



Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Collaborative Meeting with Partners
September 7, 2011, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Citizen's Hall

I. Call to Order / YVSC Mission

The mission of YVSC is to provide leadership to advance environmental, economic, and social sustainability for current and future generations through education, programs and collaboration among individuals, organizations, businesses and government.

Angela Ashby calls to order 11:43 am

YVSC's goals:

1. Raise awareness of sustainability issues in the Yampa Valley.
2. Support and/or develop projects and tools that enhance sustainability in our community.
3. Encourage collaboration among other entities of like purpose, ensuring that everyone is moving in the same general direction and maximizing efficiency of resources.

II. Introductions

III. Approval of Minutes from August 3, 2011 Monthly Meeting.

Sarah Jones approves Kyleigh DiMicco 2nds the August Monthly Minutes

VI. Partner Updates

Yampa Valley Partners/GEO Kate Nowak

GEO Rebates closed July 1 some available in our region until October 1 work must be done by November 5, get on wait list! Submit on www.rechargecolorado.com. Gas and Oil symposium sold out for \$20 donation you can get a recorded version. September 22 Recycle symposium with Guest Speaker Steve. September 15 Yampatika hosting a Sustainable Expo with YVSC and YVDP/GEO. Changed name to Yampa Valley DATA Partners

Our Purpose Yampa Valley Partners is a regional non-profit organization of Routt and Moffat counties that provides community information in the form of Community Indicator Reports and regional summits. Yampa Valley Partners facilitates community discussions and regional forums based on indicator data and issues critical to the community.

Our Mission Yampa Valley Partners will support healthy communities in Routt and Moffat counties through development and analysis of community indicators, anticipating emerging regional issues and facilitating communication, cooperation and collaboration among valley communities to address these emergent challenges.

Community Ag Alliance – Marsha Daughenbaugh

To preserve the agricultural heritage of the Yampa Valley by initiating, supporting and encouraging actions, programs and policies that mutually benefit and connect agricultural producers and consumers.

Vision

Act today to ensure that the agricultural community can adapt to changes in the local and regional economy and be active and vital in the Yampa River Valley for generations to come.

Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association - Kyleigh DiMicco

Sustainable business program – 4 years in operation 82 business, most have gone thru certification program, launching supporter program for those who don't want to go thru certification program

Routt County Commissioner – Diane Mitsch Bush

- a. Special Use Permit- SUP- process and informed all on how to use our Routt County (RC) website to access materials and to get on the notification lists for RCPC and RCBCC hearings. Here is a summary of the process and how to get on the notification lists and how to get packet materials:
- b. Application deemed complete by RC Planning director Chad Phillips, and then he sets dates for Routt County Planning Commission (RCPC) SUP(special Use Permit) public hearing and for Routt county board of county Commissioners (RCBCC) public hearing on the SUP. It is a two-stage process: RCPC holds their hearing and recommends approval or denial of the SUP, then the permit comes to us for actual approval or denial.
- c. One week prior to the RC PC hearing on an O&G SUP, the agenda and the packet are posted on the Routt County Planning Department Website. go to www.co.routt.co.us
- d. Then click on the left hand column on Planning Department, then click to be added to the permanent notification list and/or just go to the date to get the materials you want
- e. You can get on the permanent notification list there; that way you will get the agendas one week ahead of time.
- f. Having the packet ahead of going to the meetings is a key to being an effective , informed citizen participant.
- g. RCPC- Planning commission hearings are on the first and third Thursdays at 6pm in the 3rd floor Commissioners hearing room at the downtown historic courthouse beginning at 6pm.
- h. After the Planning commission has reviewed and made their recommendation to the Routt County Board of County Commissioners- RCBCC, then the planning staff puts together a packet for us, RCBCC. It is in addition to the original, full Planning Commission Fact packet. This packet for us includes the minutes from the RCPC meeting, and any new information that the RC Planning Department has received since the PC meeting. That packet is available online at the Commissioners page by the Thursday prior to the Tuesday hearing. Go to www.co.routt.co.us
- i. Then click on Board of Commissioners in the left hand column, then scroll down below our pictures and click on Agenda, packet, Minutes.
 - i. To subscribe, click on subscribe. That will put you on the agenda notification mailing list, and you will automatically get our agendas
 - ii. To access packet materials, click on 2011 Agendas and packets. It will be a large PDF. You can use the find option to search for Oil and Gas
 - iii. It is key to read the packet before you attend the SUP hearing.
- j. Your personal attendance at the RCPC and RCBCC SUP hearings ALWAYS trumps an e-mail or hand delivered letter. Nothing beats being there in person. Applicants often bring up new information or requests to alter or weaken conditions of approval (COA) at the RCBCC meeting. Having strong, in-person public comment and public questions/concerns strengthens our mission/position of protecting the public safety, health and welfare of the people of Routt County, both present and future generations.
- k. Diane has been pushing to have these RCBCC O&G SUP hearing in the early evening, rather than the afternoon, so that more folks can attend. You have the most impact by attending both RCPC and RCBCC. However, if you can only attend one, we- RCBCC- are the decision makers.

Yampatika – Sonya Macys,

Our mission is to inspire environmental stewardship through education. We recently expanded our service area by opening the Yampa Valley's first ever Environmental Learning Center at the City of Steamboat Springs' Legacy Ranch., September 15 Sustainability Expo, Old Time Music September 19, Farm to Table on September 22, winter scaling down on educational program but will have ski with naturalist , focus for Legacy Ranch to become sustainable.

Routt County Extension – Karen Massey,

support from RC Commissioners and CSU, mission, 97 years, they have many resources many testing available, many things available to borrow, resource to the community, CJ Muklow received a job offer regional director.

LiveWell Northwest CO – Barb Parnell,

thru a grant from VNA – mission doing height and weight in schools and is increasing, our kids used to be 3 now 20 in State in health ranking, new parks in Hayden and in Oak Creek with grant, healthy eating projects, green house projects, community gardens, Yampa Valley food project to be coming, NW food collation, Oct 22 Live Well and community ag program.

Transitions – Paul Potyen –

As you may know, TS has broken into working groups. We are aware (and pleased) that there are others who have taken on the role of working groups according to the TS model. For example:

- **EDUCATION**—YVSC's Sustainable Schools program is doing excellent work with young people; and Yampatika continues to offer educational programs to the general community. In addition, CMC now offers a 4-year program on Sustainability.
- **FOOD**—The Local Food Council, led by Nancy Kramer and Barb Parnell, is organizing local food growers and interest groups, and developing a long-range action plan towards local food resiliency
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**—I have informally met with an interested group of local people several times to discuss how we might best work with the City, County and the community to advance the agenda of the Steamboat Springs Community Plan Update. We have developed what we believe will be an effective strategy in this regard. However, one important member, Gates Gooding, is currently out of the country, and will be returning in the next month or two. At that point we will be able to proceed more effectively.
- **RELIGION/SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY**—I have encouraged Marchelle McCarthy, who created Exploring the Sacred program with local religious leaders, to incorporate this model. One recent effort along these lines was the showing of the film Renewal at the Library.
- Other groups, such as **TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMICS, AND HEALTH & WELL-BEING**, are still in need of cooperative leaders and participants.
- **ENERGY**—Since YVSC has not yet engaged someone to handle the energy part of its mission, I have been proactively working on this issue per the TS model. I have not yet had a chance to discuss my role as a board member, and how I may best help the board in regarding my efforts around energy.

As a part of TS' efforts, we have presented several film and panel discussions on energy. And I have also been working more informally in the following ways:

1. Awareness-raising and fundraising with "Let's Energize" to get more forward-thinking people elected to the board of YVEA.
2. As part of a self-education campaign, I have been researching energy-related issues in order intelligently address the community--and eventually, the YVEA board concerning their current policies. My efforts also involve writing articles on pertinent energy-related topics.
3. Paul has been invited to work with an informal group of concerned citizens to monitor the situation regarding Oil and Gas drilling in Routt County, and insure that there are government policies in place that address clean water and air, well-maintained roads, and minimal visual, noise, and odor impact on the population.

Paul would like to know if (or to what extent) YVSC is interested in taking responsibility for my current and future efforts to implement a more "green" approach to energy production and use in Routt County. I am open to any and all ideas about this effort.

Trapper Lake/Serria Club Community Alliance of the Yampa Valley / Trappers Lake Sierra Club

Rich Levy- Sarvis creek wilderness area goal to make it expansion of wilderness area instead of ski area that won't ever come to be, 7 schools instated solar panels, transfer development rights and focusing on oil and gas issues, Gave matching funds for the South Routt commuter program

Yampa Valley Recycles – Craig Shifter, Chair, Y

VR believes it is possible for people to co-exist with the environment without depleting natural resources for polluting the environment. We aim to expand and support comprehensive recycling programs in the Yampa Valley by educating, promoting, and implementing creative solutions to help communities reduce, reuse, and recycle.

We have a strong sense of citizenship towards our community, both locally and globally. We feel a responsibility to encourage a "Stewardship of the Earth" in the projects we promote and in the way we live our lives.

2 new green machine, recycle program at WM weekdays, weekends, , green bag sales 11-12k sold, relied on Auzi program, new program YVR purchase a bulb crushing machine

Air Service – Bill Steward –

Raise \$\$ for winter flights to come into steamboat, regain seats that have been lost.

* According to regional economist, Scott Ford, airline seats generate jobs; every 92 passengers support 1 additional local job

- * Every 1,000 passengers generates \$1.11 million in local spending, based on 2008 CDOT study
- * Air Service supports Steamboat's economy and quality of life
- * Without Minimum Revenue Guarantees, Steamboat will lose all nonstop flights, with the exception of Denver express service
- * Without air service, the number of visitors to Steamboat will decrease dramatically [yes2air.com](http://www.yes2air.com)

Colorado Mountain College – Becky Potter

announces a 4 year CMC Sustainable Bachelor Exploring 1-2 year students doing a partnership with YVSC internship credit elective credits working with YVSC.

Colorado Environmental Coalition –

Would like to see a better Remote Calendaring - We talked about figuring out a way to do better to coordinate, share calendars - any progress? I do see more cross pollination of e-mail newsletters and I think this is becoming very effective.

CEC/TWS events we want you to know about....fundraiser for Friends of the Yampa and CEC on Sept. 16th. fall hiking series, see our website or talk to Carol Lacey for dates, times, locations Cottonwood Tree Planting Oct. 21 & 22 - we have Smartwool participating, we'd love to get a school group or other partners

Events-We'd still love to look at partnering in 2012 for events. If you have an idea, please let me know. We do have resources we can bring to the table and new ideas are very welcome for speakers, films, interesting programs, etc...

Issues work - right now we are working on the recent interest in oil and gas to educate about what we've learned in the last 10 years about the industry, the risks, the best management practices and how to get this sort of development right. I'm happy to arrange times to speak with your boards, membership, etc.. if you know of a group that wants or needs to learn more, call or e-mail. Working to get official CEC support for the bag fee proposal, this takes sometime, particularly since many CEC staff were away over the last 2 weeks. We are looking forward to the 2012 State Legislative Session and 2012 election when we will run a Green Voter Registration program. We'll be trying to establish clean lines of communication and ID any groups or individuals that wish to actively participate in one or both programs.

Fundraising - we know this is difficult for everyone. CEC/YVSC might consider bringing Beka or other development experts for a conference. Let Sasah know if there is interest.

YVR – Catherine Carson

Green fee is proven to reduce plastic has been going since 1994 votes, challenge, council chair moving to new council so going to be a campaign issue, this will fund the ec and other green services

Routt County Environmental Health – Mike Zoft

It is our mission to take an active role in the community to promote public health and environmental quality and to prevent disease. The Environmental Health Department issues the following permits: Septic, Open Burning. Licenses and inspects restaurants, inspects septic systems, Bat Testing Submitting and Water Quality Monitoring website for Upper Yampa and wants to do 6 other locations. . Monitors air and water quality. The Environmental Health Department offers the following:

- * Consumer Protection
- * ISDS Application
- * Bacteria Testing
- * Plan Review
- * Hazardous Substances
- * Open Burning Permit Application

YVSC – Angela Ashby, YVSC Chair,

Mission, goals, intro of new board members and staff recap of Zero Waste we touch 51,000 touched 40 events, another intern, water monster 64k single use water bottle avoided ½ of seconded funded 50k budget needed. Recap of EDIED, Community Recycle Drop-off, RC clean up, Talking Green, GB Recycling guide, youth education, of 40 events. Divert in 90-95 1,000 gallons of trash to 13 gallons to recycle

VII. Open Forum

VIII. Old Business

A. YVSC Sub-Committee Reports (if time allows)

1. Zero Waste
2. Talking Green – Cozy & Warm - Improvements for Existing Homes
September 27, 2011
5:00-6:30 p.m.
Location: Sweetwater Grill
3. Sustainable Schools
4. Green Building

IX. New Business

- A. 2011 Programs/Events/Partnerships
- B. Other

Next meeting October 5, 2011 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Centennial Hall Rms 113-114