



**The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund  
Board Meeting  
Lyons, Colorado  
Wednesday, April 9th, 2014**

Board Members Present: Tom Burke, Heather Carroll, Mike King, Peggy Montaña, Dave Palenchar, Gaspar Perricone Jim Pribyl, Chana Reed, Jacy Rock, Jody Rogers Alan Schwartz, Jim Smith, Jim Spaanstra, Linda Strand, Matt Sugar, Tom Swanson

Board Members Not present: Mike King, Peggy Montano, Jody Rogers

GOCO Staff Present: Lise Aangeenbrug, Todd Cohen, Julie Coutant, Joe Davidson, Jacqueline Grantz, Jake Houston, Jackie Miller, Emily Orbanek, Connor Schake, Josh Tenneson, Chris Yuan-Farrell

Public Present: Jen Freeman (Jen Freeman Consulting), Matt Robbins (Colorado Lottery), Helen Feiner (Kyffin Elementary), Wendy Stokes (Jamestown), Vic Hams (Jamestown), Thea Rock (Jeffco Open Space), Katie Mathews (Jeffco Open Space), Debbie Elay (Loveland), Rob Burdine (Loveland), Chris Leiber (Colo Spgs), Jeff Webb (Colo Spgs), Harold Dominguez (Longmont), Dole Radamacher (Longmont), Kim Shugor (Longmont), Scott Sardridge (Evans), Brian Stone (Evans), Skylar Rorabaugh (Estes Valley), Anny Baker Easley (VOC), Jason Meter (El Paso County), Ed Self (Wildlife Restoration), Craig Mackey (Flood Fund), Paula Fitzgerald (Longmont), Joe Stevens (Louisville), Diana Trettin (Louisville), Anthony Hodges (CYCA), Drew Sprafke (Lakewood), Allison Scheck (Lakewood), Meegan Flenniken (Larimer County), Josh Miller (Fort Morgan), Jeff Wells (Fort Morgan), Maria Rocca (Lyons), Tabbi Kinion (CPW), Mary Ann Cavender (CPW), Windi Padia (CPW), Zac Wiebe (Larimer County), Gary Buffington (Larimer County), Sharon Ivie (Green Mountain Elementary School), Evette VanDyke (Green Mountain Elementary School), Dave Cosgrove (Lyons), Mary Jo Jones (Green Mountain Elementary School), Michelle Young (Green Mountain Elementary School), Cate Townley (CDPHE), Kerri Rollins (Larimer County), Michele Weber (Kyffin Elementary), Caren Duffy (Boulder County), Bridgett McCarthy (Boulder County), Gabi Boerkircher (Boulder County), Sheryl Trent (Evans)

*Board Chair Jim Smith called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m.*

**I. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

*Mr. Spaanstra moved that the minutes from December 2013 be approved. Mr. Pribyl seconded, motion carried unanimously.*

## **II. Finance Update**

Mr. Coutant presented the finance update. The latest capital project, new accounting software, is below budget. Lottery sales are about \$7million less than this time last year; sales are still on track to meet the Constitutional Cap which is \$60.3million. Grants for the year are very low at \$17million due to Parks bills being delayed and lower than anticipated Local Government reimbursements.

Ms. Coutant explained that the operating budget is currently under budget and is projected to stay under budget for the fiscal year. The quarterly cash model projects \$20million and will dip in 2015 to below \$10million. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, outstanding grants totaled about \$90million putting GOCO at 13.5 months ahead of lottery.

## **III. Benefits Update**

Ms. Coutant presented Resolution 2014-01, an update to the benefits plan. The resolution merges two existing documents into one streamlined version.

*Mr. Palenchar moved Resolution 2014-1, Mr. Sugar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

## **IV. Legislative Update**

Ms. Aangeenbrug presented the legislative update. With one month left in the session there has been no talk about redirecting lottery finds at the legislative level. A ballot initiative has gone through a review and comment hearing to redirect all lottery proceeds to K-12 education. The initiative is not supported by any educational groups. It is unclear how far that initiative will get.

## **V. Parks Capital Update**

Ms. Staks mentioned the primary challenge when meeting quarterly with Parks staff has been getting correct financial numbers that reflect exactly how much GOCO funding is expended each quarter. The numbers presented to GOCO staff in January were low enough to spark concern.

Mr. Broschied agreed that quarterly meetings with GOCO staff have been confusing; more questions come out of the meetings than are answered. Going forward quarterly meetings will be more effective, inclusive and informative with a project management approach. The goal in presenting the investment proposal later this year, is to have a timeline of milestones with each project in order to track progress at the quarterly meetings and to ensure budget projections are more accurate. A higher level of communication with the two commissioner representatives will also be common practice going forward, they should be as or more informed in these issues than most. Approval has also been given to hire four additional employees to focus on implementation of capital projects.

Ms. Aangeenbrug outlined the opportunity between GOCO, Parks and CDOT. Recent flooding has created a chance for Parks to create a trail corridor along highway 36 during CDOT's flood construction recovery. CDOT has approached CPW to help fund the trail. Direction from the board is needed on four things; committing up to \$8million to the trail corridor, direct staff to present a proposal on how much of the \$8

million will be from previously awarded funds, allow GOCOs Parks and Wildlife Committee to de-authorize and reauthorize unspent funds, and to authorize new money at the Board Meeting in June.

Mr. Schwartz asked where the trail will begin and end.

Ms. Aangeenbrug answered that CDOT intends to do the entire 29 miles between Estes Park and Lyons.

Mr. Pribyl asked why \$8 million was the chosen number.

Mr. Broscheid answered that \$8 million is simply a guess to get a majority of the project done.

Ms. Montañó requested an update in May on the project instead of waiting until the June Board Meeting.

Mr. Smith observed that though there are many questions that need to be answered the general consensus of the Board is in favor of the project. A firm commitment from GOCO depends on the project coming together in a way that suggests a consistency with GOCO's mission and purpose.

## **VI. Overdue Grants**

**Grantee:** City of Fountain

**Award Date:** June 2011

**Amount Funded:** \$200,000

**Original Completion Date:** October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Retroactive Board Extension:** April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Comments:** The project is delayed due to unforeseen setbacks that were out of the grantees hands. All project components are currently complete and the project is ready to be reimbursed.

**Staff recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Board issue an extension made retroactive to the December 2013 Board meeting date to April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

*Ms. Montañó moved to approve overdue grants. Ms. Reed seconded, motion passed unanimously.*

## **VII. State Trail Grants**

Ms. Miller presented the State Trail grants. 41 applications were submitted requesting \$2.5 million. Staff is recommending 3 projects for GOCO funding creating 6.2 miles of new trail.

*Ms. Rogers moved Resolution 2014-04 and Mr. Schwartz seconded, motion carried unanimously.*

## **VIII. Colorado Parks and Wildlife Presentation: SOLE**

Ms. Kinion, statewide education coordinator for Colorado Parks and Wildlife, presented the SOLE program. Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments is a pilot program intended to increase student interest and participation in the outdoors by supporting and enhancing existing environmental education programs in Denver. The program focused on a select group of students, 2 different schools, for an extended period of time in order to see if the impact would be greater than the traditional shot-gun approach.

Ms. Strand noted that with the data from this project and from the Larimer County study there is a real opportunity to coordinate a new approach on outdoor education.

**IX. Lottery Update**

Ms. Solano, Colorado Lottery Director, presented the lottery update in her 8<sup>th</sup> week on the job. Beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the fiscal year the Lottery is absolutely on track to meet the GOCO cap. The BEST program will also be getting 'spillover' funds. The new scratch games for the summer will showcase outdoor scenes with the GOCO and CPW logos. Lastly, the Lottery is currently converting vendors; all 3,000 retailers are getting new state of the art vendor machines by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**X. School Play Yard Grants**

Ms. Miller presented the School Play Yard grants. Staff received 15 applications requesting a total of \$1.27 million. 7 counties are represented. Staff recommends full funding to the top ranking 8 projects.

*Mr. Spaanstra moved Resolution 2014-03, seconded by Ms. Montaño. Motion passed unanimously.*

**XI. Flood Recovery Grants**

Mr. Houston presented the Flood Recovery Grants. Staff received 14 applications requesting a total of \$4.4million. 6 counties are represented and 11 projects will use volunteer hours. Staff recommends full funding to all projects. Staff further recommends awarding up to \$536,865 in additional funds for contingency.

*Mr. Pribyl moved Resolution 2014-04, seconded by Ms. Montano, motion passed unanimously.*

*Mr. Spaanstra moved Resolution 2014-05, seconded by Mr. Palenchar. Ms. Rock abstained, motion passed unanimously.*

**XII. Adjourn**