

White River Integrated Water Initiative
Piceance Creek Reach Meeting
Rock School, May 26th, 2021, 6pm

Agenda

- 6:00pm Welcome and Introductions: White River & Douglas Creek
Kari Conservation District, Planning Advisory Committee(PAC),
 The Diversion Assessment Team, The Riparian
 Assessment Team and the White River
 Integrated Water Initiative (WRIWI)
- 6:10pm WRIWI Mission Statement and Goals
Kari
- 6:15pm Piceance Creek Reach Meeting History and Info. from
Walt last year. Piceance Creek Goals, etc.
- 6:45pm Phase II-Diversion Structure and Riparian Health
Kari Assessments, finalize planning efforts to determine
 reach goals or objectives and determine priorities to
 accomplish those goals
- 6:50pm Reach Committee involvement
Walt
- 7:00pm Q & A
Walt/Kari

Meeting Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 6:10pm.

Attendees present: Kari Brennan (Coordinator), Walt Proctor (PAC & Piceance Creek Reach Committee Chair), Susan Robinson(Land/Water Rights Owner), Sherry Robinson (Land/Water Rights Owner), Jerry Oldland (Land/Water Rights Owner), Chris Uphoff (Land/Water Rights Owner), Dan Johnson (Land/Water Rights Owner), Brooke Mantle (Land/Water Rights Owner/Water Rights Leasor), Neil Brennan (Land/Water Rights Owner/Water Rights Leasor), Jim Brennan (Land/Water Rights Owner/Water Rights Leasor), Colton Martindale (Ranch Hand), Craig Schultz (Ranch Manager).

Kari provided a welcome and introductions: White River & Douglas Creek Conservation District, Planning Advisory Committee(PAC), The Diversion Assessment Team, The Riparian Assessment Team and the White River Integrated Water Initiative (WRIWI). (See slides). Kari then discussed the WRIWI Mission Statement and Goals.

Walt introduces himself and how he has gotten involved with Piceance Creek as the Reach Committee Chair. He discussed and reviewed the status of the Piceance documents from the Jan 2020 Hanna Holms meeting, Mario Sullivan's research and excerpts, the Districts website and WRIWI newsletter, Walt's update from an

August meeting via email, diversion and riparian health assessment rubric and assessment information and offered to provide copies to those that were interested. All attendees asked for a copy. Kari will make copies or scan and email for all attendees and contact those who did not attend and provide an opportunity for them to have a copy as well.

It was confirmed that the community is still interested in proceeding but with some reservations by some. Walt got a near unanimous consensus that the Sub-committee should be the community members willing to show up at future meetings at the School. Sherry asked if future meetings would provide a “zoom” option to attend. We discussed internet options and will look into capabilities to stream meetings from the Rock School but may have to rely on in-person meetings.

Walt spoke to the grant funding that is paying for the coordinator’s positions and the assessments for Phase II. Sherry asked where the grant money came from and Walt and Neil were able to answer.

Kari Introduced Phase II-Consisting of Diversion Structure and Riparian Health Assessments as well as finalizing planning efforts to determine reach goals or objectives and determine priorities to accomplish those goals. Kari was able to show attendees a copy of the diversion assessment rubric, introduce who was on the assessment team, their expertise and what the options were with the assessment information once it has been gathered and documented. Much productive discussion and questions occurred. There were some concerns with adequate assessments right now as there has been a fair number of diversions shut off or turned down due to a recent call on the creek. Dan expressed concern with engineering options and recommendations when it comes to their

recommendations vs. the landowner/water rights holder knowing the history of the diversion and knowing what has worked best for the circumstances of the area. Some resistance for assessments was heard and some volunteers of cooperation were offered.

Kari was able to discuss the current and upcoming workshops associated with diversion structure and riparian health assessments.

Walt and Kari tried to reiterate how community driven this project was designed and will continue. Piceance Creek has the ability and power to create and drive their own goals or objectives that may work better for the area based on needs and wants of the local community. We can also invite others to these meetings if we can identify individuals with specific expertise that wish to participate.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45pm