

**CWMA Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**1:00pm – 4:00pm**

In attendance: Jonathan Rife, Sheila Grother, Judy Noel, Cathy Shelton, Denny Bohon, J.R. Phillips, George Beck, Ron Mabry, Kevin Gallagher and Kathleen Fisher. Elizabeth Brown joined the board at 2:02pm.

Committee Members: Fred Raish and Sherril Rahe

Guests: Tracee Bentley, Chuck Malick and Solomon Malick with Peak Resources

Jonathan Rife called the meeting to order at 1:07pm standing in for Elizabeth Brown. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. George made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ron. There was no discussion. All in favor, motion passed.

Tracee with Peak Resources presented the legislative update along with committee chair, Fred Raish. There are two forms that the committee is asking the board to review. The first is for legislative protocol/ procedures and the other for a future agreement with the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts (CACD). The legislative protocol/procedures were reviewed. Please see report. There are still a couple of slight changes to be made on the draft, typographical errors and such, (see draft) but in essence it will remain the same. A motion was made by Jonathan to accept the protocol with the presented changes, seconded by J.R.. Discussion was opened regarding the wording of the procedures. The board amended the wording for the procedures draft. Please see final procedures draft. The first and second motions on the floor were revised to accept the amended revisions. There was no further discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

The CACD has also been working on invasive and noxious weed control for the last couple of years. Fred met with Ryan at CACD and discussed putting together a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the two organizations to form an agreement so that they are working together for the same cause instead of against each other. The draft of the MOU was distributed to the board. Please see draft. The board discussed the verbiage of the agreement and made a few small clarifications. Please see revised draft. Fred will speak with the CACD regarding the clarifications to ensure that the agreement meets the needs of both organizations. A motion was made to accept the revised MOU draft pending those changes between the CACD and the CWMA, seconded by JR. There was no further discussion. All in favor, motion passed.

George Beck presented the Champion States Initiative. Please see report. The Champion States Initiative is a bridge between CWMA's lobbying effort to secure funds for our state noxious weed program and the federal government's invasive species program. There are six focused tactics associated with CSI. The first is targeted strictly at the federal agencies – bridges from state to feds - and the goal is to increase the efficiency of spending invasive species funds from Congress. The second is the bridge from the federal agencies back to Colorado (and other western states), which is to increase pass through monies to states that then can be used for invasive species management. The third tactic also bridges back to states where we propose that the Federal Highway Administration provide \$5 million for every 15,000 center lines of highways in any given state to that state as a line item budget

for FHA. Our fourth tactic is to offer “example” laws for invasive weeds and all other invasive taxes that states that do not have such statutes can use to their advantage. The fifth tactic is to implement mechanisms to enhance funding in each western state such as Idaho’s Weed Awareness Campaign where TV and radio ads have been very successful in helping to increase public awareness and demand for action. The sixth tactic is a packet where we have defined the harm caused by invasive species so the governors can use this to educate their peers in other western states.

A motion was made by George to open the floor to an executive session to discuss possible future legislative options, seconded by Sheila. There was no further discussion, all in favor; the floor was opened for discussion.

A motion was made to close the session by George, seconded by Sheila. There was no further discussion, all in favor; the floor was closed. CWMA discussed the possible legislative efforts for 2010. A motion was made by George Beck to continue to move forward with their legislative efforts on behalf of the ideals of the CWMA board, seconded by Kevin. There was no further discussion. All in favor, motion passed.

Jonathan Rife presented the president’s report on behalf of Elizabeth Brown. Please see report. The executive director summary evaluation has been completed and has been sent to the executive director. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the CWMA board and Hughes & Stuart management maintain a working relationship. Management will look over the evaluation and contact Elizabeth with any comments or questions. Elizabeth would also like to thank all of the committee chairs and their committees for their continued hard work and remind everyone that the 2010 budget proposals are due soon, so everyone should start thinking about projects they want to do.

Sheila Grother presented the financial report. Please see report. There was additional discussion on the financial reports. A motion was made to accept the financials as presented by George, seconded by Ron. There was no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

The 2010 funding of Peak Resources was discussed. Last year the funds came out of reserves from additional calendar sales that had been earmarked for legislative issues. There was some discussion on the funding for the legislative efforts. A motion was made by Ron Mabry to continue with the Peak Resources contract into 2010, seconded by J.R.. There was no further discussion, all in favor, motion accepted. Regarding the funds for the legislative efforts the board has asked the finance committee to review the 2010 budget and make a recommendation to the board on the fund allocation to support those efforts.

The National Invasive Species Awareness Week was discussed. Typically the CWMA sends a representative to Washington to participate in this event. This year many other organizations have been forced to pull back due to the legal aspects of lobbying. The legislative committee would not recommend sending a representative to the NISAW event this year as those funds can be better spent here in the state of Colorado. A motion was

made by JR and seconded by George not to send anyone to Washington this year for NISAW. There was no further discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

Jonathan Rife presented the Annual Conference Committee report. Please see report. Jonathan has been working with Steve Blunt with the Colorado Department of Ag to try and get Aquatic credits but he has not heard back from him regarding his final decision. The final invitation was distributed to the board. A motion was made by Kevin to approve the invitation for the annual conference, seconded by J.R. There was no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Cathy Shelton presented the membership committee report. Please see report. The committee is working on a membership brochure and will present it to the board at the next meeting. The committee is also looking into an informational brochure for the association. They would like to include more member benefits so board members were asked to send their top three member benefits to Cathy to assist with the verbiage for the membership brochure. In other updates, the membership committee has looked into the dues structure and the possibility of offering a discounted member rate. The only change that they would recommend to make at this time is to add retired next to student membership for the same rate. Additionally, membership reminders will be sent out in early November and the 2010 calendars will be sent to members upon renewal.

The membership committee has also been working with Sherril Rahe and the newsletter committee to complete a membership survey that asks member's questions about their membership, who they are, what they like, what they don't like, etc. Sherril presented the results of the survey to the board, please see report. The membership committee plans on spending a lot of time with the survey results to ensure that all of the member's questions and concerns are addressed.

Sherril Rahe presented the newsletter committee report. The newsletter has been mailed out and the next newsletter is scheduled for January. Articles will be due by the end of December. For next year the newsletter committee is going to look at decreasing the number of pages and increasing the amount, back up to 4 issues per year. The committee will look into the additional costs associated with increasing the quantity and will report back to the board at the next meeting.

The nominations and membership report was presented as submitted by Russell. Please see report. Only a few nominations have been submitted. A motion was made by Judy to extend the awards and nominations deadline to November 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Kevin. There was no further discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

Judith Sirota submitted the scholarship committee report. Please see report. James Braumberg has been invited to the annual conference and hopefully will be able to give a short presentation during the awards presentation. To promote the CWMA scholarship in the future Sheila would like to have a scholarship handout to distribute to potential candidates if the committee could draft one up.

Kevin Gallagher presented the Spring Training Seminar report. Please see report. He has been reviewing the surveys from this year's conference and is trying to incorporate that feedback into this year's conference. The draft agenda is about 75% complete and he will have the tentative agenda sent out to the board by Thanksgiving.

In other new business, Kevin presented the proposal request from Mike Wilkinson regarding funding for the recycling program. The recycling program was discussed. Kevin and Elizabeth will follow-up with Mike to clarify the timeline of the recycling project and to ask him to submit a project proposal bid for the 2010 budget.

The board would also like to ensure that shipping costs are monitored to make sure that we are just covering our costs and not making a profit (right now the shipping expenses still exceed the income but the association is constantly making adjustments to ensure that only costs are being covered and income is not being accrued.

There was no further business to discuss. George made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:42pm. Seconded by Ron. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42pm.