

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
August 18, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Mike Corbin, Jim Greuel, Judy Jacks, Shannon Keigan, Alan Meyer, Bob Meyer, Wendy Nicastle, Meg Parmer, Margaret Shaklee, Daryl Smith, and Kevin Cannon (USFS Liaison).

Board Members absent: Gerry Cashman, Jamie McCue, and Mike Smith.

Advisory Board Members: Jerry Hanley, Karl Ritters, Jim Shaklee, and Garin VanDeMark.

PWV Members: Jeanne Corbin, Vicki Fisbeck, and Celia Walker.

PWV Guests: Charlie Hoffman.

AGENDA. The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES. The June and July minutes were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A) CHAIR REPORT. Alan Meyer reported on the **6-day trail maintenance patrol** to the Rawahs, going north to south. Eight members started, with 5 coming out on the third day (David Bye, Dave Cantrell, Jeanne Corbin, Lucas Hayne, Caitlin Zacharias); and the other 3 staying out the full 6-day patrol (Mike Corbin, Joan Kauth, Alan Meyer). One hundred twenty-seven (127) trees were cleared. Three (3) trees were left due to bad weather and exhaustion, 2 of which were step-overs, and 1 was across the trail about 6 feet off the ground. We learned there will be a **special hunting season** September 4-10, where 8 in-state and 2 out-of-state licenses have been granted for mule deer, and above 10,000 feet only. Kevin will send out notices to members of the hunting seasons. **PWV Website and other:** We handed out PWV cards to most backpackers we encountered, several of whom were already familiar with the PWV website, having used it to plan their trips and commenting on its ease of use. Karl Ritters gave a brief, but interesting, report of his backpack trip in the Rawahs at about this same time. Celia Walker reported on her and John Moreland's 3-day Wild52 backpack trip to Blue/Hang Lakes. They found and disposed of more than 15 fire rings; and, with the help of the DeLorme InReach Explorer, were able to reunite an owner with a dog missing for 2 days. Kudos to the 10-12 year-old camper, Kate M., who found the dog.

B) USFS REPORT--Flood and Trail Status. **North Fork** is currently open to hikers while repairs continue; finishing puncheon bridges and some rocks to allow stock on upper trail; lower trail needs minor rail work on pedestrian bridge; gravel to be placed in a few areas; waiting for stringers to complete new bridge for Cheley Camp. **Crosier Mountain Trails** are open. Quick repairs were done in 2014, with more thorough repairs to be done 2017, which should take about 5 to 7 days. **Hewlett Gulch** is open, but early 2015 rains caused more damage; and we are making modifications, as time allows. **Young Gulch** is closed, but work is progressing. We have half mile built and hope to finish another quarter mile this year, with our main effort shifting to 2017. This

project will go through 2018 and even into 2019. **Lion Gulch** is closed. More work is needed to finish bridges and upper part of trail, which is being worked on. About a month of trail work and the bridges will need to be done before opening the trail; hope to finish and open this trail in early summer 2017. **Homestead Meadows**. The Pierson Park side of Homestead Meadows was completely washed out and is unusable; one option is a new route, which has been preliminarily scouted. Need to start NEPA when and if it is approved in the 2017 Program of Work (POW). **Fox Creek** is closed, but we are still hoping to get up there this year for recon. No public ROW; O/G (Cheley) is under permit to use this trail, and we are obligated under the permit to maintain ties into RMNP trail system. **West Creek** is closed, but will try to get up there next year for recon. No public ROW from Forest Service; ties into RMNP trail system. **Bulwark Ridge Trail** is open. Quick repairs were completed in 2014, with more thorough repairs to be done 2017, which should take about 10-15 days. (All estimates of days needed based on 2 experienced seasonals, with 6 volunteers.)

C) TREASURER'S REPORT. The Treasurer's report was shown on overhead at the meeting, and will be sent to all Board members. We have \$14,784 in the operating checking accounts, plus \$21,036 in restricted funds, for a total of \$35,821 (in addition to the \$25,000 BOD directed reserve). Bob noted that payment for restoration work crews has not yet occurred. We have \$14,000 in Endowment Savings at Home State Bank (BYP proceeds have yet to be donated to the PWV Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado--the Endowment Committee meeting is Monday). Current value of the Endowment Fund is \$44,950, but with the BYP proceeds, the initial goal of reaching \$50,000 for the fund has been reached! Since the last Board meeting, we received additional grocery coupon rebates of \$265 in July, for a to-date total of \$1973. The only significant expense was Jim Gruel's LNT course fee of \$845. We have two pending NWSA invoices for reimbursement for uniforms/maps and Jim's LNT course fee which together total \$4,450. These reimbursement funds essentially will be available to help fund PWV operations for 2017.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A) OFFICE CREW. Margaret Shaklee, PWV Office Crew member, recognized office crew members, Charlie Hoffman, Vicki Fisbeck, Mindy Cooper, Nancy Hicks, Liz Manes-Ruhl, Jamie McCue, Dennis McKernan, Jim Michalka, and Gayle Vancil, for their outstanding work--they show up, support PWV and each other, do a multitude of tasks consistently and timely, and lots more, and have great attitudes.

B) SPRING TRAINING 2017. Alan Meyer reminded that 2017 Spring Training will be moved back to the weekend before Memorial Day, which is the weekend of the Poudre High School graduations. It is still undecided whether we will use the Boy Scout or Cub Scout Camp.

C) FUND DEVELOPMENT. Judy Jacks and Shannon Keigan reported we will have Safeway grocery cards on Monday and they will be in the PWV cabinet. They are working on the year-end letter, and working with the Endowment Committee on soliciting funds from and incorporating Colorado Gives. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed** as follows:

SHANON KEIGAN has agreed to serve as Chair of the Fund Development Committee, replacing Judy Jacks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) MENTOR TRAINING DOCUMENTATION: Patrols Not Counted; Modification of Language in Training Documents. The language in these documents was approved by the Executive Committee on July 27, 2016. (No quorum at the July Board meeting.) Here a review and motion:

Current Situation: In *PWV Mentor Patrol Guidelines & Checklist*, under *During the Mentoring Patrol-General Guidelines*, it is stated “If you are hiking a trail that is deemed hazardous by USFS, it is a requirement to do a radio check-in or send a check-in/OK message with a SPOT or InReach satellite communicator at your turnaround point . . . If you don’t check out a radio or SPOT when patrolling any of the designated hazardous trails and report back as required to the USFS, the patrol WILL NOT COUNT. See Appendix B – Trail Patrol priorities . . .”

Board Discussion: Required check-in on hazardous trails must continue to be emphasized to PWV members. We should educate members on this requirement as opposed to being punitive if member does not check in. There is no mechanism for tracking or enforcing whether members check in on hazardous trails. Some members have their own SPOT or InReach devices so requiring a device check-out should not be a requirement. The “patrol WILL NOT COUNT” shows up only in mentor documents, is not otherwise documented, and is not an approved policy.

Executive Committee Motion: In *PWV Mentor Patrol Guidelines & Checklist*, under the section *During the Mentoring Patrol--General Guidelines*, **change this bullet point:**

“If you are hiking a trail deemed hazardous by USFS, it is a requirement to do a radio check-in or send a check-in/OK message with a SPOT or InReach satellite communicator at your turnaround point . . . If you don’t check out a radio or SPOT . . . and report back . . . to USFS, the patrol WILL NOT COUNT. See Appendix B – Trail Patrol Priorities . . .”

to the following:

“If you are hiking a trail that is deemed hazardous by the USFS, it is a requirement to do a radio check-in or send a check-in/OK message with a SPOT or InReach satellite communicator at your turnaround point in the patrol. See the Field Guide Appendix on Patrol Priorities for a list of hazardous trails.”

B) FIELD GUIDE: Proposed Direction/2017 Ownership. Moved to September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A) USFS RECERTIFICATION FOR PWV MEMBERS. Kevin Cannon explained that voluntary groups are required to have a recertification program, but PWV has none. He showed the certification essentials on overhead slides. It requires hiking 4 miles, with a 15-lb pack. He explained the training tools, website use/refresher, review ART, regulations, ethics, reports--all needed for the refresher, per USFS, for patrol contacts and safety. *All of this is required for hikers and stock riders, with recertification every 5 years; but not required for AGLs.* There was lots of discussion on how to handle PWV recertification, which starts 2017, and how to handle members not able to meet the criteria.

B) NWSA GRANT and PWV GPS CAPABILITY. Alan Meyer noted the NWSA grant included funds to purchase a high-res GPS device (Trimble R1) and accessories. Some of this equipment has been purchased, but we now need volunteers to go on patrols to collect the data--the member originally planning to do this work has had to back out; and a report is due to NWSA in October on the results of this work. There was a discussion on whether we should try to find members to collect this data by the end of September or whether we need to return the grant funds to NWSA. The decision was made to move forward with collecting data. Kevin committed that USFS personnel could collect some data with this equipment; and Alan will contact PWV members with an interest in GPS (names provided by Margaret Shaklee) to see if we could pull together a small GPS team.

C) PWV WEBTEAM UPDATE--NEEF GRANT. Alan Meyer reported the work for this grant cannot be completed by August 16, though a couple of things have been completed and the big item has been started. We received a 6-month extension, but Alan will likely not have a chance to look at this during the first 4 months of this extension due to other priorities. We will likely need to either ask for another extension or return the unused funds to NEEF.

D) BOARD RESOLUTION ON NEW BOOKKEEPER. A motion was made, seconded, and passed as follows:

Effective August 1, 2016, SANDY STICKEN is approved to assume the duties of PWV bookkeeper.

E) BOARD RESOLUTION ON NEW SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING Co-CHAIRS. A motion was made, seconded, and passed as follows:

Effective August 18, 2016, JACKIE PICARD and LAURIE LANDOLT are approved to be the co-chairs of the Supplemental Training Committee.

F) YEAR END EVENT. Alan Meyer reminded this event is scheduled for *Sunday, October 16, 2016, at the Sundance.* He asked what might be the core theme; needs a team to plan the program; and asked what we might cover, or not cover; and should we cover recertification? Sandy Erskine will handle member recognition, Margaret Shaklee will handle the community tables, and Celia Walker and Meg Parmer will handle logistics. The YEE is also the October Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Meg K. Parmer, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **September 15, 2016, 6:30 p.m.**

*The prior month's minutes which were approved by the Board,
are posted on the PWV Website at:*

<http://pwv.org/news-and-information/organization-news>