

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333
One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
October 20, 2025

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by chair, David Varner. Those present from ORF were:

David Varner, chair	Lorita Salviro	Sarah Brooks
Hayden Janssen, vice-chair	Scott Risse	Tom Friemann
Kelsay Heath	Joel Sholtes	

Scott Beilfuss, City of Grand Junction City council member, Henry Brown, City of Grand Junction Mobility Planner and Pete Firmin, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Troy Ward, Town of Palisade

Absent: Meg Thornton, Randall Reitz

Approval of Minutes – August minutes/Hayden. Tom second. Motion passed.

Public Comment – David – There was no public comment.

Announcements – Colorado Gives Day – Michele explained what Colorado Gives Day is to new members. She showed the call list and said she'd be sending it out along with a script. She handed out cards for those that no phone number available.

CDA ride – David said were 8-9 CDA riders plus one support person per rider. So, there were about 20 people plus a few from the public. David said CDA would like to partner on other events.

Fundraising run – Michele will send out the list of volunteer needs. She asked if ORF would want a booth at the event.

November-January monthly events on hold for the holiday season. Sarah said need to remember the January 1st ride with Chris Brown event. She has done the PR for it since Chris isn't good at PR. Sarah said nothing needs to be done until December.

Partner Updates:

City of Grand Junction – Scott said they are working on the 2026 budget and the missing link (Skinner property) is included in the capital budget for 2027. Scott said there will be challenges for traffic in the coming years. Scott said the public needs to let the council member know what's important to them.

Henry Brown stated that his position has been eliminated. As of this week they have not identified a person or department that take up his duties. He commented that the e-scooter was one area that he handled and many ended up parked on the riverfront trail and he foresees it being an increased problem but he asks everyone to call the 888 number to report the scooters on the trail. He thanked everyone for being committed to multi-modal access. He passed around a bicycle map that is available at the City, libraries and bike shops.

David thanked Henry for his work and saddened that his position was eliminated. He hopes that he will be able to continue part-time through the end of the year.

Joel asked about the transportation priority out by the mall and wanted to know if that is still in the budget. Scott said that the project is no longer in the budget. It's on the list but no apparent funding.

Mesa County – Travis said Mesa County wasn't able to attend but emailed Michele an update.

City of Fruita – At to bid to remove the slash piles on the Kokopelli. Will invest \$25,000 to remove the piles and start closest to the trail and move out. Received a lot of calls regarding flooding on the Little Salt Wash trail. Working with the engineer to figure out how to mitigate the ongoing flooding issue.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete updated regarding the electric motorcycle. He followed up with the Attorney General's office and Pete was informed that the person will be allowed to use it since he is ADA compliant. He will need to have it flagged that he ADA.

Have been receiving complaints about unhouse people camping in the park at.

Heineke property is getting close to doing a one-to-one transfer.

Zero mussels at Redrock lake and nothing at Corn but they are back at Highline. May have to move to non-motorized crafts at the lakes Pete managed.

Working on a beaver management plan. He is providing comments and not sure the future to manage beaver in the Grand Valley.

Henry talked to the City the Attorney about electric motorcycles and John told him that they would not be allowed within the City limits.

Sarah said she show a what she considered a tour of six people riding all the same six electric motorcycles, probably rentals that nearly hit her. She added that she's seen it twice and neither had trail etiquette. Henry said it is a concern and that if someone sees it, they should report it. David said CDA has concerns too since their folks ride so slowly.

Hayden asked if Pete is worried about the unhoused camping in the parks since the City's closed the housing resources being shut down. He has concerned and wants to be fair. BLM is seeing

similar issues in the desert. Marc said Fruita is having the same issue with people staying in the restrooms.

Town of Palisade – Troy said went out for the sewer project and bids came in too high so going back out to bid. Have gone back to the engineer to figure out how to cut costs. If too expensive this time around, will look at splitting out the duties. Hackey's boat launch they have cut out the concrete to avoid having to hiring engineering for the concrete.

Trail Completion Committee Update –

MEP Committee Update – be Jane showed a sample of the mileage marker stickers. Said going with a black background rather than white. Marc ordered and paid for them and RFF will reimburse the City of Fruita. Marc also volunteered staff to help. Phase 1 mile marker 0 to 19 or 20. Phase 2 will be Las Colonias to Palisade. Marc said Fruita will cover the cost of the mileage markers through Fruita.

2026 ORF Priorities Discussion - David was concerned about not having time to cover Section 8 and could we table it? Joel asked if the group would want to stay an extra 15 minutes.

Joel talked about the Strategic Plan needs to be update. Would like to hire a consultant with the RFF. Hayden asked the budget. Sarah said consultants are expensive.

Sarah wants to see the ORF budget. After further discussion, she meant the RFF budget. Michele stated that the RFF doesn't have a budget. Hayden asked if it would be possible to share where they spend the funds raised from events? Michele said yes.

Randall not at meeting so couldn't ask question about desire to investigate expanding ORF's mission.

ORF Bylaws/Roles & Responsibilities – Joel thinks should adopt Bylaws. Michele explained that there was a reason didn't have Bylaws, it was so the board to be opportunist and Bylaws take away that ability.

RFT & Connector Trails/Support – Sarah (sorry, I can remember what was said and didn't get it into the minutes).

Stakeholder Meeting Attendance/Reporting – Joel wants ORF members to attend the RFF and other partners meetings and then report back to ORF.

Hayden wanted to remind everything that there is a lot of big items on the list and this past year achieved three or four items. So, take that in consider when voting that need some short term and some long-term items.

Adjournment – David – Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.