

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
July 19, 2018 – 6:30 – 8:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Tom Adams, Janet Caille, Jeff Dean, Elaine Green, Jim Greuel, Bob Meyer, Randy Ratliff, Linda Reiter, Margaret Shaklee, Holly Young, Jim Zakely, and Kevin Cannon (USFS Liaison).

Board Members absent: Jack Morgan, Mike Reynolds and Celia Walker.

Advisory Board Members: Dave Cantrell, Mike Corbin, Jerry Hanley, Alan Meyer, Karl Ritters, Jim Shaklee, and Mark Snyder.

PWV Members, Other: Peter Skiba.

PWV Guests: Rebecca Niemiec. Rebecca is a new assistant professor in the Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Department at Colorado State University. She is interested in citizen engagement and environmental stewardship and is also interested in partnering potentially with PWV. She likes the PWV model and what PWV accomplishes. She will be teaching a course on Public Relations for national research management, a community engaged learning course. Students will be doing projects on environmental stewardship. Rebecca is interested in what motivates volunteerism and what keeps people coming back. Chair Randy Ratliff thanked Rebecca for attending and for her introduction.

AGENDA. The agenda was adopted as amended.

MINUTES. The June minutes were approved as amended.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A) CHAIR REPORT. Randy Ratliff brought up **Member Relations Chair**. Randy had asked a couple of members to serve as Chair but neither was able to comply. Randy reached out to 4 other members but hasn't heard from any of them. The Chair needs to be filled with the Year End Event approaching quickly. The question was asked if Jan Creager is still willing to own the Hospitality portion but Randy feels this is not likely. The immediate need is to set criteria for YEE awards. Last year's outline of awards was focused on looking at desired PWV behaviors.

Randy explained at the June meeting, our motion was for Newsletter Chair and not the existing Poudre Trails Newsletter Chair and asked for the below, clarifying motion. The following motion was made, seconded and passed:

Move that the Poudre Trails Newsletter Committee be eliminated in that it has been replaced by the Newsletter Committee

B) PAST CHAIR REPORT. Margaret Shaklee had no report.

C) CHAIR ELECT. Tom Adams said the first nominating committee was held prior to the July Board meeting.

D) USFS REPORT. Kevin Cannon reported that **Young Gulch** is close to completion. The trail is roughed in except for the last ½ mile. Work is beginning on the first bridge, drilling holes in the steel I-beams. Kevin said 8 people will be needed to move each I-beam. In August, the plan is to start on the abutments for the first bridge and then get ready for the second bridge. Young Gulch will still not likely open until next year, but is looking much better for that time frame.

The **Rocky Mountain Conservancy Conservation Corps** worked for two weeks putting in ¾ mile of roughed in trail. Kevin expressed thanks for the Rawah trip and all the work done on that trip by PWV members on that trip. Kevin thanks it's possible that we might get every trail open in the Rawah this year.

On Sept. 16, Kevin said we have a request from the USFS to have some of our Photo Video team on Young Gulch. A **Wild and Scenic Rivers** event will be held on the 16th of September in the canyon. Three events are planned for that day. The public will be allowed on Young Gulch for the first 1.5 miles, and must sign a waiver to access. There will be people along the trail to talk about the trail restoration that has occurred. A second event will be at Skin Gulch, off of Stove Prairie Road. Cleaning is occurring at the shooting site which is supposed to be closed. The third event is a willow planting on a piece of private land where the stream bed is eroding. In the afternoon of the 16th at 2:30 or 3:00 p.m. there will be an event at Mishawaka. There will be a guest speaker, two bands plus transportation via bus all for \$12.50 per person. The Coalition for Poudre River Watershed will be there. Many things are going on for the 50th anniversary of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Bill. The request for the video team pertains to Young Gulch and the activities there. When asked if trail maintenance people need to be there also, Kevin said Nate is arranging and Mike Corbin should talk to him. Money for the Mishawaka does not go to the USFS, but is for use of the Mishawaka facilities and bus transportation.

Kevin said there had been concern that **Crown Point** road timber project (closed at Salt Cabin currently) had potentially gone into the Wilderness, but thankfully that was not the case. Kevin is working to make sure the same issue does not occur near the Zimmerman trailhead. The hope is to complete the timber project along Crown Point road this year.

Kevin said **Mike & Jeanne Smith** are the hosts at Stubb Creek this year and said they have really improved the site. He applauded the Smiths and said it looks the best he has seen.

Concerning other trails, Kevin said Long Draw is open. Granite Ridge is still closed but will possibly open before the end of August. Deadman Tower is open.

E) TREASURER'S REPORT. Bob Meyer went through the **Income and Expense** statement showing our first 6 months, January through June 30th, Actual versus Budget. Bob discussed fields he had highlighted in yellow which he thought would be of interest to the Board. Column H on the spreadsheet shows actual expenses to date. The Budget is in Column J. Anything overspent is reflected in red. For Spring Training, we underspent \$1240.05, most of which would have been spent on Training Manuals. LNT is under budget due to the LNT training slot for September for which PWV will receive NWSA reimbursement from the WSP grant. Confirmation should occur soon. Year End Event monies have not been spent yet. Only one member has applied for an InReach subsidy reimbursement. Not much has been spent yet on Arrowhead Lodge restoration. Jim Casadevall is in charge of this and has been recently planning so expenses will be forth coming. Kevin said additional paint supplies have been found

recently, so not as much may be needed. Bob pointed out that Administration is currently \$743.07 under spent because PWV hasn't paid Survey Monkey yet. Margaret Shaklee explained that our bill is likely not due for another couple of months.

Regarding PWV's **Financial Position**, Bob showed a comparison of this year to last year. Our unrestricted cash is down \$15,620.99. This is due to the \$8,487.69 we have spent for Photo/Video equipment but have not yet received reimbursement for from NWSA. Some discussion was held on why Photo Video equipment was listed as Fixed Assets when not everything else, i.e., trail maintenance equipment, etc., is listed. Bob explained that many things are now an off book inventory and beyond accounting for each small item. Such items are not typically listed in General Accounting Practices. These items are typically tracked now via individual committees. Photo equipment is covered because it is a current, significant investment. Bob wants our financial statement to reflect an appropriate value that would be helpful in viewing to significant donors and/or the IRS. The following motion was made, seconded and passed.

Move to approve the July financial report as presented.

Jerry Hanley added that PWV still has several thousand dollars that can be potentially distributed from the Endowment Fund. This money is available for projects. No one has yet submitted an idea for a grant application. Jerry asked for anyone with financial needs to please submit a request to Margaret Shaklee.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A) RECERTIFICATION Committee. Jeff Dean wanted to do a numerical recap regarding the 73 survey letters that were sent out to potential PWV Recertifying members. Seventeen members deferred to 2019 and 9 didn't respond. Jeff and Kevin estimate we have about 72 people to recertify for next year. Kevin will be meeting with the CLRD Ranger to get further decisions on timelines for recertifying (e.g., any member joining pre 2010, needs to complete recertification by 2019). In 2018, 25 people recertified as participants plus 16 AGLs totalling 41 recertified. About 80 people have recertified to date. Kevin felt recertification has been very valuable especially for our older members. Jeff gave feedback from 14 who chose to leave PWV, giving some of the following reasons:

- Want to patrol with their spouse
- PWV is not as friendly as we used to be; social events are a veiled fund raiser
- One person on a backpacking trip for a week received notes from the Trail Patrolling Committee that her reports weren't perfect or getting an automated response for being late on submitting
- One person said it was time to move on; will be hiking as much as ever, just not with PWV
- A stock person was not happy with the stock program
- Two members moved out of state
- Two members had time conflicts
- One person can't physically patrol any more
- One person said there's too much bureaucracy.

For next year, Jeff feels it's best to send out the email. For those not responding, he will call. Randy asked that we consider the feedback and rectify if possible. Some discussion was held on patrol reports, i.e., fun facts on patrolling in the Newsletter. Kevin has in the past sent out suggestions like this from the Trail Patrolling Committee. Alan Meyer thought the multiple day backpack issue had been addressed already by Joan Kauth. Alan pointed out that no one said they didn't want to recertify but that other issues were prompting them to leave PWV. Most members aren't doing their 6 patrols. The suggestion was made to emphasize the need for good reporting for both PWV & the USFS at the preview events and that the numbers have to be as close to perfect as possible. The intent of the Trail Patrolling Committee is to make the information as useful as possible. It was also mentioned that our fund raisers are not veiled.

B) AD HOC WEED COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS. Randy Ratliff mentioned that committee members (David Bye, Bob Drage, Alan Meyer, Jack Morgan, Margaret Shaklee, and Jim Shaklee) have worked very hard and come up with some very thoughtful ideas. Randy expressed thanks to the committee members and then read through the Weed Committee recommendations, as copied below:

Background

The PWV Weed Program was established in 2007.

The PWV Weed Program's mission is: To protect native plants, animals, and ecosystems using noxious weed training, education, detection, and removal.

Since 2008, the PWV Weed Program's primary goals have been to:

- 1) **Train** its members, and all PWVs, to identify selected noxious weed species during routine trail patrols and to report their locations and abundances.*
- 2) **Educate** PWVs and the public about the ecological and economic threats posed by noxious weeds and the recommended treatments to control and eradicate different weed species.*
- 3) **Conduct** targeted weed treatment projects (aka weed pulls), with the guidance of Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) weed staff, to help control and eradicate noxious weeds within the District.*
- 4) **Share** information regarding weed distributions and abundances on trails patrolled by PWV and the details of all Weed Crew weed treatment projects with CLRD and Larimer County weed staff to ensure transparency, close coordination, and cooperation among PWV and these two entities.*

Since 2007, the PWV Weed Program has:

Trained all new recruits how to identify and treat 5 target weed species.

Provided advanced weed training for 191 different PWVs via the 22-species weed training class.

Conducted 285 weed pulls (224 different PWVs participating; 6,482 volunteer hrs).

In 2018 the PWV Board of Directors established an ad hoc committee to review the activities and accomplishments of the PWV Weed Program and make recommendations regarding the Program's structure, leadership, operations, and future role within PWV.

Ad Hoc Committee Findings and Recommendations

The ad hoc committee believes that:

- a) *The mission and goals espoused by the PWV Weed Program since its creation (see above) are clearly stated, appropriate, and likely beneficial to the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD), and should continue to guide the PWV Weed Program's activities [Kim Obele - the most recent CLRD weeds specialist - and Kevin Cannon have consistently indicated that PWV's Weed Program makes important contributions to help the CLRD meet its noxious weeds goals and objectives and they would like to see PWV's Weed Program continue its weed activities].*
- b) *Noxious weeds are a significant threat to the integrity and function of natural plant (and animal) communities in the CLRD.*
- c) *The PWV Weed Program can and should continue to play a significant role in training all PWVs to look for, recognize, document, report, and treat noxious weeds when they are observed on PWV patrols.*
- d) *Members of the Weed Program (and all PWVs) should inform the public about the negative economic and ecological impacts weeds have on public lands and steps private citizens can take to minimize such effects.*
- e) *The PWV Weed Program should continue targeted weed treatments ("weed pulls") in cooperation and coordination with ongoing weed control and eradication efforts by the CLRD and the Larimer County Weed program.*
- f) *The PWV Weed Program should continue to document its weed control efforts and should share information regarding its weed education and control efforts with the CLRD and the Larimer County Weed program.*

The ad hoc Committee asks the PWV Weed Program to consider the following recommendations:

Structure, Leadership, Operations

- 1) *Pilot a team-based approach, not a "Committee" with a single chair) to PWV's noxious weed efforts (training, education, treatment, and documentation) with multiple team leaders.*
- 2) *Make weed pulls and "weed training patrols" more attractive and accessible to a wide variety of volunteers considering their individual physical capabilities.*
- 3) *Consider implementing overnight weed pulls in situations where weeds are 4-5 miles from TH.*
- 4) *Develop better mechanisms to instill passion for eliminating weeds as well as confidence in identifying weeds.*
- 5) *Increase member participation and enthusiasm by: a) decreasing the duration and/or intensity of weed pulls (build-in more rest breaks and time for interactive discussion/training), and increasing support by documenting the hike/ride distance to each weed pull location, and providing incentives at some or all weed pulls (e.g., refreshments).*
- 6) *Encourage stock patrollers to participate in "weed training patrols" and weed pulls.*
- 7) *Coordinate weed training and education with other organizations wherever possible.*
- 8) *Make more effective use of social and print media to communicate noxious weeds educational and recruitment efforts.*

Train its members, and all PWVs

- 9) *Include 5-species weed training in both AGL and Mentor training sessions (field and/or classroom) so that all AGLs and mentors can competently train new recruits about noxious weeds [incl. review Noxious Weeds chapter in PWV Training Manual].*

- 10) *Establish the option of “weed training patrols” (analogous to LNT training patrols) that include weed identification and some weed pulling. These training patrols should be scheduled later in the season, when all life history stages are present and identification of the noxious weeds is easier.*
- 11) *Where possible, conduct “weed training patrols” in areas that include several weed species.*
- 12) *Allow new recruits to participate in one “weed training patrol” – which would count as one of the initial 6 patrols – during their first year in PWV. NOTE that this option must be approved by the PWV BOD.*
- 13) *Assist the Photo/Video Committee in developing an educational noxious weeds video.*
- 14) *Promote themes such as “weed of the month” via pwv.org and/or in PWV eNewsletter*
- 15) *Rather than introducing all five target weeds at once, consider introducing families of weeds, together with look-alikes, until the trainees feel comfortable with their ability to make the necessary distinctions when this approach seems appropriate. Once this is established, other weeds or families can be introduced. Ideally all weeds should be identified in the field.*

Educate PWVs and the public

- 16) *Coordinate with David Cantrell and NWSA to follow-up last year's climate change weed webinar with a new production focused more on the challenges of running a viable noxious weed program in volunteer organizations like PWV.*
- 17) *Sponsor/conduct an annual PWV Affiliation Gathering focused on the ecological impacts of noxious weeds on native plants, animals and ecosystems and the economic impacts of weeds and weed treatments.*

Conduct targeted weed pulls

- 18) *Emphasis on weed infestations in designated Wilderness (and nearby areas)*
- 19) *Maintain PWV's practice of weed mitigation through mechanical means rather than chemical*
- 20) *Emphasize PWV's noxious weed efforts in relation to the invasive species aspect of USFS Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP)*
- 21) *Coordinate weed treatments with other organizations wherever possible*

Collect, Document, and Share noxious weed information

- 22) *Develop a database reporting system (preferably within the USFS Patrolling Website) to expedite detailed weed pull (aka weed patrol) documentation and subsequent query-based retrieval of selected data.*
- 23) *Continue to share PWV weed pull and other relevant information with the CLRD Rangelands and Weeds program (and with Larimer County Noxious Weeds program) on an annual basis.*

Randy presented the first of three motions. The motion was made, seconded and passed.

Move that the PWV Weed Program (aka Weed Crew), should continue to be a major component of PWV's operations. Until and unless a single leader is identified, the Weed Program should be led by a team of two or more PWV members. In 2018, these leaders will be Bob Drage and David Bye, with Bob being the primary contact.

The following motion was made and seconded.

Move that PWV should establish “weed training patrols” (analogous to LNT training patrols) and identify them as such on the USFS Patrolling Website.

Discussion ensued on the difference between a “weed training patrol” and a “weed pull”. Randy explained that a “weed training patrol” focuses on in-field education, identifying weeds on patrol, drawing comparisons with LNT training patrols. Jim Shaklee gave further concurring explanation, saying “weed training patrols” is a training focused on weeds. Weed pulls are more head down, looking for weeds and pulling. Jim anticipates that members will get confused in signing up for “weed training patrols” versus “weed pulls”. Like LNT training patrols, one of the members on the weed training patrol will be a weed expert. When asked about a train the trainer class like LNT has, Jim referred to the 22 species training classes and the number of current leaders of weed pulls. Some discussion was also held on the training of AGLs and mentors and the point was made that some of this information is presented at the weed station. The consensus was that it would be good for AGLs and mentors to attend weed training if possible. The issue is a systemic one and should be on how we can emphasize as a culture of our organization, and can hopefully be made fun. Timelines for offering these training patrols has not yet been established. 19 weed pulls have been scheduled for the 2018 field season. The motion was called to question and passed.

The following motion was made and seconded:

Move that PWV should allow and encourage new recruits to participate in one weed pull – which would count as one of their initial 4 training and experience patrols.

Discussion ensued on whether the intent of the motion was referring to a weed pull or a weed training patrol. Consensus was the intent of the motion was a weed pull. Randy talked about the parallels with LNT training. This motion would allow a weed pull to count as one of a new member’s initial 4 experienced patrols (after the mentor patrols). The question was presented on how the scheduler could deal with the addition of a weed patrol for new members. Jim Shaklee suggested it would be easy to add one more question in the patrolling preferences to handle this.

Elaine Green proposed to amend the motion from ‘4 training and experienced patrols’ to ‘4 non-mentor patrols’ so the motion would read as follows:

Move that PWV should allow and encourage new recruits to participate in one weed pull – which would count as one of their initial 4 non-mentor patrols

The amendment was seconded and passed. The motion passed.

C) PWV WEED PROGRAM BUDGET REQUEST. Jim Shaklee brought up a request. He thought the weed program had a zero budget, but in fact realized it has a current budget of \$150. Jim said the weed program may spend \$187 to support multiple weed pull leaders. No further Board action was needed.

D) PHOTO VIDEO Committee. Peter Skiba, Photo Video Chair presented his spreadsheet identifying the new equipment and relating to the **Storage of Video Equipment,**

which is currently stored in Peter's house. The committee has identified equipment purchased, attached a label if possible, and column H of the Inventory Sheet helps ID the equipment. The inventory sheet identifies who has what equipment. Some of the items also have serial numbers that are included on the Inventory Sheet. The committee has large heavy duty cases for when the equipment needs to be in storage. Peter expects that the committee will be actively using the equipment throughout the year. Cold storage is not recommended.

Next Peter presented motions pertinent to the Photo Video equipment. The following motion was made and seconded.

Move that the BOD increase the annual budget of the Photo Video Committee in the amount of \$400 for the subscription of royalty-free audio and video and file transfer program and other video related costs.

Discussion ensued. Peter explained that the increase was needed to cover the following costs: \$100 for an annual subscription to a service like Dropbox or similar storage facility and a \$200 fee for the use of video and audio clips throughout the year. This will be an annual need. Peter has received a \$200 commitment from a Photo Video committee member for the first year. Dropbox would allow committee members to share the bigger files. This would increase the total budget to \$575. The point was made that since this is now July, the subscriptions could be potentially prorated, thus reducing the need for the total amount. Peter pointed out that members of the Photo Video committee have contributed \$200 out of their own pockets for membership fees.

Based on discussion, Peter amended the motion to reduce the amount from \$400 to \$200. The amendment was seconded and passed. The amended motion also passed.

The following motion was presented and seconded:

Move that the BOD provide one time funding for the Photo Video Committee in the amount of \$1136 for the purchase of equipment as listed on the attached request.

The suggestion was made that this might be better handled under an Endowment grant. The Photo video committee has been shooting for 6 weeks now and identified additional needs, such as a second microphone, with accompanying cable, plus two lightweight tripods, for a total of \$500.

The Endowment Committee request that went out to committee Chairs last fall specified a need of a minimum of \$2000 and since this amount was less, Peter was in a quandary about how to best submit his request for funding. The consensus of the Board was to amend the motion to give the Photo Video committee \$500 now and then address other needs through an Endowment request.

Peter amended the motion to reduce the amount requested to \$500.

Move that the BOD provide one time funding for the Photo Video Committee in the amount of \$500 for the purchase of equipment as listed on the attached request.

The amendment was seconded and passed. When called to question, the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

A) SONGSCAPE and SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING. Postponed due to time constraints.

NEW BUSINESS

A) PWV EMAIL PRACTICES. Alan Meyer suggested this be removed from future agendas and Board members can simply look at the presentation provided in the meeting materials.

B) PROPOSED NEW POLICY REQUIRING ACTIVE MEMBERS TO HAVE A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS. Alan Meyer said he will work with the Executive Committee between meetings.

C) FIVE DAY TRAIL MAINTENANCE BACKPACK IN THE RAWAHS. Alan Meyer said he will work with the Executive Committee between meetings. .

D) SUMMER SOCIAL EVENTS. Janet Caille went quickly through PWV summer social events, Midsummer Event on July 24, Pour Brothers on August 8 from 6-8 (fund raiser) and the Wild 54 Celebration on August 21, from 7-9 p.m.

The following motion was made, seconded and passed:

Move to allocate spending up to \$150 in food, drinks, paper goods, etc. for PWV Summer Social Events.

E) Wild 54. Janet mentioned the dates briefly in support of the Wild 54 Celebration.

F) LONG-TERM CHECK OUT OF SPOT UNITS. Postponed due to time constraints.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Janet Caille, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **August 16, 2018 6:30 p.m.**