

ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Monday, February 6, 2023

8:30 – 10:05 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Board members in attendance: Randy Moorman (Director, Arvada), Tara Winer (Director, City of Boulder), Taylor Reimann (Alternate, City of Boulder), Marni Ratzel (Second Alternate, City of Boulder), Taylor Reimann (Alternate, City of Boulder), Deven Shaff (Director, City and County of Bromfield), Ann Beierle (Alternate, Golden), Andy Kerr (Director, Jefferson County), Pat O’Connell (Alternate, Jefferson County), Ashley Witkovich (Director, Northglenn), Shelley Stanley (Alternate, Northglenn), Laura Farzim (Alternate, Northglenn), Bob McCool (Director, Superior), Jan Kulmann (Director, Thornton), Caleb Owen (Alternate, Thornton), Rich Seymour (Director, Westminster), Jeannette Hillery (Director, League of Women Voters), Linda Porter (League of Women Voters), Roman Kohler (Director, Rocky Flats Homesteaders), Murph Widdowfield (Director, RFCWM), Kim Griffiths

Stewardship Council staff members and consultants in attendance: David Abelson (Executive Director), Melissa Weakley (Technical Program Manager), Barb Vander Wall (Seter & Vander Wall, P.C)

Attendees: Andy Keim (DOE-LM), Padraic Benson (DOE-LM), Dana Santi (RSI Entech), John Boylan (RSI Entech), George Squibb (RSI Entech), Karin McShea (RSI Entech), Ryan Wisniewski (RSI Entech), Lindsey Murl (CDPHE), Lindsay Archibald (CDPHE), Rick Mruz (CDPHE), David Connolly (EPA), Nick Robles (Boulder County), Laura Hubbard (Broomfield), Rich Kondo (Northglenn), Cathy Shugarts (Westminster), Shirley Garcia, Lynn Segal, Travis Culley, Joan Seeman, Nancy Ford, Chris Allred, Rachael Lehman

Convene/Agenda Review: Jan Kulmann convened the meeting at 8:33 am.

Public Comment: Lynn Segal raised concern about Cemex bringing materials from Rocky Flats to Lyons. She is concerned about the impacts of extraction occurring on Rocky Flats.

Travis Culley said the minutes from the October 2022 meeting did not reflect the science on the flammability of sludge. Travis also said he misspoke about the RFCWM timeline and apologized to Murph Widdowfield for his comments attacking Murph.

Joan Seeman said Rocky Flats is still a Superfund site. She said the GAO made a statement that DOE personnel were not considering climate change at Rocky Flats. Joan wants her comments to be posted on the website. She also mentioned the letters from local governments about air monitoring and that the air monitoring conversations need to be ongoing.

David Connolly introduced himself as a new hire with EPA Region 8. He gave a summary of his history in environmental work. His email address is: connolly.david@epa.gov.

Business Items:

1. Elect Stewardship Council Officers for 2023

The following people expressed interest in serving:

- Jan Kulmann (Thornton) – Chair
- Deven Shaff (Broomfield) – Vice Chair
- Jeannette Hillery (League of Women Voters) – Secretary/Treasurer

Kim Griffiths moved to elect the officers above. The motion was seconded by Ashley Witkovich. The motion to accept the minutes and checks passed 13-0.

2. Adopt 2023 Meeting Schedule and Notice Provisions Resolution

David laid out the proposed dates for 2023 are:

- February 6 (first Monday of the month) – virtual
- April 3 (first Monday of the month) – virtual
- June 5 (first Monday of the month) – in person only
- September 18 (third Monday of the month) – virtual
- October 30 (last Monday of the month) – virtual

Roman Kohler moved to elect the meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Jeannette Hillery. The motion to accept the minutes and checks passed 13-0.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda included the draft October 2022 meeting minutes and checks written since that meeting. David said he corrected two typos on the minutes. Jeannette Hillery moved to approve the checks and edited minutes. The motion was seconded by Roman Kohler. The motion to accept the minutes and checks passed 13-0.

Executive Director's Report: David spoke about the ongoing interest in hybrid meetings. He said the executive committee found that hybrid meetings for a group this size do not work well. He said capturing a meeting of a big group with an OWL camera does not work well. Also, the Stewardship Council staff cannot manage the meeting and be present for Board members, even with help from an outside contractor. He also spoke about the many technical problems resulting from hybrid meetings. David explained that due to their experiences and the issues David raised, the executive committee decided to host virtual meetings for 4 out of 5 meetings. The committee was reluctant to make this change. He also said that if people who spoke in favor of hybrid are interested in returning to in-person, David asked that they let us know.

David then talked about the Stewardship Council's website, saying it is old and needs to be updated. He wants to have it redesigned and is hoping to avoid going out for an RFP.

David then discussed that the USFWS is planning to test some of the elk herd for radionuclides and PFAS. David said that that USFWS has done soil testing during trail alignment, and initial results show no issues. David said USFWS would discuss both issues at the April meeting. He reminded the Board that PFAS are not limited to Rocky Flats but are a bigger issue.

Randy Moorman had a follow-up question on the decision to not host hybrid meetings. He said there was discussion about talking with DOE about providing funding to hire an outside contractor to manage hybrid meetings. David said the problem was not money, it was managing a meeting with numerous disruptions that have become common place for these meetings, stopping meetings to address anticipated technical issues, and asking staff to both manage the meeting and help the contractor address technical issues. There is also a challenge with setting up an OWL camera in a room with so many people. Randy expressed frustration with that answer. Jan Kulmann agreed with David, saying that hybrid meetings for this type of organization are not feasible.

Host DOE Quarterly Meeting:

John Boylan gave an overview of Third Quarter 2022 monitoring.

- Surface water

- RFLMA Point of Compliance and Point of Evaluation analyte concentrations remained below reportable condition levels in the third quarter of CY 2022 with one exception: although no recent validated sample results have been received for POE GS10 (results are available through June 6, 2022), routine data evaluation in August 2022 indicated that the 12-month rolling average for uranium resulted in a reportable condition for August 31, 2022. It was a dry quarter, thus there was reduced runoff (and increased concentration of uranium).
- Results from quarterly performance monitoring for the PLFTS effluent were acceptable.
- Quarterly performance monitoring for the OLF showed acceptable results for all analytes except arsenic.
 - The mean concentration of arsenic during the third quarter was 12.5 mg/L, above the 10mg/L standard.
 - Monthly sampling was triggered for the fourth quarter.
- Groundwater and groundwater treatment systems
 - Sampled 10 RCRA wells monitoring the Present Landfill and Original Landfill; results generally consistent with previous data, will be evaluated in 2022 annual report.
 - Treatment systems
 - Routine maintenance at all systems
 - SPPTS solar/battery power facility replaced –all new solar panels and batteries
 - Conex-based design is similar to that at the ETPTS
- Operations and Maintenance
 - RFLMA inspections completed including weather-related inspections of the COU and OLF on August 18 (no new issues identified), routine maintenance performed
 - OLF: Monthly inspections, no slumping observed
 - PLF: Quarterly inspections, no issues noted
 - Landfill Settlement Monument surveys: Vertical settling within design limits
 - Site erosion controls monitored and maintained
 - NWCS survey: Continued monthly monitoring of survey points
- Ecology
 - Wildlife monitoring: prairie dog surveys (no active towns in COU)
 - Vegetation monitoring: weed mapping, forb nursery data collection, revegetation monitoring, wetland monitoring, Preble’s mouse habitat monitoring, photopoint data collection, shrub and tree survival counts
 - Vegetation management: weed control, interseeding

Randy asked about the movement of earth (slumping). John said DOE monitors the NWCS and that slumps are common across the Front Range. If a slump does not impact a remedy, DOE does not address it. Randy asked about human-caused mechanical earth movement. John answered that any soil disturbance will be documented in a Contact Record and the quarterly reports. Randy requested that DOE’s reports to the Board include information about soil disturbances. David Abelson asked if there is an incursion of prairie dogs into COU. John said no.

Board Roundtable:

Randy asked for a follow-up conversation regarding air quality monitoring. David said we could discuss the issue and next steps at the next Board meeting. David summarized past Board discussions regarding air quality. Jeannette said the air quality meeting with DOE was frustrating, and she is interested in follow-up conversations and more discussion. Randy wants to have a Board-level conversation about air

quality monitoring. He said we need to understand the impacts better. If DOE is not going to implement monitoring, we need to have a conversation about how else we get monitoring done.

Barb Vander Wall then said she usually distributes oaths of office in person. She will send via email instead, because of the online meeting format.

Big Picture/Additional Questions/Issue Identification: David went through the Big Picture. The next meetings are scheduled for April 3 and June 5, 2023. Discussion topics are below.

April 3, 2023

- CDPHE update on PFAS
- USFWS update
- Wildfire/air quality discussion

June 5, 2023

- DOE Update
- Receive 2022 audit

Deven asked about the status in-person tour of Site. David said Melissa is working on organizing the tour. The tour is not a not a Stewardship Council meeting or event but is instead at the invite of DOE.

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:26 am.

Roundtable Discussion of DOE's FY22 Q3 Report

The Board and community entered into a workshop session to further the quarterly report discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am.