# Uncompahgre Board Meeting 3/13/2014 UWP Office

Present: Ken, Bob, Jerry, Scott, Agnieszka, Rhianna, Anthony

Absent: Judi, Dennis, Cary, Anthony

Meeting called to order 4:06pm

Approval of February Meeting minutes

Jerry motioned to accept the minutes, Scott seconded.

## Education and Outreach Coordinator - Agnieszka

Agneiszka presented the position description for a contracted the Outreach and Education Coordinator. If approved we would advertise the next four weeks, start interviews afterward and the positon would overlap for two weeks with Rhianna.

The alternative would be the Americorp Stewardship program. This position is run out of the Southwest Conservation Corp, this person would be a 40 hours a week position, a six month position would cost (?)

The difference in cost is about $600.

The suggestion would be to pursue both options at the same time and this way we can recruit by the person instead of position. The differences between the Contractor and the Steward would not be in the description but in the benefits.

With the funds through the Bureau of Rec grant and the 316 grant, to pay Rhianna and pay for one of these other positions we have a $5,000 shortfall.

Motion to approve these positions: Bob moves, Anthony Seconds, motion carried.

### Selection Committee

In the past the selection committee has consisted of Agnieszka, Rhianna and two board members. Judi has volunteered as well as Jerry, Ken and Cary. We’ll see who’s available when the candidate’s become available.

## Advisory Committee - Jerry

Discussion of the selection: Say a board member wants to add someone to the advisory committee. That board member is the nominee’s sponsor, and gives a little overview presentation to the board either at a meeting or through email. The nominee then comes to a board meeting to present them themselves. The board can then approve the individual.

Discussion of what the advisory board is. Originally, it was discussed that the advisory committee would be for people to work on projects. It was suggested that rather than bring in people we know, it might be good to bring people in for a specific purpose.

Advisory committee members can do that but can also serve another function. By having these people on the letterhead it may raise our prestige for fundraising and community outreach.

We also discussed it could be a “holding bin” for future directors. So, some people if we asked them to be on the advisory committee we’d ask them to support our efforts in outreach and community partnership development. Some people we might just ask if we can list them as being with us so we can name them as partners.

Discussing the Advisory Board Invitation Letter drafted by Jerry Roberts. Agnieszka brought up a comment that for contact, perhaps it should be the board member who is listed as contact. It was agreed that the person making the contact or invitation should be listed as the contact.

There was a typo at [www.uncompahgrewatershed.org](http://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org)

Agnieszka will circulate a copy so everyone has a copy of the letter to use as a template for sending out invitations. They invitee can adapt it as needed.

Scott moves to accept the letter as amended. Cary seconded.

# Basin Implementation Plan - Cary

The GBRT is in the process of writing an implementation town as requested by Gov Hick. It is in the process of having things added to it. GBRT has hired an outside engineering group to look at projects to be included. Wilson Water Group

Round Tables are primarily formed to distribute water resource funds from the CWCB. How the process of fund is distributed to become an IPP.

The Group is now going around and asking sub-basins within the Gunnison Basin and asking people what their future projects look like, future consumption, future worries are etc. Cary suggested streams of concern: Cow Creek, Uncompahgre Above Ridgway and east Dallas

Cary is currently asking for suggestions of projects or concerns that could be included in the Wilson Water Group. In east Dallas, there is some fragmentation, and there are some irrigation improvements which could increase flow and ability to answer a call. CWCB does have some inflow rights there, though they are very junior. But there are opportunities for improvement.

Cow Creek, there are two thoughts; there is a good chance to have an instream flow extension. There are senior water rights downstream that are no longer being used, but there is ability to get a small inflow stream right. An inflow stream right gives you something to attach more water to. Why this is useful is that keeping water in the stream can keep the call off if we supply UVWSP with water and show that we are trying to conserve water for downstream.

The Uncompahgre River: what may be most important is water quality projects and mine remediation projects. There is also water supply issues with Ouray, and Lakeo who are working on their rights.

Question: Can small hydro on a ditch be considered? One thing to consider with small-hydro is when you pipe a ditch and creates power you can use the power to run their pumps. However, this also is another reason to take water out of the stream.

# Board Matching – Scott

There are two issues with board matches. One is having a policy regarding board donations and there is a huge range of policies. They range from no policy, to ones encouraging to give, requiring to give (give or get out) or Universities which require board members to give 20 million a year (that’s insane). The bottom line is that it isn’t a huge amount of revenue for the organization. The best route is having multiple revenue sources.

However, it is easier to get bid donors to donate if they see the board donates. It is a way to show leadership, and prove that the board believes in what the group does.

Challenge gifts are one type of donation. It is where the board pledges to match donations up to a certain amount. This has been shown to increase fundraising by up to 30%. It is also important to add the pressure of a deadline. There are a number of ways to run it, are the donors named, is there a specific program being fundraising toward.

Again in general a board donation policy requires some though. We are doing a lot of on-the-ground in-the-trenches work, it is suggested that the “give or get out” policy is not something we should have.

Decided to go over some more, it’s not a major priority, but something to keep in mind.

# Updates

## Budget – Scott

Net worth is 14,122.21

We’ve prepaid the insurance through the end of September.

Are still working on the conversion from Quick Books to Quicken

Agnieszka and Scott have been working with Steward to understand how to set up the chart of accounts.

## Riverfest – Agnieszka

$1,200 dollars in pledges

Rhianna’s rounded up $1,000 in Silent Auction Items.

Sponsorship forms were passed out.

Agnieszka and Kentee briefed the Ridgway Town Council on Ridgway River Festival . The next meeting with Kentee will be April 17th 5:30pm. If there are questions about what you should be doing check the organizational chart Kentee sent out after our February meeting and don’t hesitate to contact Kentee about how to do it or other questions.

Advertising, the way it’s been done in the past is that a number of press releases have been sent out with each one focusing on a different aspect of the festival. We can get discounted advertising for the Watch and we should get something to the Watch in time for their “Arts and Entertainment Guide” that is distributed the last Thursday of every month.

Antony update: Rolland McCook can be available for the River festival. What would we like to give him to do? Discussion to coordinate with Ken and Anthony and Kentee to go to lunch with Rollan McCook to figure out what he would like to do.

## iGive Rhianna

iGive: By shopping through iGive at various stores around the internet like Amazon, REI and others a portion of your purchase goes to the non-profit of your choice.

## NonPoint Source Renewal - Agneiszka

Went forward and we are waited to find out how to proceed. She has been talking to Rory about the project with the mine and it seems positive to go forward.

Agnieszka will be including specific project updates in the coordinators report from now on. This way board members will be know what’s if approached in the process of soliciting information or from people who know you’re on the board.

## Greenhouse – Rhianna

Submitted $20,000 grant request to the Laura Jane Musser Fund.

## Snowshoe and Trivia Night- Rhianna

Good turnout for both events everyone enjoyed it.

## Snow Science Day – Rhianna

Rhianna was invited to participate with the Ridgway Elementary School “Science is Cool!: Math and Science Field Day” she worked Anne from the Forest service to teach 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders how to calculate Snow/Water Equivalency and how important adequate snowpack is to our water supply.

## San Juan Mining Conference – Agnieszka

This is the fourth year the UWP is putting this on in partnership with MSI, Willow Creek, and Lake Fork Valley Conservancy. The conference runs from April 24 – 25 in Creede, Co. Register and learn more about the conference on our website.

## Water Forum – Ken

We once held a water forum in Montrose under Sarah Sauter which covered water use and future water concerns. Ken would like to do another one which brings in heavy hitters to talk about the future of water. This could be something that is our next major project we can take on after the River Festival.

Discussion: Would we want to tie this into land use issues? Perhaps, this is something that isn’t necessarily being talked about. We need to put a lot of thought into timing, probably March or April or November.

Some Ideas: In the new farm bill there are 6 priority areas in the farm bill which will change how ag funding is distributed. It is highly likely that the Colorado River Basin will be an area that will direct money in the area that is matched by NRCS and will change the focus of funding. Hopefully this will create a focus on conservation.

Ideas for speakers: climatologist, chief engineer from Colorado river District, Nolan Doeskin, someone from the BOR Mike or Phyllis Philips, someone from the Blackfoot Challenge the watershed group in Montana

At the right time a committee will be put together to put it together. Cary will head this effort.

## Watershed Group – Dennis

It was not recommended we join, there was general agreement with Dennis’s assessment.

## Video - Agnieszka

Would we want to produce a video for the River Fest. If so, we would need to commission it for this year that would be ready to solicit sponsorships for next year. The alternative would be to do a general UWP one for UWP fundraising.

What we need to know is what is our message, what is our need, and who are we targeting

For $1,250 he could put together a 2 minute video of Ridgway River Festival. If it was to be a general UWP video that includes multiple projects it would cost more because it would include more travel and visits. If we cannot get the times he visits close together, it adds about $500 per visit.

Discussion: it was thought that one that is for the UWP is more desirable to the Riverfest. To be able to show case our organization and all the programs we do including the Ridgway River Fest could be used for both.

At this point we don’t want to invest money in it if it’s not well thought out.

There are alternatives, there is a company from Boulder that does a sort of Ken Burns type video of photos with voice over, Jim Novak is local who also does videography. It could be cool to have Roland do an intro.

Ourcoriver.org Watch the Voices of the River is an example of the Boulder company.

A committee was formed for working on the video: Jerry, Rhianna, Ken, Anthony and Cary

Rhianna will set up the first meeting.

## Night Before River Fest: Judi

Suggest doing a low key, speaker type event at the Sherbino for the night before River Fest. Potential might be screening the film “Dam Nation” a documentary about dam building and it’s legacy. It is showing at the South by Southwest Film festival. Agnieszka has contacted them to see if we qualify, which it seems likely we do. Rhianna sent a link for the trailer to the board for review.

Jerry motioned to adjourn at 6:05pm