

COLORADO RIVERFRONT COMMISSION
683-4333
One Riverfront (ORF)

Minutes
June 8, 2026

Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm by chair, David Varner. Those present from ORF were:

Loreta Silverio	Joel Sholtes	Sarah Brooks
Jane Quimby	Scott Riise	Tom Friemann
Meg Thornton	Randall Reitz – via phone	

Scott Bleifuss, City of Grand Junction Council Member and Travis Haldeman, Mesa County Parks and Facilities.

Absent: Sarah Brooks

Did introductions around the room for applicants.

Approval of Minutes – April minute Jane. Tom second. Motion passed.

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

New Business –

Washed out trail. Travis said that Clifton Water will be fixing later this month or early July.

Bridge will be closed in late June or July for about a week or ten days. Waiting on a part.

Partner Updates

City of Grand Junction – Scott volunteered at the Bluegrass Festival and the number of bikes there was amazing.

Camping ban passed last week and it impacts the riverfront trail. With each cleanup they will follow the trail.

Approved signage for trails from Parks and Rec. Loreta asked if the signs say anything about speed. Scott said Level One e-bikes are only allowed.

Travis said the County is adopting the same policy and will be putting up signs.

Meg discussed the "On the Left" initiative, rider speed, and policies in other Western Slope communities. She is looking into practices in Vail, Glenwood, and Aspen, and has requested that

ORF participate in the upcoming Glenwood, Basalt, and Aspen meeting this Thursday. She also noted that one organization uses cartoon signs for messaging.

E-Bike Regulations & Enforcement: Jane noted that evolving technology makes it difficult to determine e-bike classes, creating enforcement challenges. Travis mentioned that the Sheriff's department will not enforce these regulations. It was suggested to add this topic to the next MEP agenda.

Randall suggested collaborating with partners, staff, and the community to establish unified standards.

Trail Safety & Homeless Camps: David addressed the necessary clearing of homeless camps, and Meg emphasized the overall need for safety on the trail.

7th Street Plans: The upcoming plans include new, split sidewalks but no bike lanes. Because no new sidewalks will be added through the historic neighborhood, the route will pivot to 9th Street. Signaled crosswalks will also be installed.

Mesa County – Travis said he covered what he wanted to say earlier.

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

Colorado Parks & Wildlife – Pete was unable to attend.

Town of Palisade – Troy was unable to attend. Bluegrass Festival was well attended so Troy is probably recovering. The boat launch improvements are really nice and seeing lots of use. The Town did approach the RFF for a \$35,000 grant to replace the crusher fine section of trail with concrete. The RFF agreed to grant the funds.

Announcements

Farewell to Joel, Jane and Sarah. David thanked Joel, Jane, and Sarah for their contributions to the committees and expressed his hope that they will stay involved. Both Joel and Jane noted that they plan to do so for now.

Additionally, Jane mentioned that she has the locations for the trail markers and will pick them up from my office tonight. She also needs to reach out to the new Parks and Recreation contact in Fruita to coordinate the setup.

Volunteer opportunities – Tour of the Moon event on September 11th and 12th:

- Volunteer Sign-Up: I will be sending out an email soon for volunteers to sign up. We need 12 people on Friday night to help distribute registration packets and six people on Saturday morning.
- Course Marshals: We currently have 7 Course Marshals and are looking for one more.
- Event Booth: The group needs to decide if we want to host a booth at the event.

- Event Contact: Chandler and Scotty have brought in another owner, Connor, who will be the main contact this year.

Strategic Planning update – Scott reviewed the proposal, focusing on the board members' participation and the time commitment required for the two-day retreat. Joel, Scott, and Loreta recommended moving forward with the full option of \$11,000+ to request from the RFF. The initial proposal has been refined to be advanced to the RFF.

During the discussion, it was noted that the next RFF meeting is in July, and it was suggested that the retreat be held after the new board members have been appointed.

Jane motioned to move forward with Option One for the Strategic Plan to the RFF, and Joel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Trail Completion Committee Update – Joel mentioned that we now have a 30% partial design from the CU/CMU students.

We are scheduling a meeting with Mesa County to discuss potential funding options and determine their desired level of involvement. We are also meeting with the RTPO.

Additionally, we are working on a soft campaign because we have heard that Mesa County will not be pursuing the right-of-way. Joel wants to focus on this issue, as the project will be stalled without the right-of-way secured.

MEP Committee Update –

Loreta mentioned there is not much to update and would like to put the group on hold until the Strategic Plan is complete. However, David would prefer the group to keep meeting.

Additionally, Scott met with Chandler Stewart, who offered to have an ORF representative join his outdoor recreation groups. David believes it would be beneficial for ORF to have a seat at the table, and Scott has volunteered for the role.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.