES

Awards	\$125.00	
Bank Charges	\$150.00	
Committee Funds	\$1,500.00	\$250 per Committee appvd. 12/1/ meeting
Dues	\$225.00	
Grants (General)	\$2,500.00	
Grants (Special)	\$0.00	
Leadership Training	\$500.00	
Legal Fees	\$615.00	
Liability Insurance	\$725.00	
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$200 trnfd to Committees Funds
Picnic	\$100.00	
Postage	\$50.00	\$150 trnfd to Membership Commi
Printing	\$400.00	
ROCC Talk	\$650.00	
Rummage Sale	\$325.00	
San Juan Wilderness	\$0.00	\$150 trnfd to Public Lands Commi
Spaghetti Dinner	\$1,500.00	

Supplies	\$250.00
Total Expenses	\$9,715.00
Net Income	\$203.00

Committee Reports

Clean Energy – Dave Jones and Rein van West

See PowerPoint report below.

Al Lowande made a motion that ROCC ask WCA to have its legislative committee prioritize increasing Tri-State's renewable energy portfolio in Colorado. Dave Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Dave Jones made a motion to allow the Clean Energy Committee to spend up to \$750 on helping create a Ridgway High School solar class. Roze seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Clean Energy Committee

2018 Annual Report

Established Jan. 2016

Global carbon emissions rose in 2017, dimming hopes to rein in climate change

- In 2017, the world emitted about **53.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide**.
- To limit global warming to 1.5 Celsius, annual emissions in 2030 would need to be 24 billion tons.
- We have a **29 billion ton emissions gap**.

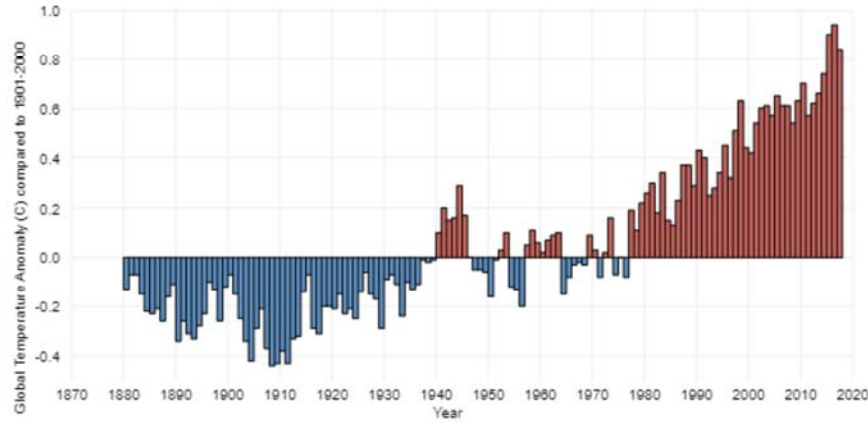
[Doyle Rice](#), USA TODAY Nov. 27, 2018

U.S. Climate Report Warns of Damaged Environment and Shrinking Economy

- A major scientific report issued by **13 federal agencies** on [Black] Friday presents the starkest warnings to date of the consequences of climate change for the United States... The report is the second volume of the National Climate Assessment, which the federal government is required by law to produce every four years. The previous report, issued in May 2014, concluded ... that **the tangible impacts of climate change had already started to cause damage across the country**.

Coral Davenport and Kendra Pierre-Louis, New York Times, Nov. 23, 2018

Global Surface Temperatures since 1880: 2017 - 3rd hottest year on record, behind 2016 & 2015



<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>

Your Children's Yellowstone Will Be Radically Different

- Over the next few decades of climate change, the country's first national park will quite likely see increased fire, less forest, expanding grasslands, shallower, warmer waterways, and more invasive plants
- "At the northeast entrance ... about 60 fewer days fall below freezing than 30 years ago." "Snow often doesn't stay as long, or accumulate the way it used to."
- "For the Northern Rockies, snowpack has fallen to its lowest level in eight centuries," "...snow is a cornerstone of the park's ecology."

Marguerite Holloway, New York Times, Nov. 15, 2018

Ridgway Schools Electricity Use & Bills

	Primary school		Secondary school		Combined total	
	Cost	kWh/yr	Cost	kWh/yr	Cost	KWh/yr
2013	\$39,433	9,867	\$49,692	13,047	\$89,125	22914
2014	\$43,003	10,691	\$52,973	13,679	\$95,976	24370
2015	\$39,471	9,792	\$54,515	14,206	\$93,986	23998
Baseline Avg	\$40,636	10,117	\$52,393	13,644	\$93,029	23,761
2016	\$36,270	8,972	\$49,609	12,281	\$85,879	21,253
2017	\$33,557	8,409	\$42,031	10,625	\$75,588	19,034
Annual Savings					\$17,441 (18.7%)	4,726 (19.9%)

ROCC, through one members challenge grant, donated \$5K toward this project.
Replacement of the classroom & hall flourescent tubes in August 2016 - & continued...

Ridgway EV Charging Station Grant

- Town grant written in 2016 by our committee
- Dual EV chargers installed December 2017
- ROCC is donating a penny per kWh used to “buy” green SMPA energy
 - Under \$50/yr
- Monthly use through August 2018 →
- **At least 12 EV owners in Ridgway now, over half bought in 2018**



2018 Work & Ongoing Efforts

- **Ouray County adopted C-PACE** – approved unanimously 10/18
 - Commercial financing for energy improvements (solar, insulation, heating...)
 - Survey of Ouray & Ridgway Chamber of C members (33 results w 18 + comments)
- Promotion: **LED purchases** during the annual SMPA rebate program
 - Log Hill led the way, exceeding the “town’s budget” by 78%
 - Promote **FREE** home energy audits
- Education:
 - “Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution” - at both the Wright & the Sherbino

It is a battle – but we fight on....

- Per results of a 10-2018 Tri-State survey of their Board members and member managers
 - In this survey, “Expanding the use of renewables or reducing the use of coal was low on the list of priorities for most participants.”
 - Nevertheless, *Tri-State has cut coal use to 44% in 2018 and renewables have now hit 30% of generation. A new study says increasing renewables further and cutting coal to 24% would save money.*
- Having few local options, we need to keep pushing Tri-State:
 - Allow member Co-ops to generate more than 5% of their demand through local renewable energy projects
 - Show local interest in renewables by “voting with our pocketbooks”

Green Blocks → Carbon Clear

- **Promoted sales of SMPA Green Blocks** - \$1 per 100 kWh
 - Bankrolls **SMPA's Green Fund**. *100% of this fund is used to pay rebates and fund new local renewable energy development.*
- CEC discussion helped create a new SMPA program: Carbon Clear
 - We are pushing for a new C.C. tariff (rate) – perhaps 1 cent per kWh?
Would you pay an extra penny/kWh (7.4%) to support the Green Fund?
 - Longer term goal is to also allow users to offset carbon generated by travel, gas heating, and other carbon intensive activities

Ongoing Work with our Schools

- Presented LED outcomes, education, and solar offset ideas to the school board 10/2018
- Renewable energy education in the schools
 - Delta CO Solar Energy International program – a **vocational tech class** for students interested in careers in that industry.
- Powering Ridgway schools with solar
 - Proposal for one teaching **ground-mounted solar array** by the workshop – could perhaps be built over time by students
 - Longer term goal is to offset 85% of Secondary School electricity with solar.
 - **160 kW system needed → requires \$130K downpayment** to break-even (given lack of tax benefits). Exploring options...

2019 Requests

- \$250 annual budget (part of which funds EV green energy)
- Approval for \$500-\$750 Grants request for a Ridgway High School solar (installation, sales, marketing) class.
- Are You Interested in Joining Us?

We meet at the SMPA office every 4-8 weeks from 0900-1100. Our next meeting is Thursday, January 17.

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

Dark Skies – Dave Jones

See PowerPoint report below.



RIDGWAY DARK SKY COMMITTEE 2018 STATUS REPORT TO ROCC

Val Szwarc
Dec 1, 2018



Agenda Topics

- Introduction and Background
- Accomplishments
- Expenditures
- Challenges
- Path Forward



Introduction and Background

- Spring of 2018 ROCC approved a new committee
 - Ridgway Dark Sky Committee (RDSC)) formed with the objective of protecting the Dark Starry Sky above Ridgway
 - Implementation via pursuit of International Dark Sky Association Dark Sky Designation and corresponding criteria
 - Gold standard in dark sky protection guidelines

RDSC 2018 Accomplishments

- Organized the Ridgway Dark Sky Committee under ROCC
 - More than 15 contributing volunteers and growing
- Prepared and successfully presented Dark Sky Proposal to Ridgway Town Council
 - April 11
 - Unanimous TC support
- Prepared Draft Lighting Regulations to satisfy IDA guidelines
 - Initial draft provided to Planning Dept Manager
 - Comments adjudicated
 - Obtained detailed IDA review and incorporated comments
 - Submitted an updated and IDA reviewed draft lighting ordinance to the Town
 - Special Thanks to Dave Jones and Howard Greene for their many contributions and coordination with the Town

Accomplishments - continued

- Sky Quality Measurements Initiated
 - ROCC authorized purchases of two SQM photometers
 - Measurement Plan and Procedures updated with lessons learned from other programs
 - Four measurement sites selected – all within Town limits
 - Val and Dave have been taking monthly measurements - sky conditions permitting
- Two Dark Sky themed outreach events coordinated as joint events with Black Canyon Astronomical Society (BCAS) and Ridgway State Park – June 2 and Sept 29
 - Multimedia presentations followed by star gazing thru professional telescopes from BCAS and RDSC
 - Showcased Dark Starry Skies only 3 miles North of Ridgway
 - Thank you to a number of ROCC/RDSC volunteers that made these a success
 - Kate Kellogg, Dudley Case, Roze Evans, Pam Kraft , Rob Datsko, SMPA(Paul Hora)

5

Accomplishments - continued

- Obtained support letters for Ridgway's Dark Sky Initiative
 - Ouray County Commissioners
 - SMPA
 - LogHill HOA
 - A number of support letters from individuals
 - More to come in 2019
 - Special Thanks to Rob Datsko, Paul Hora, and Jim Kennedy
- Early planning initiated for Spring 2019 Sherbino "ROCC Talk" – showing of a new documentary film – Saving the Dark
 - Along with Astrophotography by BCAS – showcases the dark Western Colorado skies

Expenditures

- 2 SQM Photometers \$280
- Donation to Ridgway State Park \$100

Challenges

- Awaiting Town scheduling for Planning Commission review of Lighting Ordinance Updates
- Future Star Party event location (TBD)



Path Forward

- Finalize Ridgway Lighting Ordinance
- Scheduling of outreach events in 2019
- Additional Support Letters needed
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Town of Ridgway
 - ROCC
 - HOA's
 - BCAS
- Continue SQM monitoring
- Draft and submit IDA application later in 2019(TBR)
- Expected 2019 expenditures less than \$500

Grants – Dave Jones

See PowerPoint report below.

Tom Heffernan made a motion that ROCC give a \$200 grant to the Ridgway Food Pantry and a \$200 grant to Ridgway Cares. Wendy Fenner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

ROCC Grants Committee

2017 Annual Report

2018 Budget was \$2000

- Grants:
 - UWP requested and received \$500 for the River Festival
 - Ridgway Mighty Mini Horse Therapy Program requested/received \$500 for a new program on school bullying
 - Top of the Pines requested \$1000 and received \$500 for help in installing new indoor bathroom facilities
 - Fortuna Tierra requested/received \$500 for help in putting on their Fun Run which raises money for student scholarships
- Pending - \$500 request from Voyager Youth Program for scholarships

\$9000 Park Recycling Containers Grant

Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) program Mini-Grant

- Received approval in late 2017
- Our Grant funded 6 bear-proof recycling/trash containers
- Town of Ridgway bought 4 more “in-kind” containers + paid \$700 to make two additional units more decorative
- Installed 31 May, 2018
- Future ideas:
 - Community recycling drop-off point in Ouray County?
 - Community composting facility

2019 Budget \$2500

- Seeking new Grants Committee members
 - Currently all ROCC “officers” - but we want members at large
- Meeting next Wednesday to discuss better ways of scoring/ranking requests and directing our giving
- Anticipate a \$500 request from UWP, \$750 for a Solar Schools program, \$500 for Voyager → Only \$750 uncommitted and we anticipate a number of additional requests

ROCC Raised \$2000 for a Chris Pike Memorial

- Musical Instruments in the Parks
 - One in Rollans Park (installed)
 - Six in Hartwell Park (S of central playground)
- \$357 left if the Chris Pike Memorial fund
 - Question a gift to Ridgway Cares or the Food Pantry? Other ideas...?

Land Use – Dudley Case

See report below.

Land Use Committee Report December 1, 2018

Kate Kellogg and Dudley Case are the Co-Chairs of the committee. The committee is handling three land use issues in Ouray County: 1) High Alpine yurt building 2) Ouray Perimeter Trail staircase and 3) County Road 5 cross-country skiing.

1) Scott Williams has been looking into the high alpine zone yurt issue. Scott has reported that the BOCC will probably not tackle this issue until they are finished with the county budget and the CR 5 issue. Right now, there are no new yurts being erected in the high alpine zone that we know about.

Yurt issue history: During 2016/2017 six yurts were built in the high alpine area without building permits being issued despite the fact that all the yurts were built on platforms and use of platforms requires that building permits be issued. Mark Castrodale said in an email to Dudley that all these yurts were constructed in 2016-2017 during a period when the Land Use Department was not requiring permits for the building of yurts because the County Attorney, Marti Whitmore, took the position that these structures were considered temporary camping structures. The High Alpine regulation was enacted in late 2016 so Scott thinks that the building of some of these yurts should have fallen under the High Alpine regulation which requires building permits. Scott is researching whether or not there is any remedy for the failure of the county to issue building permits for some of these yurts.

2) With respect to the Perimeter Trail staircase issue, Bob Risch sent Dudley an email back in October stating that the land owner, Paul Chesley, has reconsidered his decision to work with the Ouray Trails Group (OTG) and has requested that the staircase be removed. However, in November Bob told Dudley that there is a possibility of removing the staircase from its present location and moving it about 400 feet north to connect with the Oak Creek Trail and again making it part of the Ouray Perimeter Trail. We are waiting for further information from Bob about this issue.

3) As you all may know, the BOCC decided to handle the cross-country skiing issue on CR 5 themselves back in October. They then proceeded to tell the county attorney, Carol Viner, to discuss with the land owners the possibility of creating a parallel ski trail along CR 5. Since then Carol Viner has spoken with Dudley about this issue and asked for ROCC's help on this issue. Dudley is in the process of trying to set up a meeting with Carol and Kate Kellogg to go up and drive CR 5. At which time we could talk with Carol about the problems that will be encountered trying to build a ski trail parallel with CR 5.

In late October Dudley was informed by Doc McReynolds and Anne Hilleman that CR 5 had been plowed. Dudley then emailed the BOCC about this plowing to find out if they knew about the plowing. On November 8th at the Affordable Housing Presentation at the Events Center Dudley talked to both John Peters and Don Batchelder about this plowing. They stated that the BOCC knew nothing about this plowing. Don also stated that based on Dudley's email to them they had asked the Sheriff's Office to start a criminal investigation

and the Road and Bridge Department to start a civil investigation, since the plowing of CR 5 is illegal unless the BOCC gives permission for such plowing.

Then on November 29th Diane Thompson sent Dudley photos of a second plowing of CR 5, which she also sent to Hannah Hollenbeck and the BOCC. Hannah told Diane that they BOCC will ask the Sheriff's Office and the Road and Bridge Department to also investigate this second plowing of CR 5.

At the last ROCC business meeting in October, Al Lowande made a motion that ROCC should advocate for Randy Parker's suggestion that BOCC Resolution 2016-019 be amended to require that applicants for a Winter Maintenance Agreement take into consideration and accommodate the historic uses of a road including but not limited to winter recreational uses. That motion passed and has now become ROCC's only official position on the CR 5 issue.

Al Lowande asked that ROCC read its official position on CR 5 at the next BOCC meeting's Call to the Public. Kate Kellogg, as Co-Chair of the Land Use Committee, volunteered to do this.

Al Lowande also asked that ROCC get onto the next possible BOCC meeting agenda to have the BOCC discuss ROCC's position on CR 5.

Tom Heffernan also asked that the Land Use Committee use some of its \$250 budget to buy a trap camera to try and photograph the truck that is plowing CR 5 illegally.

Social Justice – Kathy and Tom Heffernan

See report below.

Report of ROCC Social Justice Committee
ROCC General Meeting December 29, 2018

Affordable housing is still at the forefront of our agenda. Tom Heffernan, a member of OCHAC and our SJ committee keeps us up to date on affordable housing and the 5 year plan.

Our committee discussed options for affordable housing, such as available land for housing, how utility companies could help, whether the school could help and other ideas. We are hoping to have a few members talk with Shay Coburn about the status of affordable housing.

We offered rides to the polls on Election day. No one took us up on that offer, but it was out there.

We continue to encourage ROCC to support the “Carry On” girls in their quest to ban plastic bags in Ridgway and encourage the use of copper or bamboo straws rather than plastic.

Kathy and Tom Heffernan,
Co-chairs of SJ Committee

Membership – Austin Ray

This year ROCC took over collecting its own membership dues on a calendar year basis. And ROCC’s membership has almost doubled this year as compared to 2017.

There were 86 memberships in 2017 and 162 memberships in 2018. And there were 130 individual members in 2017 and 247 individual members in 2018.

And ROCC membership revenue also increased substantially from \$2,315.25 in 2017 to \$4,129.70 in 2018.

ROCC Talks and Spaghetti Dinner – Kate Kellogg

See report below.

ROCC Talk Report – Annual Meeting, 2018

The February ROCC Talk will now be the Spaghetti Dinner, February 21, at the Ouray Community Center with featured speaker Ellen Lapham of the American Climbers' Science Program.

Val Szwarc has suggested a showing of the film "Saving the Dark" for an April ROCC Talk at the Sherbino. He plans to invite speakers from the Black Canyon Astronomy Society who would show some of their astrophotography. We have reserved Friday, April 5 with the Sherbino for this event since Val said that is the best evening for the speakers.

A ROCC Talk on water conservation and management with a panel of regional water use experts would likely take place in June. Anyone interested in this talk is welcome to help organize and recruit panel members.

Public Lands – Jim Stephenson

1. GMUG

Scott Armentrout has left his position and a new inter-room director has taken his place.

The draft EIS is due out in the late spring or early summer of next year.

2. San Juan Wilderness Bill

The bill passed the senate committee and went to mark up in the committee, and then Senator Gardiner had some reservations about the bill. So, the bill is stalled right now.

The Baldy area in the Wilderness Bill maybe a problem.

3. Ouray Ice Festival

The festival will be held January 27 to 29.

ROCC will have a table with a tent to distribute information about the San Juan Wilderness Bill and to have attendees sign postcards in support of the bill.

We need volunteers to man the table.

Western Colorado Alliance – Al Lowande

Emily Hornback, as the new Executive Director, has done a wonderful job, and WCA will probably be in the black financially at the end of the year.

This coming Monday is the WCA Board Retreat at which the Board will be writing a draft platform.

The Youth Voter Registration Initiative in Montrose, Mesa and Garfield Counties was very successful.

WCA is also working on the Methane Wastage Rule, local food and agriculture, and public lands.

WCA will be sending out year-end donation letters soon, so please consider donating to WCA.

WCA will need a new Treasurer, since Dudley Case will be stepping down from his position as Treasurer.

Old Business

None

New Business - Kate Kellogg

Parking Lot Sale – May 2019

We need a coordinator for the parking lot sale. If anyone would like to volunteer please talk to Kate Kellogg or Don Swartz.

Request for sign on Highway 550 to limit trucks' compression braking

Ridgway's noise ordinance doesn't deal with truck compression braking down the hill on Hwy 550 north of the stop light.

Roze Evans made a motion that ROCC bring this issue before the Ridgway Town Council and ask that a no compression braking sign be installed on Hwy 550 north of the town. Carolyn Ray seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Next Business Meeting – January 17, Ridgway High School at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.