

**MINUTES**  
**PWV ANNUAL MEETING**  
**October 22, 2022 – 6:00-6:30 p.m.**  
**Conference Call due to Covid-19 concerns**

**ATTENDANCE**

38 people attended the 2022 PWV Annual Meeting, held via Zoom

**A. CHAIR REPORT:**

- Bruce Williams welcomed everyone and thanked folks for attending. He explained that the purpose of the meeting is to share the activities and highlights of the year. He noted that all 5 members of the Executive Committee would be presenting.
- Bruce said that when he looks at what we accomplished, he feels good and believes we are fulfilling our mission to protect the wilderness and backcountry. He added that we should feel good about our execution and meeting our mission.
- Bruce shared that we maintained a pretty high level of patrolling and volunteer hours: 792 patrols in total (a little more than 10% over last year). Most patrols had 2 members. 16,175 total volunteer hours were recorded.
- We recorded 9,579 contacts made with the public, an average of 12 per patrol. This is a powerful indicator of how well we are doing in our mission of engaging with the public.
- We have a strong membership with 244 members who have recorded some activity (patrolling or non-patrolling). We recruited and trained 55 new members, including 35 new members who completed 6 or more patrols.
- Bruce shared that the organization is very financially sound. We increased our funding efforts in 2021 after the Cameron Peak fire, and we put that money to work this year, which will be described during Mike Corbin's Restoration update.

**B. PAST CHAIR REPORT:**

- Mike Corbin shared that we had 6 public work days. We did 2 on Bulwark Ridge last fall with Odell. He mentioned that we have another Odell work day next Friday. Two days were done on Greyrock (one day was about 100 degrees!), and another two days on Upper Coral Creek and Upper Big South.
- PWV held a total of 138 volunteer days on the public days.
- PWV worked with the RMC High School crew which gave us 6 free days for the students to gain experience. They did some good work on Lily Mountain, which had several steps that were like 18", so additional steps were added.
- PWV worked with the Larimer County college crew for 8 days.
- PWV had 5 other work days including 2 at the Arrowhead Lodge which is being cleaned out for improvements.
- Mike detailed the work that was accomplished this year:
  - Fixed tread and cut trees on Bulwark Ridge, North Fork, and Little Beaver.
  - Did tread work and built 20 steps on Lily Mountain trail. There was a section of trail that was washed out from a few years ago that was addressed where the rock is slick.
  - Rebuilt a section of Greyrock trail that was sliding off the side of a hill.
  - Built drains on 1.5 miles of Upper Big South. We also cut trees. The trail was badly damaged by the fire and is now a lot better than it was.

- Removed 120 trees from Comanche Lake trail. There was a big tree fall about 2 years ago that we have been whittling away at to clear out.
- Removed rebar and rebuilt creek crossings on Emmaline Lake trail. The old log bridges had rotted away.
- Restoration had a total of 1,845 hours worked, which is a pretty good year for us.

### **C. TREASURER REPORT:**

- Jim Medlock stated that PWV is in an excellent and extremely strong financial position. At the end of September, PWV held almost \$250,000 between Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds, the Operating Reserve, and Endowment. That will be reduced as we have some outstanding bills for the Restoration projects with the Rocky Mountain Conservancy and Larimer County which should take the amount down about \$25,000. The Restricted Funds primarily come from the 2021 Go Fund Me campaign that were budgeted expenses in 2022. Mike Corbin has already submitted the 2023 budget for the Restoration Committee, and we'll use most of the remaining funds from the GFM campaign.
- PWV receives two types of donations: Restricted and Unrestricted. Unrestricted donations can be used for any purpose that fulfills PWV's mission to assist the CLRD and the USFS in managing and protecting wilderness and backcountry areas within its jurisdiction. Historically, PWV receives the majority of their unrestricted donations in November and December each year. Restricted donations are limited to being used per the donor's designation. PWV's Strategic Plan that was developed this year calls for the Fund Development committee and the Treasurer to develop a donation forecast to be included in the annual budget process.
- On the budget process each year, PWV's committees prepare a detailed budget plan for the next year. At this time the committees are preparing their 2023 budget plans which will be presented at the November BOD meeting and approved at the December BOD meeting.
- The expenses that PWV incurs are managed by PWV's bookkeeper, Sandy Sticken. Jim said she is the hardest working person that he knows. She is always involved and he works with her to manage any issues. Each month, the financial and budget reports are provided to the Board of Directors and Committee chairs along with a report from the Treasurer. The end of the year financial reports will be submitted to the Board of Directors for their approval, which generally happens at the February meeting since we do not usually have all the information to close the books by the January meeting.
- PWV is also required by the IRS to document the donations and expenses that fulfill PWV's mission on IRS Form 990, which are available for public review.

### **D. SECRETARY REPORT:**

- Sean Orner shared some highlights from the past year:
  - 11 BOD meetings were held via Zoom. There was no meeting in May which is typical since everyone is busy. A quorum was present for each meeting that was held with an average attendance of 23 present.
  - A new committee was established called Trails for All. Their goal is to bring more diversity and broader demographics to our trails. The group is collaborating with the Arc of Larimer County which is an organization that works with folks with various disabilities. They held their first workshop this season to train participants to feel comfortable and prepared to be out on our trails or outdoors in general.

- We started our new Strategic Planning this term. 4 initiatives were selected for focus and development, including:
  - Member Retention
  - Leaders Training (BOD & Committee Chair)
  - Establish Fundraising Goals
  - Coordinated/Planned PWV Messaging
    - These initiatives reflect our renewed focus and investment both on training and having a more formal fundraising goal that we haven't necessarily had in the past.

#### **E. CHAIR ELECT REPORT:**

- Mark Snyder reiterated that we'll be working on our new Strategic Planning initiatives. He shared that he will be helping with the leadership training to help onboard new Board members. The new Board members and Committee chairs will be provided a reading list by email and will be invited for a training session to be held in November.
- Mark said he is looking forward to a good recruiting year. We'll make sure to get out the application and supporting details so we can hold our interviews for new recruits.
- We are looking to maintain our history of strong training with our annual Spring Training which will hopefully be held at Buckhorn Camp and not be derailed by Covid or snow storms.
- We want to continue Restoration and public work days which are spearheaded by Mike Corbin. It's a great way to share the PWV with the public and get folks involved with our public lands.
- We are evaluating the possibility of holding hybrid meetings so that people can meet in person at the USFS office, while others can attend by Zoom. Hopefully these can begin in the new year.
- Mark concluded by sharing that he's looking forward to a good year in 2023.

#### **F. CLOSING:**

Bruce Williams said that tonight's meeting covered a high level overview of our activities and achievements. Our mission to help protect wilderness and backcountry areas, and our core efforts of conducting patrols, engaging the public, trail maintenance and restoration, and other activities such as Kids in Nature and our new Trails for All, Bruce feels good about our execution in meeting that mission. In an all-volunteer organization, nothing happens unless someone raises their hand and volunteers to do it. Bruce said he hopes people get a sense of satisfaction from what was completed.

Matt Cowan said that he thinks PWV is amazing and thanked us for our service and everything that we do.

Liz Manes-Ruhl echoed Matt to give a big thanks, especially to the Board who do so much behind the scenes for the organization. She said it was a great year-end event as well.

Bruce thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 6:21pm.