

Upper Yampa Watershed Steering Committee
December 5th, 2012
Routt County Conservation District, Steamboat Springs CO

Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM by Jackie Brown

Attendance:

Ben Beall, City of Steamboat Springs
Brian Hodge, Trout Unlimited
Eric Berry, Town of Yampa
Geoff Blakeslee, The Nature Conservancy and Colorado Water Conservation Board
Jackie Brown, Routt County Conservation District
Jean Ray, Interested Stakeholder
Kelly Heaney, Shell
Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Lori Jazwick, NRCS Steamboat Field Office
Marsha Daughenbaugh, Community Agriculture Alliance
Todd Hagenbuch, CSU Routt County Extension
Morgan Moss, RCCD
Lyn Halliday, Member at Large
Rick Henderson, US Forest Service
Mike Zopf, Routt County
Ken Brenner, UYWCD/Friends of the Yampa

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The group reviewed the draft memorandum of understanding between RCCD and the Upper Yampa Watershed Group, making a number of proposed revisions.

A motion to amend the following MOU items was made, seconded and passed unanimously:

·Page 2, Purpose and Scope, item #4: “Establish a **collaborative** framework to evaluate and monitor water quality and Watershed issues and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies and activities.”

·Page 2, The Routt County Conservation District will act as Sponsor and Project Coordinator as defined in the Project Implementation Plan, last item: “Coordinate and/or facilitate funding opportunities for **potential water related projects** and support the mission of the Watershed Group by acting as a forum for the potential and existing water-related projects within our boundaries.”

·Page 3, Decision Making Guidelines: “The Technical Committee will strive for consensus and make decisions based on the majority vote. A majority consists of 51% of the votes in attendance.”

Technical Committee

A discussion of the number of member that should sit on the Technical Committee was discussed. Currently, the Project Implementation Plan states there to be 3-5 members (pg. 11).

Nominations were made for the Technical Committee which included:

- Mike Zoph, Department of Health
- Ben Beall, City of Steamboat Springs
- Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservation District
- Marsha Daughenbaugh, Agricultural Alliance
- Brian Hodge, Ducks Unlimited
- Kelly Heaney, Shell Oil
- Lynn Halliday, Member at Large
- Lori Lazwick, NRCS
- Liz Schnakenburg, US Forest Service

A motion to change the number of members to represent the Technical Committee from 3-5 to 9 was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The Technical Committee members consists of those listed above.

Updates on 319 Watershed Plan

Issues were brought up concerning specifics of the Watershed Plan. Issues were tabled and it was decided this topic requires another meeting in which the Technical Committee will meet within the next month.

Data Sharing Network

The Data Sharing Network was discussed as an option for a different format than the current USGS retrospective, which is quite technical for the lay person attempting to obtain water/watershed information. A pilot project presentation through the Colorado Water Quality Monitoring Council was proposed. The group decided against a presentation for at least 6 months.

State of the Watershed Report

The State of the Watershed Report was discussed. The intent would be the presentation of the current health of the Watershed in a context that the lay person would be able to understand and participate in the public feedback process of watershed planning. The State of the Watershed Plan is currently a deliverable in the Project Implementation Project (PIP). A short discussion was had that the State of the Watershed will be funded in part by the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund (CWCB program).

Groundwater

This issue was tabled, and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05PM

Next Meeting

Technical Committee Meeting: Thursday December 13th @ 9am, RCCD Meeting Room

Minutes prepared by Morgan Moss, Routt County Conservation District