

Grand County Open Lands, Rivers, and Trails Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Agenda
March 22, 2018 at 3:00 pm

BOCC Board Room
308 Byers Ave, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Role Call
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2/08/2018 (*handout #1*)
- III. Conflict of Interest Disclosures
- IV. Financial Report (*handout #2*)
 - a. Determine value of funds to be dispersed this grant cycle.
- V. Items of Business—Review and rank grants received (*handout #3*)
 - A. Review Trails grants (8)—see final grants in shared Dropbox
 - B. Review Open Lands grants (1)—see final grants in shared Dropbox
 - C. Review Rivers grants (2)—see final grants in shared Dropbox
- II. Make final determinations on funding
 - A. Next Meeting Dates
 - 1. April 5, 2018, 3pm-5pm, Grant Review Subcommittee
 - 2. April 12, 2018, 3pm-5pm, OLRTAC meeting—Make final determination on grant recommendations
 - 3. April 24, 2018, afternoon time TBD, Officers present recommendations to BOCC
 - B. Other Business
- IV. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES of
Grand County Open Lands, Rivers, and Trails Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
March 22, 2018 at 3:00 pm

BOCC Board Room
308 Byers Ave, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451

Committee Members Present:

Paul Bruchez	District 2 Rep
Mike Crosby	Hot Sulphur Springs Rep
Joanna Goodman	Winter Park Rep—left the meeting at 5:36pm
Diana Matheson	District 3 Rep
Maura McKnight	Fraser Rep—left the meeting at 5:36pm
Bob Saint	Granby Rep
Steve Sears	District 1 Rep
Cindy Southway	Grand Lake Rep

Others Present:

Anna Drexler-Dreis, OLRTAC Administrator
Stewart McNab, Colorado Headwaters Land Trust Board President
Cray Healy, Colorado Headwaters Land Trust Board Treasurer
Meara McQuain, Headwaters Trails Alliance Executive Director/President
Erica Bean, Headwaters Trails Alliance Field Project Manager

- I. Call to Order made by Mr. Bruchez at 3:09pm.
- II. Motion to approve February 8th, 2018 Meeting Minutes, made by Mr. Saint, seconded by Ms. McKnight, unanimously approved by all Committee members present.
- III. Conflict of Interest Disclosures
 - a. Mr. Bruchez: Project Manager of the ILVK reach of the overall Windy Gap Bypass project. Was involved with Windy Gap when applied for RCPP funding, but the funding for Windy Gap and ILVK is not tied together. He did not assist with the grant application.
- IV. Financial Report (*handout #2*)
 - a. \$120,238.95 received in January.
 - b. Interest was put back into the account.
 - c. Trails money available: \$199,535.23; Open lands/rivers money available: \$1,130,699.63
- V. Items of Business—Review and rank grants received (*handout #3*)
 - A. Review Trails grants. No recommendations were made at this meeting.

1. Grand Lake Metropolitan Recreation District, Hiking and Biking Trail System:
 1. Construction of shelters should not be funded because it is not maintenance of hiking and biking trails.
2. Town of Fraser, Fraser River Trail Maintenance:
 1. Cons: wildlife fragmentation, high percentage of OLRT funds.
 2. Pros: high trail usage and access to the river and other trails, already been vetted through the public process (GOCO, public forms), specificity in the application.
 3. Regarding resurfacing picnic table pads: The pads are existing, and the same material is being used for the trail maintenance. The Grant Review Subcommittee will discuss if picnic table resurfacing should be funded.
3. Grand Lake Trailgroomers, Equipment Repair for Trail Maintenance:
 1. Pros: partnerships, leveraging of other funds.
 2. Cons: funding not specific to only hiking and biking trails.
 3. While the trails are heavily used by the public, only some of the trails are truly multi-use (closer to town trails). Funding needs to be specific to hiking and biking trails.
 4. CPW Snowmobile Sticker Fund subsidizes some of their operations.
4. Headwaters Trails Alliance: Trail Smart Sizing
 1. Pros: fragmentation mitigation, part of updated Master Plan, will require less trail maintenance in the long-term.
 2. Funding for new trail construction is not part of the application.
 3. HTA has applied for funds from other entities but were not awarded. Cannot apply for GOCO because the project takes place on federal land. USFS and Town of Fraser and Winter Park are funding small portions.
 4. Phase 1 is 3-5 years and they have 10 years to complete the project.
5. Headwaters Trails Alliance: Winter Trail Grooming
 1. Pros: high use trails, establish a regular grooming schedule.
 2. Flume will be closed to fat bike use.
 3. This grant specifies grooming on non-motorized trails only.
6. Headwaters Trails Alliance: Phases & Wolford

1. Pros: trail in East and West Grand County, critical wildlife areas, extensive public research process from BLM Kremmling Field Office Resource Management Plan.
 2. Phases and Wolford were originally cut by dirt bikes, and they are now very entrenched. According to District 3 Rep, motorized users do not respect closed trails at Wolford.
 3. Part of the funding would go to: assessing, fixing, and putting together a plan for better trail maintenance.
7. Headwaters Trails Alliance: East Shore Trail
1. Large, 15-year project that has exempted a small strip of land from wilderness designation in RMNP to allow bicycle use, with a deadline of September 2018.
 2. Pros: many partnerships.
 3. Cons: high percentage requested (78%).
 4. RMNP has no resources to dedicate to this project due to the short-notice of the FONSI, but HTA is under federal mandate to fund this project.
 5. Note: \$9,000 requested for new trail construction is the trail re-route, which is considered trail maintenance.
 6. This project is identified in the Grand County/HTA Master Plan as significant portion of the planned route for the Granby to Grand Lake trail.
8. Headwaters Trails Alliance: General Operating Support
1. Ms. McQuain: BOCC told HTA to seek OLRT funds to cover General Operating funds. BOCC will give HTA \$22,500 if OLRT funds \$52,500.
 2. At a minimum, \$47,000 is needed for staffing for 2 summer field staff plus Field Project Manager.
 3. Due to the OLRT resolution, funds can only be used for trail maintenance. If OLRTAC recommended to fund this request, funding (indirectly/directly) would be used for new trail construction.
 4. 85% of HTA budget comes from grants and fundraising.
 5. Mr. Bruchez will email Ed Moyer and Lee Staab requesting a conversation with the BOCC to better understand BOCC advising HTA to apply for general operating funds, which conflicts with the resolution.

9. HTA grant funding priorities:
 1. High to low: General Operating Support, East Shore Trail, Trail Smart Sizing, Phases/Wolford, Winter Trail Grooming.
 2. HTA could apply for Winter Trail Grooming at the next grant cycle.
 10. Prior to the next grant cycle, OLRTAC will re-define the General Evaluation Criteria specific to trail maintenance as well as the grant application.
- B. Review Open Lands grants. No recommendations were made at this meeting.
1. Colorado Headwaters Land Trust:
 1. Donated conservation easement in western Grand County.
 2. Landowner will seek tax credits at his own request.
 3. All House Bills were defeated, which means the conservation easement program will continue.
 4. The 5-acre building envelope will be located on the western edge.
 5. No matching funds from CHLT. Mr. McNab said that the CHLT Board of Directors would “probably” support providing a 10% match.
 6. Grant application is for a not to exceed value.
- C. Review Rivers grants. No recommendations were made at this meeting.
1. Grand County: Windy Gap Bypass:
 1. Additional funding sources are actively being sought. This project receiving locally sourced funds may enable more funding to be received from larger groups.
 2. Strong support from Committee members, but there were concerns over funding the full value which included competitive applications that may be received in the future.
 3. OLRTAC discussed funding the first year at \$600,000. Another option was to fund \$1,000,000 this year and a set amount the next 4 years subject to annual review.
 4. This application has very strong partnerships that will continue to address water issues in Grand County and Colorado.
 5. The \$5M awarded through the RCPP has a 5-year deadline (expiring in 2022) with the possibility of a 1-year extension.
 2. Town of Granby, Granby Water Diversion Upgrade:
 1. Is the diversion improvement for the Town of Granby and the fish passage for Windy Gap Bypass the same project? Mr. Bruchez will report back to the Committee.

D. Next Meeting Dates

1. April 5, 2018, 3pm-5pm, Grant Review Subcommittee
2. April 12, 2018, 3pm-5pm, OLRTAC meeting
3. April 24, 2018, afternoon time TBD, Officers present recommendations to BOCC

E. Other Business—none.

IV. Adjournment. Ms. Southway made a motion to adjourn at 6:24pm, seconded by Ms. Matheson, unanimously approved by all Committee members present.