

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
July 16, 2020 – 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Conference Call due to Covid-19 concerns

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Tom Adams, Mike Corbin, Elaine Green, Janis Kloster, Linda Reiter, Mike Shearer, Sandy Sticken, Bruce Williams, and Kristy Wumkes (USFS Liaison) and Jim Zakely.

Board Members absent: Bob Hansen, Katina Mallon, Jack Morgan, Karen Roth and Janet Caille.

Advisory Board Members: Fred Allen, Chuck Bell, Kevin Cannon, Dave Cantrell, Alan Meyer, Bob Meyer, Karl Ritters.

PWV Members, Other:

Guests: Jeff Randa, Katie Donahue (CLRD District Ranger)

ESTABLISHING QUORUM AND MEETING GROUND RULES. Elaine went over a few ground rules since the meeting was being held via conference call. Elaine asked everyone to please turn on their video and while the meeting is going on, to please mute their sound.

AGENDA. Elaine Green asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the agenda. Elaine added the Member Relations Committee to the agenda. The agenda was adopted.

MINUTES. Elaine asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June minutes. Seeing none, the minutes were adopted.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

(A) CHAIR REPORT. Elaine Green reminded the board members that patrolling started back on July 1. Since then there have been recorded 66 members have completed 118 patrols, with Joan Kauth completing 11.

Elaine reported that there has been a committee formed to discuss the Year End Event – if we will have one and what it will look like. Elaine, Tom Adams, Alan Myer, Mike Corbin, Renee Skiba and Celia Walker are on the committee.

Elaine announced that Kids in Nature received the Environmental Stewardship Award from Larimer County, It will be presented on August 10 and one member from PWV will be able to attend the event.

Elaine announced that Kasha Karol will no longer be the Public Outreach Chair, so She will look at the other members of the committee to see if anyone is interested or go outside the committee if necessary.

The Great American Outdoors Act is moving through Congress. Elaine reported that the Act has been approved by the US Senate, and now it has gone to the House of Representatives for voting. Money obtained to fund the Act is coming from off shore drilling. The act will fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and provide \$9.5 billion over 5 years for deferred maintenance on federal lands. The {ark service will get \$6.65 billion and the Forest Service will get \$1.4425 billion. Money will also go to the BLM, Fish and Wildlife and the Bureau of Indian education. Kevin Cannon

added that there is a back log of work that needs to be taken care of and documented in a trail maintenance inventory. He said the Act does not specify trails. He also said that once the Act is passed and approved by the Senate and the House, that the USFS has 90 days to submit their maintenance needs. Katie Donohue said the Regional Office is also working on this.

The “21st Century Conservation Corp Act for our health and our jobs” act (The Neguese Act) has also been proposed for another \$9 billion. \$6 billion would go to the Forest Service for jobs, as it is currently written. Local Conservation Corps may get some funding.

(B) CHAIR ELECT REPORT. Mike Corbin had no report.

(C) IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR. Tom Adams had no report.

(D) USFS REPORT. Kristy Wumkes, USFS Liaison, reported that in the period between July 1-13, 56 members have logged trail / patrol reports. The number of violations have increased for dogs off leash and illegal campsites. Littering on trails has decreased.

Stage 1 and Stage 2 Fire Restrictions was discussed. Charts were brought up to discuss the difference between the two stages. Stage 2 is more restrictive and it was stated this restriction is by Allenspark by Boulder Country. A map was shown that depicted exactly where this area is. Stage 2 is more restrictive: no open fires, no outdoor smoking and no fire weapons. Bruce Williams asked if there were signs posted at the trailheads to inform the public of the Stage 1 or Stage 2 restrictions. Kristy said there is not, but the USFS posts the information on the website, Twitter, News. Mike Corbin; however, announced there are signs at the trail heads. Also, there is a fire restriction sign just past Ted’s Place. It was also stated that for patrolling purposes, all trails are in Stage 1 (except the area in Allen’s Park near Boulder County).

Kristy announced that more toilets are open at areas including Poudre Park, Long Draw, Lion Gulch, Molly Lake, Blue Lake.

Katie Donohue thanked everyone for his/her patience, and she is happy to see that people are getting out to patrol. However with the number of cases of COVID-19 increasing again, things could change again and this is at the forefront of their awareness. She said they do not know what the policies for the rest of the year will look like. Katie shared that the latest briefing from the Law Enforcement reported arrests are at a very high rate. There is an extreme mixture of people: Happy people who are glad to be outdoors and angry people. She said PWV members should go with a buddy and expect angry behavior. Also, it has been reported that 15-20 campers have been seen in a spot where normally has 1 person.

Katie reported that Laura Schaffer is moving to a new position, so they are down by one more person. Kristy is the only one on the REC staff and is the person who meets with volunteers and there are 900 volunteers across the District. They are hoping to get some new people in the next couple of years. Katie is hopeful things will look up, but not yet. Alan Myer added regarding the bad behaviors and arrests, that he has met nothing but great people. Maybe the damage and behavior is found in the dispersed camping areas? Alan also asked if there was any position on getting NEPA (National

Environmental Policy Act) to reroute trails. Katie Project NEPA team specialists are spread thin on a variety of non-recreation projects, so it's unclear when there will be time for trails projects that require NEPA. Kevin Cannon was the USFS guru on this, but now it is open. Chuck Bell stated these are the same conversations and same issues we were dealing with in 1995 when PWV first got started.

(E) TREASURER'S REPORT. Sandy Sticken reported that Fred Allen submitted some receipts for the work at Stub Creek. There has not been much change in our financial picture. There was a Net Income of \$1400.00 – but this is due to Vanguard making some changes. Sandy stated that since she is showing the financials on a quarterly basis now, she will show comparisons between the quarters at the Board meetings. It was asked if the Committee chairs should present what they are now expecting to do with their money. It was suggested only the committees that need more money should come to the Board and that we don't need to ask every committee to project their EOY spending at this time.

The quarterly financials that Sandy presented at the Board were approved.

(F) SECRETARY. Janet Caille was not present at this month's meeting, so Janis Kloster prepared the Minutes. Elaine Green encouraged the Board members to promptly review the PWV Board Minutes when they are sent out for review. This will help the Secretary incorporate any changes and the final Minutes can be provided with the Agenda for the next Board meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

(A) LNT re: Trainer Course. Dave Cantrell complimented Jim Greuel and June Chapman for their high quality Leave No Trace Trainer course, conducted the last week of June. The pre-Covid format for the course was a two-day backpack. The LNT organization redesigned it as an all-virtual course. Working with the LNT organization, Jim and June designed a hybrid, with one day in the outdoors, and obtained permission from the CLRD Ranger District to conduct the day of field exercises at Molly Lake, with careful attention to safety precautions. The outdoor component added a great deal to the effectiveness of the course.

(B) Restoration. Mike Corbin stated that Restoration plans keeps changing. The college Crew has agreed to work the week of August 17. There are 6 people available to work and PWV may be able to have a second week of the crew but this is being worked by Rocky Mountain. The amount, if PWV gets the second week will be less than \$5200.00 for this crew.

(C) Member Relations (MR). Alan Meyer discussed: Member Retention; Year Event Recognition; and proposed a motion to change the Service Award policy for 2020:

Member Retention:

Alan reported that as of June 28, there were 43 members who were active in 2019 and had not submitted a volunteer agreement.

● MR is contacting these folks to remind them to rejoin or give us feedback on why they are not re-joining. [1 person said he/she was not happy with PWV".]

For 2020, MR started this process in July (after patrolling restarted)

- As of July 12
 - 5 have rejoined, 2 are not rejoining, the rest are being contacted
- 246 active members as of July 12
 - 12 Non-patrolling
 - 221 Hike
 - 27 Stock

14 Members are both Stock & Hike
Year End Event (YEE) Recognition:

For 2020:

- With uncertainty of patrolling season and possibly no YEE ...
- MR are not defining or announcing any YEE recognition categories
- MR will monitor patrol season and status of YEE
- Possibly identify activities and members to recognize in some way
- Looking at other ongoing recognitions that could be done
 - For example, running list of members reaching 100, 250, or 500 patrol days (3 members have > 500)

Service Awards

MOTION:

Change the Service Award criteria to credit members with a year of service if they have at least 1 reported patrol day or any amount of reported non-patrolling hours during the year.

This motion was presented and passed/approved by the Board.

In 2020 MR will do a one-time catch-up to give out service awards to anyone who would have received one in the past with the new criteria.

Transition:

With the new service award criteria, there will be members who will receive service awards sooner than they would have under the old criteria. And this includes members who should have received them in the past - e.g. a member who reached 5 years in 2019 but had fewer than 30 patrol days.

In 2020 we will do a one-time catch-up to give out service awards to anyone who would have received one in the past with the new criteria.

Sandy Stricken stated that she has done other work but not the 6 patrols a year and she has not received recognition. Alan will follow up with Sandy. It was stated that pins are easy to come by, so to issue pins to people who have committed to PWV each year will make everyone happy. Bruce Williams added he likes the approach Alan has presented but we still need to encourage people to do 6 patrols a year. Mike Corbin suggested making things simple gains a lot. Chuck Bell stated that if 50% of the people are not doing their 6 patrols then something is not working. Agree that if they do anything with PWV, they should get a pin. Need to encourage 6 patrols in other ways.

NEW BUSINESS.

Alan Meyer said he has put together an ad hoc review of Emergency Communications and provided charts for reference. Alan plans to pull together a small group of people for this. Message 1 currently states people will communicate at the turn around place, but Kevin suggested Message 1 is sent starting out, at the turn around point (is the key) and then when a person is back at the trail head. It was discussed also, to keep Message 1 only at the turn-around. Message 2: Kevin suggested all Fire rings need to be reported. The USFS needs to go out and assess all fire rings and to monitor the campsites in the wilderness and non-wilderness areas. Alan said he was only noting the illegal fire rings. It was asked what about when people report the illegal fire rings in the Patrol Reports and not Messaged in? It was stated that to go through

every Patrol Report looking for this information would be a major undertaking. Message 3: (non SOS help) Need a tow, car problem - > It was suggested this needs to be revisited, because it does not tell the receiver what the problem is. Is a tow needed? Is there car trouble? Someone hurt? Need to talk to Kristy about this. Kevin stated the old SPOT versus the SPOTX are different so we need to define clear instructions for the two different systems. Karl Riter asked how often have people really asked for help? SOS Kevin responded 3 SOS and 1 Help message (non-critical). Bruce Williams said he is not sure what the minimum requirement is for Message 3? Anyone who uses a SPOT or SPOTX needs to be 100% clear. He also volunteered to help be on the small group.

Next Board Meeting: **August 20, 6:30 p.m.**

Janis Kloster, *Secretary Substitute*