

2008 Annual Meeting Minutes

Steve Cleaves, President, called the meeting to order after the potluck at the community pool at approximately 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 24, 2008.

It was determined that there was a sufficient number of members present for a quorum.

Minutes from the previous Board meeting were approved with a request to correct the term of office for Derek Phipps to end in 2009.

Steve Cleaves proceeded to give his 2008 President's Report as follows:

Board Member Introductions

The 2007/2008 Focus:

Community Management

New management team

General Manager

Maintenance Manager

Selection Committee chaired by Pat Leigh designed and implemented job descriptions, and tools for interviewing and selecting candidates that will be very useful in the future.

Solidifying Infrastructure

Roads

Improve Highland and Homestead from pavement at entrance to Quaking Aspen and beyond, if money allows. Work is scheduled to start June 9.

New approach to snow plowing will be covered by Dick Volckmann

Water Upgrade in 10 phases:

New tank – We now have a 225,000-gallon storage capacity to serve the community. Last year we installed a new 6" line along East Fawn Creek Road from the well to the booster station/pump house at Highland Meadows Road. This summer we will install a new 6" line from the booster station to the tank at the top of the hill and across the upper meadow and Elderberry, including the installation of fire hydrants. Over the next 5 years, the following areas will be upgraded:

- Tank to Crabapple
- Cassal loop, pool, and hydrant
- West Bitterbrush Comp Loop
- Fawn Road Comp Loop
- Wintergreen and West Fawn Road
- Lupine Road
- Laney Lane

Water metering - Meters must be installed this year but there has been no date announced by the County for when actual metering will begin.

Power Supply (Coop's goals) - Improve service, control and safety with minimal inconvenience.

Garbage – switch to dumpsters for all.

Recycling – presentation by Betsy Cushman, Methow Recycling. There is a new Cardboard Recycling Center across the road from N. Valley Lumber. Look for two large containers behind a storm fence. Self-operated. Roll gate to open. Corrugated cardboard ONLY.

Burn Ban? - Presentation by Don Waller, Okanogan Fire Department, on the hazards of burning and how to burn safely, if you burn at all. In general, burning of any kind is discouraged. Please never burn while a burn ban is in place. If you decide to burn, restrict the size of the fire to no more than 3 feet in diameter. Keep a fire 25' to 50' from buildings. If the flames of a fire are 4' high, you should maintain a 8' fuel-free parameter. Have tools for putting the fire out, on the job and ready for use. Burn only when there is little or no wind, not more than 10 mph. Understand that Edelweiss is built on the side of a mountain and a fire travels up hill 30% faster than on flat ground. Burn one pile at a time, feed it slowly to control the flame and burn until it is completely out. You should be able to hold your hand on the ground in the middle of the burn and sense no heat when a fire is completely out. Fire can enter the root systems of trees and burn undetected for months. Don stated that he has observed fires lying "dormant" in the root systems of trees through the winter and flaming up after the snow melts. In the Methow Valley, the only materials that may be burned legally are: Yard Waste, Vegetation, and Untreated Lumber. Note: Plywood and glue lams are examples of treated lumber. The Department of Natural Resources posts fire warnings on their website daily. The EMC cannot prohibit members from burning but we ask that you exercise every precaution. Also, be a good neighbor and avoid burning on days when the wind will carry smoke to neighboring homes.

Septic System – Dick Volckmann has been exploring our responsibilities vs the County to figure out if we can stop paying the County fees for maintenance that they are not doing.

Campground Building upgrade - Bids needed for replacing sod roof.

Community Safety

Power Company – New transformers have reduced the risk of fire. We are coordinating with the Electric Coop to improve service. Under the three-phase plan, the Coop will take service up East Fawn Creek Road to Highland, putting transformers underground this summer. The plan includes segregating the service to the community so that we don't all lose power at the same time.

Firewise – Manages risk of damage by forest fire. Steve used a map to illustrate the areas identified for cleanup. He explained that by cleaning up Goat Creek Road under a previous Firewise grant we created a buffer against the spread of fire from Goat Creek Road. He stated that letters would be issued to the owners of the identified lots and encouraged members who receive such letters to sign up for Firewise treatment. He also explained that he has learned from the U.S.F.S. that they will be conducting prescribed burns on F.S. land above Edelweiss this year, and that there may be more cleanup done on F.S. land bordering Mustard Mountain Road. The new Firewise grant is limited to \$55K in matching funds and it may be the last grant money available for sometime. The Methow Forest Owners Coop is acting as our guide to the Firewise Program.

Logging on U.S.F.S. land above Edelweiss will continue this summer and is expected to start within two weeks. We are negotiating for improvements to East Fawn Creek Road.

Cow Control – Tom Graves is walking the fence along with U.S.F.S. to mend fences where needed.

Summary of 2008 Priorities:

Road Upgrade

Water Upgrade

Firewise

Water Metering

Garbage Service transition to dumpsters vs individual cans.

New roof on campground building

Treasurer's Report

Steve Cleaves read the Treasurer's Report as prepared by Karen Reneau and explained that it is posted on the website. There were no questions and no discussion.

Manager's Report

Dick Volckmann, General Manager, gave his report.

Roads – McHugh has estimated that upgrading the roads and putting down gravel on both Highland and Homestead from near the entrance to Quaking Aspen will cost \$70,000. The work will include ditching and culverts where needed, as well as catch basins. We hope that, with enough gravel on top, the dust particles will filter down through the gravel, and with watering we'll see much less dust than in past years.

Speed control - We have new signs that say, "15 MPH" speed limit. They look like standard highway signs. The slower you go, the less maintenance our roads will require. For this reason and the safety of others, please keep your speed at 15 mph or less. Speed bumps have been purchased and will be installed soon. (Probably after our roadwork has been completed.)

Road improvements will continue throughout the community as funds become available.

Logging – Last year 1.5 million board feet were removed. This year they expect to remove 3 million board feet. East Fawn Creek will be closed when logging trucks are using it. Please do not risk using E.F.C. when this closure is in effect.

East Fawn Creek improvements – The U.S.F.S. collects a fee from the logging companies for the use of their roads. Over the 2-year period of logging, they anticipate collecting \$15,000 in road use fees. This is not enough money to make any major improvements to East Fawn Creek Road. We are discussing our interests and concerns for providing a safe emergency exit route for the community.

Water metering – The State has mandated that each individual will have a water meter with remote reading capability installed by 2009. We have no idea when the State will begin using these meters to monitor our use. Edelweiss will continue to charge for water as always until further notice.

Campground roof needed – Contractor bids needed.

Chipping coming soon – Limbs must be 3" or less in diameter. Place in piles near road with butt pointed out toward the road. Sign up for service with Linda McWhirter, 996-9897 or edelweiss@methownet.com, as in the past. Fee structure is posted on our website.

Burning – In order to avoid panic, please notify me, (Dick Volckmann) at 996-9897 and Linda McWhirter at 996-9232 whenever you plan to burn.

Election of Board

There were three positions on the Board of Directors open for election: Steve Cleaves ran for re-election. Pat Leigh announced her candidacy in order to continue in the position that she had taken over when Carol Volckmann resigned. Anna Carver's term expired and she elected not to run. New nominees were called for.

Nominations for new Board Members were:

Kris McMullen, Lot 424, 21 Mustard Mountain Road and
Mary Kiesau, Lot 486, 74 Homestead Road

Those elected were:

Pat Leigh
Kris McMullen
Mary Kiesau

Steve Cleaves called for any discussion of old business.

Steve raised the matter of developing a trail system in Edelweiss. Pat Leigh shared the fact that she had called for a meeting of those interested in restoring our trails and a group of about a dozen interested members had the project underway. A sign-up sheet was circulated at the meeting. The newly formed committee is called the Trailblazers. There is a new hotlink on the Edelweiss website called, "Trail System – Trailblazers" for more information.

Steve mentioned that he had worked with Alan Fahnestock and Leonard Yerkes to consider needed changes to our covenants. They had agreed on changes, but were researching how to best make those changes.

Steve Cleaves called for any new business. There was no discussion.

The meeting was adjourned and a brief Board meeting was held on site. Please refer to the Board Meeting Minutes on our website.