

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333
One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
April 13, 2026

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by vice-chair, Randall Reitz. Those present from ORF were:

Loreta Silverio	Sarah Brooks	Jane Quimby
Randall Reitz – vice chair	Scott Riise	Tom Friemann
Kelsay Heath	Meg Thornton	

Travis Haldeman, Mesa County Parks and Facilities and Pete Firmin, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and Troy Ward, Town of Palisade

Absent:

Kady Osterwick – Colorado Discover Ability

Approval of Minutes – February minutes Tom motioned to approve. Loreta second. Motion was passed.

Public Comment – Public comment – There was no public comment.

New Business – Kady explained what CDA does and gave a presentation on their programs. She had a grant request for a new program called Ride the Range. It is a seven-week program designed for eight riders to gradually increase their cycling distance each, ending in a ride to Loma followed by a BBQ. The total grant request is for \$7,500, calculated at \$125 per rider.

Sponsorships: Opportunities will be available for sponsors to join the participants on rides.

Promotion: Media promotion and custom t-shirts will feature sponsor logos.

Partnerships: REI, Trek, and Brown Cycles are already committed to providing participant gifts and swag.

Meg requested clarification on cost coverage, which Kady confirmed includes all operational and insurance needs. Scott expressed support for the initiative and suggested that a written audit be provided following the event. Randall also inquired about the status of other cash sponsors. Kady stated she is currently requesting that RFF fund the amount, though they will seek other cash sponsors if necessary.

E-motorcycles – Sarah said they are out of control. She has seen the City is looking into the issues. She would like to see a uniform policy because they aren't following any rules. Meg mentioned the article in the paper, it's a not only a riverfront trail probably but nationwide. Discussed getting a subcommittee for each organization to further work on model policy language that goes to each entity for their input. She doesn't know if Bicycle Colorado is working on something and she would be willing to reach out to Pete with BC to see what they are doing. Eagle had adopted a policy and Gypsum is working on an Eagle/Vail valley wide policy.

Troy asked about the fines. That will need to be discussed along with enforcement.

Pete stated they aren't allowed on State Park trails but it's an enforcement issue. He added that ADA users are allowed to use them and but you can't ask if they are ADA, it is an issue.

Sarah motioned to create a subcommittee to include or partners and other groups to develop language for a model policy for the riverfront trail. Tom. Second motion. Motion passed. Travis suggested doing it for all sidewalks and trails within Mesa County.

Randall amended the motion to add Sarah, Scott, and Tom as volunteers on the committee. Troy suggested that need to meet and discuss with the enforcement agencies. Motion passed.

Announcements – Michele apologized, she was confused that the iNaturalist event was on the 11th not the 18th. She said there was good turnout. She suggests if members can attend future events, they should – it was great. She thanked Meg and Scott for volunteering.

Partner Updates

City of Grand Junction – Scott was unable to attend.

Mesa County – Travis said the bridge and hill at Clifton Nature Park is currently open but will be closed in June for a week or two. CPW and USFW are installing a new outlet on the pond. Construction has begun but they don't expect any disruption to the trail. Construction should take three to four weeks.

City of Fruita – Ciara, interim Parks and Rec Director had conflict and unable to attend tonight.

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete said Conservation Corps will be out there until end of April. Done work at Corn Lake and working at Connected the past week. The social trail was becoming an issue so they will gravel the social trail and close off the other trails. Loreta was out there for a trail cleanup.

Watching the water levels to determine whether or not to move the fish to salvage.

CRCS concerts on June 2nd and June 5th.

Town of Palisade – Troy said they have completed the Beach and Harky's boat launch. They did have to reroute the original riverfront trail and used decomposed granite to guide users along it. The

decomposed granite has been compacted and sealed. Will eventually concrete that section to connect the east and west sides. Janet Hawkinson has spoken with Michele about completing it and will make a request later to the RFF.

Troy stated that there are an estimated 1.5 million pounds of boulders added to that area.

Vice-chair – Randall was nominated and email vote was passed.

CDA – Tom likes the idea but feels that the amount should be \$4,000 to \$4,500. Joel agrees with Tom because it's a good program. Jane suggested doing a match rather than giving them the full amount.

Randall read David V.'s email:

Hey Y'all, sorry that I'll miss the meeting this evening, and thank you all for carrying the torch! I know that you'll be hearing from Kady from Colorado DiscoverAbility early in the meeting, and I want to make a plug for supporting their Ride the Range initiative. I think it's a worthy cause, and it will bring some positive attention to the Riverfront Trail. I had the pleasure of riding with their crew last fall, and I'm really impressed by their staff's commitment to getting everybody engaged in recreational experiences. Regarding the RFT, I think CDA's interests and values align well with One Riverfront- open to all, moderate speeds, and pride in the recreational resource. I hope that one of you can make a motion to recommend that the Riverfront Foundation contribute substantial financial support- I've asked Michele to vote as my proxy.

Joel motioned to \$3,750. Second by Scott. Motion was passed.

Strategic Planning update – Stacy is currently refining the process and preparing a detailed package plan. There is a possibility that Third Sectors will handle the upcoming retreat. The current timeframe for the retreat is late summer or early fall, once the new board members have joined. Scott would like to utilize social media to gather community input ahead of the retreat.

Regarding the steering committee, Randall has volunteered to join, and Sarah is available to assist provided it is not a significant time commitment. Joel mentioned that the project scope still needs to be finalized; he will remain involved until the next meeting.

Scott would like to meet with the group once he receives the refined proposal from Stacy.

Trail Completion Committee Update – Joel presented the proposed trail layout from Clifton to Palisade. He presented the alignment, noting that Clifton Water requires a high-security fence along the trail surrounding their property. Regarding funding, Joel expects to have a specific figure soon. Sarah noted that funding should be more accessible since substantial right-of-way purchases may not be necessary; however, Mesa County has indicated they are not interested in purchasing right-of-way. Joel suggested that we encourage the County to view this as a transportation project.

The Pike property will be revisited at a later date.

A motion was made by Joel to present the first phase of the alignment—extending to 33 ½ Road across the Sauvage property—to Clifton Water. The motion was seconded by Randall and passed.

Additionally, CMU students will be presenting at the CMU tent this Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MEP Committee Update – Loreta said part of some of the items have been updated. Float will probably be canceled due to low water. Grand Valley River Cleanup is on Saturday with RiversEdge West – area is Las Colonias to ?

On your Left – Meg had nothing to update. She said it will probably segway into the speed discussion.

Trail markers – Jane is still waiting on where the stickers go. Sarah has sent email to the County.

May ride, Sarah and Jane need to coordinate a date but thinking on May 21st in conjunction with Bike Month. Will get info to Mesa County. Evening ride but not sure where.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

Future agenda item:

Issue of washed-out trail.