



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2017

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (BoD) of the Collegiate Peaks Chapter of Trout Unlimited (CPC) was held at Mt. Shavano Manor meeting room, Salida, CO on January 14, 2017. The meeting notice was sent out to all members in accordance with Chapter bylaws. Keith Krebs opened the meeting at 9:18 am.

### **Board Member Attendees:**

Officers: Keith Krebs, Blake Fanning, Jerry Wright, Tom Arnot

Board Members: Bill Perrill, Fred Rasmussen, Gene Milus, Mike Perry

The minimum number of board members was in attendance to constitute a quorum.

**Other attendees:** Pam Simpson, Jim Impara, Barbara Plake, Dick Isenberger, Reed Dils, Karen Dils, Norm Lastovica, Andrew Mackie (CCC),

## **1. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

- a. Special Board of Director's meeting needed to vote on a few time-critical items.
- b. Introduction of Andrew Mackie, Executive Director of the Central Colorado Conservancy (CCC – formerly LTUA). He presented an update on the South Arkansas River restoration projects:
  - In 2010 CCC partnered with CPC to start work on the South Arkansas River corridor. Fred Rasmussen was one that was pushing this – the South Arkansas was getting little attention.
  - South Arkansas assessment was done – it is available on CCC website
  - Recently completed the section west of US 285 bridge in Poncha Springs. This was on a publically owned easement (GOCO). Engaged HydroGeo from Buena Vista to do in-stream work. Fixed several areas – created fish habitat, restructured stream bed. Still need to do the riparian strip, shading, bank stabilization and planting in the spring. Volunteers will be needed. This completes about 2,600 LF of river. A recent article in the Mountain Mail highlighted this work and got some good press for CPC with quotes from Keith Krebs.
  - The Natural Resources Conservation Service has connected CCC with a landowner west of Poncha Springs – Post Office Ranch. There is about a mile of river on this property. The owner rents cabins. HydroGeo is contracted to do some work on this parcel.
  - The long term plan is to work with other landowners to connect these stream improvements with projects in Salida. Work becomes tougher as you approach Salida – more urban, limited space. Ecosystem Learning Center project (ELC – formerly SARELC) site is next – located behind the Hampton Inn. There is a new bridge and access path built for the 2015 concert between the Hampton Inn and Ford dealership. The ELC site is just upstream of this bridge.
  - Regarding the Ecosystem Learning Center project, funding is still short. Phase I planning is more extensive – studies needed. Project will encompass both ecological restoration and addition of educational facilities.
  - At the completion of Phase II - Implementation of ELC, the result will be a long term study site for both youth and adults to learn about and document watershed health, ecological restoration and stewardship. Project is a partnership between CPC, CCC, GARNA and SCC.
  - CCC is working with various property owners to try to link all projects for a continuous restored river corridor. Ideally, large sections would be permitted to minimize paperwork. City of Salida and Natural Resource Center Development Corp (NRCDC) have been the most difficult to work with. Might need

to form a coalition. The waterfront is arguably the most important natural resource portion of the Vandaveer Ranch property.

- Also looking at the confluence of the South Arkansas and main Arkansas. The west side is subject to development but the owner is willing to work with CCC. There is an obsolete weir that blocks fish passage and needs to be removed. This could result in opening spawning habitat in the South Arkansas.
- Blake Fanning asked about the water quality on the South Arkansas. Andrew Mackie responded that it is generally very good. Sediment load can be high at times and there is some bacterial contamination in places at times but nitrates, heavy metals and phosphates are all good. Keith Krebs noted that there is a healthy population of macro-invertebrates present at the ELC site. CCC has talked with some developers and landowners upstream of Poncha Springs to get them to be more aware of contamination sources and try to mitigate their impacts on the river.
- Keith Krebs asked what the conservation easement process/time frame is, specifically for the SCC. Andrew Mackie indicated that you might be able to get one for this property. It is somewhat complicated.
- Gene Milus asked if it complicates things if you can only work on one side of the river. Andrew Mackie responded that work is much easier if you can access both sides. The river was straightened in the 1970s when there were no regulations restricting what you could do. As a result, the river actually dries out at times and there was no holding water for fish. They try to put the flow back into the center of the river and create holding water for fish so they have somewhere to go during low flows. At the ELC site, the owner on the opposite side of the river has given us access to work in the past.
- Andrew Mackie noted that you don't NEED to have a conservation easement to do restoration but it does provide for more control and also allows for some additional funding sources that are only available for conservation easements. Property owners are often agreeable to do this – it does increase property values but also puts some restrictions on what an owner can do. We will need a written agreement with the property owner across from ELC before restoration work can begin. It is legal to have lawns right up to the river, cattle can graze on the bank and in the river, people do harden banks without the necessary COE permit. There are setbacks for residential construction that are supposed to be addressed in the permitting process.
- Keith Krebs noted that CPC did contribute \$3,000 to CCC for last year's efforts. Overall budget was \$26,000.

## **2. NEW BUSINESS: Keith Krebs opened the Board of Directors Meeting at 9:55 am**

### **a. Scholarship Committee Recommendations – Barbara Plake**

- Four applications were received for Spring 2017 CPC-TU Scholarships. All four applicants are previous recipients of CPC scholarships. Recommendations from the Scholarship Committee are to provide scholarships as follows:
  - Adam Beede, senior at WSCU, continuing scholarship amount of \$2,000
  - Amy Harmon, senior at WSCU, continuing scholarship amount of \$2,000
  - Trent Peterson, junior at WSCU, continuing scholarship amount of \$1,000
  - Graham Bachmann, junior at CSU, continuing scholarship amount of \$1,000 (Chaffee County resident)
- Bill Perrill asked if the Scholarship committee had considered awarding the four scholarships in equal \$1,500 amounts. Barbara Plake indicated that they did consider this but didn't want to reduce the amount previously awarded to the two seniors. Dick Isenberger said that the scholarship committee feels a higher level of support is warranted for the two seniors.
- Fred Rasmussen motioned that we provide the scholarships as recommended by the Scholarship Committee. The motion was seconded by Tom Arnot and passed without dissent.

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- b. Arkansas River Basin Water Forum – Sponsorship and participation – Keith Krebs
  - CPC was a \$500 Reservoir level sponsor for this event last year. Keith Krebs and Reed Dils attended the event last year. Keith feels we should continue at the same level this year. There is a \$250 sponsor level available and several higher levels.
  - The event for 2017 will be held April 26-27 in El Paso County.
  - Fred Rasmussen motioned that the Chapter sponsor the ARBWF at the \$500 Reservoir level. The motion was seconded by Bill Perrill and passed without dissent.
- c. Approve Friends of Brown's Canyon listing – Reed Dils
  - Friends of Brown's Canyon have updated their website and want to list CPC as a partner. Only involves a listing on the website with a link to our site. No financial commitment required.
  - Bill Perrill motioned that we allow the listing on the Friends of Brown's Canyon website. The motion was seconded by Blake Fanning and passed without dissent.
- d. Banquet Committee Revisions – need BoD vote to approve:
  - Ticket prices for adults raised to \$30 (\$35 at door)
  - Age for youth tickets (\$15) lowered to 12 years
  - Sponsorship Levels increased 25%:
    - Silver = \$125
    - Gold = \$250
    - Platinum = \$375
    - Titanium = \$500
  - Need to reprint sponsor/donor forms due to these changes. Will also update logo, chapter name and web address on these forms. (Vote not required for this item – already a printing budget established)
  - Fred Rasmussen motioned that the above changes be accepted. The motion was seconded by Blake Fanning and passed without dissent.
- e. Letter of Support for AHRA grant application (3-D model for Fry-Ark and VFMP)
  - Last year a 3-D paper maché model was built to allow kids to model flows for the Fry-Ark and VFMP. They want to build a more durable model and are applying for a grant. CPC to provide a letter of support – Keith Krebs to write.
- f. Greg Policky retiring in February 2017 – Should CPC recognize his service somehow?
  - Discussion about honoring him at the Caddis Festival banquet somehow. Need to make sure he will be there – it is better to honor him at the Caddis Festival due to a larger audience than a member meeting.
  - Reed Dils noted that Steve and Tracy Craig received a nice mounted trout that was a nice gift – maybe something similar.
  - Keith Krebs and Pam Simpson will coordinate as part of Banquet planning.
- g. CPC-TU representative to attend CTU Board Meeting on Saturday, January 21st in Englewood
  - Keith Krebs is an automatic board member but cannot attend this year – any other interest?
  - Suggestion was made to contact Steve Craig and see if he will be attending and could vote Keith's proxy.

### 3. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 10:14 am by acclamation.