

COLORADO PLATEAU RIVER GUIDES PRIVATE
P.O. Box 344
Moab, UT 84532
(801) 259-8077

Minutes of the Spring Meeting of April 9, 1994

The first spring meeting of Colorado Plateau River Guides (CPRG) was held at the offices of Tex's Riverways in Moab, Utah, on April 9, 1994, where the meeting was called to order by CPRG vice-president Tim Thomas at 9:35 a.m.

In attendance were John Weisheit, Rebecca Martin, Jake Burnett, Rose Kaszuba, Sean Brown, Red Wolfe, Michael Carlisle, Michael Black, Dave Waddle, Dee Holladay, Steve Young, Darren Vaughan, Devin Vaughan, Jeanne Treadway, Alvin Halliday, Michael Smith, Jose Tejada, Don Oblak, Penny Elder, Tim Thomas, and Rick Cline. (21)

Board members present were Tim Thomas, John Weisheit, Penny Elder and Rebecca Martin. (4)

The president of CPRG was on a commercial Grand Canyon trip and the meeting was conducted by the vice-president of CPRG, Tim Thomas.

Jake Burnett wanted to clarify that he is not a director, as so stated in the first issue of The Confluence, that Rebecca Martin was. This was clarified by omitting Jake's name from the second issue of The Confluence.

Jose Tejada, operations manager for Sheri Griffith Expeditions (SGRE), spoke to the group regarding issues concerning owner/employee relations in the commercial river guiding business. He explained that a company, such as SGRE, has a yearly budgeted payroll and that raises for guides can only be achieved through budget manipulation. In other words, to get payroll raises, guides need to pool their resources together to cut expenses from other sources, such as the equipment budget. In this way, money would be transferred to the payroll budget and raises given. He emphasized that this is an employee problem - not an employer problem. The energy for change should come from the employees in the form of an organized in-house incentive program.

Jose also informed us of some of the discussion held at the latest Utah Guides and Outfitters (UGO) meeting. Employers of Grand Canyon guides, in the state of Arizona, pay a workmans comprehensive (WC) rate at 6% and that employers who hire guides in the state of Utah pay 20%. This is an overwhelming difference that needs reform on three levels; 1) by the guides, 2) by the employer, and 3) by the state of Utah. 1) Guides can help by tactfully monitoring the working conditions at the place they work and with the guides they work with; to be cognizant of potential accident situations, especially while lifting heavy objects. 2) Employers need to better evaluate situations with guides who may be filing fraudulent claims. And that in the long run, it would be better for the employer to pay for a

guides medical expenses in-house. 3) On the state level, it would be advantageous to put pressure on the managers of the Utah WC fund to reconsider their high rate. These are three ways in which guides could receive a better paycheck. CPRG should consider a volunteer committee to look into this dilemma.

Jeanne Treadway of Canyonlands Natural History Association (CNHA) invited CPRG to consider non-profit status through an umbrella policy called Canyon Country Volunteers (CCV). Already CNHA has provided the CCV umbrella service to: Friends of Westwater and The Nine Mile Canyon Coalition. Why? Because our mission statement is compatible with the mission of CNHA, which is already a successful and viable non-profit organization.

What CNHA can provide to CPRG are the following: 1) Set up a separate bank account according to proper bylaw directives that can be audited every year without direct intervention by CNHA. 2) Discounts for the CPRG membership on all the interpretative materials offered to the public through CNHA facilities. Access to the CNHA library and videos for CPRG interpretation programs and membership research projects. 3) Bulk mailings and post card announcement set-ups. 4) Access to desk-top publishing equipment to help with the processing of the CPRG journal, The Confluence. 5) Access to a 7700 person data base mailing. 6) Services for the above are free.

CNHA has the right to negate this set-up should CPRG lose sight of their mission statement by becoming either adversarial or politically incorrect. Insurance is provided for CNHA but not to the members of CCV, however there are some built-in safeguards.

CPRG needs to get membership cards out to their membership and also to order business envelopes and stationary.

Alvin Halliday introduced himself as the new BLM Westwater Ranger for the 1994 boating season. His basic job will be to patrol the river in Westwater Canyon, but highlighted that his position is not for law enforcement. He will conduct camp visitations for regulation compliance and guide interpretation skills.

The person responsible for the bulldozing activity in Miners cabin has violated the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, and the Mineral Policy Act. This individual is in big trouble and we hope we have seen the last of him!

Chad Holme is Alvin's assistance who will run the Westwater Ranger Station and do the pre-launch inspections.

There will be a tire clean-up program in the Fall.

The gravel pit operations for the re-paving of Interstate 70 is gone and so will the noise pollution it caused.

The man who owned Westwater Ranch recently died and there is concern that the land will

be sold and developed.

A semi-circular fence will be placed around the area of miner's cabin by an organized group of teenagers. Alvin reminded us not to walk on the roof of the cabin as it is prone to cave-in and already has on a past occasion (cow).

Alvin also reminded us that a RV dump compatible toilet system must be used for the 1994 season.

A new boat ramp has been excavated at Cisco Pump Station. It has a gravel base for now. Bids for a concrete ramp were way over the estimated BLM budget and will have to wait for a more reasonable contractor. A bulletin board for posting desert/river etiquette notices was also installed.

Doreen (past river ranger) is monitoring wildlife and needs the assistance of the guides for anything new and interesting. Especially if it involves protected or endangered species which include peregrine falcons, bald eagles and otters. The otters were introduced by the agencies in the Gunnison River and seem to be moving downstream into Utah. There are bald eagles nesting in Mee Canyon (Ruby Canyon) and two miles below the Ranger Station. There is a golden eagle nest across from the miner's cabin.

Friends of Westwater has an organized one-day patrol, next day clean-up program that CPRG is invited to join. No permit is required.

Discussion was considered to open CPRG to bike and jeep guides. An argument against the idea was forwarded explaining we already have enough to do concerning the river. Keep it simple. This is why we have a general membership roster. A motion was made by John Weisheit to keep the privilege of the CPRG vote within the river guide membership. Penny Elder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The bylaws were reviewed and we made a few changes in the wording. The bylaws would be re-written and published in The Confluence. They have yet to be accepted by the membership. This should be done after they circulate through the membership ranks and suggestions are forwarded.

A motion was made by Penny Elder to have the election of the president at the upcoming Fall meeting. Tim Thomas seconded the motion and it passed.

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded and passed.

John Weisheit,
Secretary/Treasurer, CPRG

October 17, 1994

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P.O. Box 344
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Agenda for CPRG meeting October 28, 1994

Call to order

Pass attendance sheet

Read the minutes of the last meeting for corrections and approve.

A motion was made at the Spring meeting to hold elections for the president at the next Fall meeting. Forgetting this, John Weisheit printed the bylaws in the third issue of The Confluence, which states the vice president would be elected on the even year. John would like the floor to explain. Should we ignore, comply, or revise?

Election of the President or Vice-president.

Bylaw review.

Form a committee to solve high workman's compensation rates in the state of Utah.

Membership committee to increase the ranks.

Newsletter committee to get artwork and articles.

Stationary and membership cards.

Westwater Canyon tire clean-up program.

Membership renewal procedures.

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Minutes of the Fall Meeting, 1994
120 Arbor Drive, Moab, UT
10/28/94

In Attendance: John Weisheit, Dean Megee, Steve Young, Don Oblak, Jose Tejada, Michael Black, Tim Thomas, Susette Weisheit, Leslie Howes, Dave Wood, Rebecca Martin, Jerry Smith, Cindy Paulson and Saina. (14)

Board members present: John Weisheit, Susette Weisheit, Tim Thomas and Rebecca Martin. (4)

Dave Wood is NPS working on river management plan. We did not discuss this with Dave. He had to leave but wanted to introduce himself.

Meeting was called to order by the president, Susette Weisheit at 4:15 p.m.

Motion was made by John Weisheit to accept the minutes of the Spring Meeting of 1994. Don Oblak seconded and the motion carried.

Though the printed bylaws (Summer 1994 Confluence) states vice-president elected at the Fall meeting, a motion that passed last April required election of the president. Bylaws will be corrected to reflect that motion of last April.

A motion was made, seconded and approved by the membership to give the board permission to adjust and accept the bylaws without a membership vote.

Discussion: Canyonlands Natural History Association and the incorporation of CPRG with for Non-Profit 501(3)(c) status through "Canyon Country Volunteers". We discussed the political correctness of a situation where CPRG opposes a decision of an agency that is directed by CNHA. The example cited was a proposed dam for BLM administered Westwater Canyon. Since our mission statement would oppose such a project we would be adversarial to the BLM and CNHA. We acknowledge that we would have to leave Canyon Country Volunteer status with CNHA. Mike Black said how it would be a great asset to have tax-deductible status for grant submissions and approvals.

A motion was made that the membership will accept the judgement of the board concerning CCV status with CNHA. Tim seconded and it was passed.

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Nomination of President: Susette Weisheit was nominated for president by Don Oblak. Leslie Howe seconded. Steve Young was

nominated for president by Tim Thomas. Rebecca Martin seconded. Election was held by secret ballot. John Weisheit and Jose Tejada counted the ballots. Susette was re-elected by a 90% majority vote.

We discussed defining the position of directors: directors would keep in regular contact with the federal agencies in their jurisdictions. That they would invite submissions for articles in The Confluence and also to submit regular articles themselves. That they would incite membership with the guides whose outfitters warehouses were in their districts. Give more power to the Moab Director simply because of the convenience. Don suggested visiting the warehouse with a pre-planned meeting and slide show or interpretive lecture to get members from outfitters guides. Jose volunteered to give talk with operations managers to put the pressure on; to get mailing lists of company guides and to ask questions of what they expect from CPRG. Steve suggested making some sort of information brochure about CPRG. Don also suggested that the president should be in charge of the directors; Jose said to make a director "At Large" position. Another suggestion was to initiate a phone campaign for membership; direct contact.

Directors Field of Operations

Bluff - includes the guides in S.W. Colorado.
Green River - includes the Grand Junction guides.
Moab - Moab
Vernal - Vernal

It was mentioned to expand directors but this would probably complicate things.

Tim Thomas made a motion that the president be in charge of directors; vice-president to help president to co-ordinate guidelines with directors and get these guidelines written. John Weisheit seconded and the motion passed.

Moab and Green River directors nominations: Steve Young was nominated as the Moab director. Rebecca seconded. Steve was duly elected. No Green River director was nominated but we decided to write a letter to Sean Brown of Holiday River Exp. to see if he was interested. John said he would write Sean a letter.

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Susette made a motion that we draft a Green River Director by the board to act until the Spring Meeting for an election at that time. Don seconded and it was passed.

We discussed forming a committee to work on lowering rates for the Workmans Compensation Fund in the state of Utah. Jose said the bottom line is keeping injury on the job down. Don said it is a positive thing for CPRG and outfitters to work together on. If guides get lower rates it shows good for CPRG. It would be nice to get money saved by the outfitter to go into equipment and payroll budgets. Mike warned that as a non-profit forming as a lobby could be dangerous, but that there was no harm in investigating. We were all amazed that the records at WC were not available to the public for scrutinizing. We thought it would be good to work with Bob Jones of Tag-A-Long and Brian Merrill of Western River. Jose is going to Palm Springs for Outdoor America convention and will discuss the matter there. It was suggested that we call the WC Funds in Colorado, Arizona, Wyoming, and Idaho to see how they got lower rates. Susette said she would take this on and attend the upcoming UGO meeting; to get things started and to talk to Bob Jones about ideas.

It was discussed that publishing the Confluence was too difficult at this time for four issues per year. Don Oblak made a motion to review the frequency of publishing the Confluence at the Spring Meeting. Dean seconded and it was passed.

In the past, Tom Rice has mentioned interest in grant work. We need to work with Tom but in the meantime a volunteer committee should be organized. Things this committee should discuss are advertising, benefactors and discounts.

Jose asked for membership applications to spread around at the Outdoor American meeting. We discussed lumping renewal notices by the quarter rather than by the month. It was suggested to print renewal dates on the address label. It would be nice to send the renewal notice with the Confluence. John said he would do it by the quarter and send them in the Confluence when convenient to do so, other wise he would mail out an individual notice. He also would modify the data base **COLORADO PLATEAU RIVER GUIDES**

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to reflect an expiration date and a guide number for members.

John made a motion to have a membership drive committee with Steve Young as chair. Steve seconded and it was passed.

We discussed SUWA and the opposition to the missile testing program from Green River to White Sands. Jose made a motion that SUWA needs to show us how the missile testing at Green River is related to river ecology for CPRG to endorse their stand against it; we need to focus on river issues before land issues. Tim seconded and it was passed.

A motion was made to adjourn and it was seconded and passed.

John Weisheit, Secretary/Treasurer
December 16, 1994

COLORADO PLATEAU RIVER GUIDES PRIVATE
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Minutes of the Spring Meeting, 1995
Fat City Smoke House, a restaurant
Moab, UT
04/23/95

In Attendance: John Weisheit, Rose Kaszuba, Steve Young, Bob Jones, Jose Tejada, Tom Rice, Tim Thomas, Susette Weisheit, Joe Englbrecht, Nancy Allemand, and Saina. (11)

Meeting was called to order by Susette at 10:20 a.m.

We discussed Workman's Comp which went up to 23% from 21%. Jose said this was a heated issue now and is not a good time to fight change because of some high claims. Bob said the only hope for change is to get a new classification with another group (ski patrol, etc.). Currently not fair because we are so diverse (not just guides). We need to prevent accidents in the field. Jose said Colorado state rates are going up despite being classified with ski patrol. Bob said that WC involves two fronts: Claims and disability pay. Also said that for every \$100 paid to the guide another \$50 pays for all the responsibilities of the employer. Some guides manipulate the industry. It was suggested that another article about this problem be addressed in THE CONFLUENCE.

Tim discussed membership activities in Green River and Vernal. We passed out the new tri-fold which encourages guide membership. Board members were encouraged to hand them out at places they can be accessed. Personal recruitment was also encouraged. It was mentioned that the reason to join CPRG is not to get THE CONFLUENCE. We are an advocacy group too. Steve wondered about getting guide addresses from the state. This has been already tried and the state will not cooperate for reasons of invading privacy, etc. Employer guide addresses was also mentioned. We have not had success with this in the past as it too has been tried. "Boatmans Bash's" too have been tried with little success. Susette said that direct confrontation is probably the best way.

Guide Certification - Bob Jones said that toying with certification has been going on for two years now. NPS does not seem to be interested in dealing with it because they haven't set standards in their own organization as yet. Bob felt that in ten years it will be implemented and it is a good idea that guides and outfitters do it now so that we can hand-tailor the standards. Something the outfitters seem to have done all along concerning regulations. Some NPS areas already have a guide certification and Bob said he was not overly impressed with the standards and thinks we can do a better job of it. Bob suggest that CPRG set the standards and regulate the testing -- issue cards. We should establish a steering committee to effect these standards and involve the BLM and NPS for their input and to show cooperation. This certification is not necessarily college curriculum or used to

earn college credit. Tom thought that the NPS and BLM should not even be involved. Bob felt that the agencies should not set the standards but should only be advisors in this primary committee. Certification would involve base material only. CFI could be the avenue to teach the courses for certification as they get funding. Tim suggested that the test involve a narrative practical like first-aid courses. Steve said that NPS probably can't initiate certification due to their current finances and low staff. Bob said that it would especially be good for "step-on" guides who give interpretation in the parks as pseudo-rangers. NPS does not have a guarantee of our professionalism. This would help.

Motion: John made a motion to form a steering committee to set a policy for guide certification with one NPS person, one BLM, two outfitters and three guides. John would be the chair. Motion seconded by Jose. Passed unanimously.

Committee is tentatively set to meet on Thursday, April 27, at 7:00 a.m. at the Dan O'Laurie Museum with Jose, Bob, Tim and Steve in attendance. We will probably ask Diane Allen and Russ Von Koch to also attend.

Grants. Now that we are a 501 3 c, we need to get grant monies to help our organization. Nobody was overly thrilled to volunteer. Tom is going to give it a try.

Bulk Mail. We should always meet the minimum bulk mail rate and send out complimentary copies to match that minimum. Use CNHA facilities to do this.

Animas River is now at a status of endangered from threatened, according to American Rivers.

We agreed to support Alternative II for the Dolores River EA.

We need to address the Dominguez Dam project on the Gunnison River.

We discussed forming a Tines Foundation as set up in the Grand Canyon. Bob said that he didn't think it was a good idea to put it in company brochures. Would be better to make a brochure rack or to provide hand-outs.

We discussed being involved with the Muscular Dystrophy float trip as a membership campaign.

We adjourned to do a hike and went into the area above by the Moab boat dock. Here we discussed noise pollution (air and river) and decided to retire them for awhile until river management issues are discussed at upcoming agency meetings. We felt that non-motorized trips would be useless unless trips became longer. That guides would burn-out sooner and that Workmans Comp rates would go up. River management plans, for the time being, seem to be on hold until the concession reform bill is passed in Congress. Jose mentioned that the future of park concessions will probably be for non-profit educational type corporations.

We also discussed Coast Guard licensing and decided to support Grand Canyon River Guides in their efforts. We felt that the biggest detriment to the commercial trip at the present time is: Trips are too short!

Colorado Plateau River GuidesPRIVATE
Fall Meeting
November 12, 1995

In Attendance

Joe Elg.
Steve Young
Rebecca Martin
Michele Reaume
Nancy All.
Saina
Susette W.
John W.
Robi P.
Dean Megee.
Mike Carlisle
Mike Smith
Paul Cowan

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Dan O'Laurie Museum.

1. River management plan is in process. Public comment is now open. Dave Wood would like to meet with us at the end of the year to get suggestion from river guides. Dave encourages guides to call him as well.

For instance: River box at Spanish Bottom; change or eliminate. Allocations will change. Presently 90/10, commercial/private. Trend indicates that privates to get more allocation.
SUSETTE VOLUNTEERS TO WORK WITH DAVE WOOD ON RIVER
MANAGEMENT PLAN AS CPRG REPRESENTATIVE.

2. Emergency procedures at Hite. If you believe your victim is in good care and proper procedures are being implemented, then you do not need to contact NPS. Once you decide to involve NPS, then you must willingly give up your care without reservations. Keep in mind that NPS will be using airlift out of Page, AZ, which does not have trauma care. Protocols should be made for the company you work for. SUSEETE VOLUNTEERS TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ABOUT THIS ISSUE.

3. River Rendezvous at Cunningham Ranch. Glen Canyon symposium by Inskip, Lee, Topping, and Frost. Martin Litton and David Brower. Litton Scholarship. Sejo Canyon field trip. Westwater boat trip. Crystal Geyser field Trip. Superintendent Day, NPS and BLM. Roy Webb talk. Larry Hopkins to help with logistics.
We will allow business trade actions to occur but will not give them floor time on speakers agenda.

4. Westwater Canyon can probably be restored to wilderness designation, especially Northern Section that includes Ron Pene's mineral claims. Letters need to be written. An action alert needs to be published in The Confluence. Each letter is thought of as 30 voter comments (Mike S.). Skip Edwards is not going to carry the ball on this as much. He is asking us to work with Peter Winn who lives in GJ and is a mining consultant and a river guide. Pete says that Ron Pene is doing a scam to take advantage of patent laws of the Mineral ACT OF 1872. MICHELE REAUME VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE ACTION ON THIS ISSUE.

The Confluence needs to give some recognition to Skip for his time and money to go to Washington D.C. to promote Westwater wilderness designation.

5. USCG issues. USCG has jurisdiction on non-navigable water. This includes that guides will go to Seattle for Coast Guard school. Coast Guard requirements for vessel operations. On November 16, the Coast Guard will be at Lees Ferry to meet with supers, guides and outfitters. This is going to happen and we have an option to convince them that we have things under control. The key is to have the park service convince coast guard that the standards are being met satisfactorily by the agencies now in charge, NPS and State of Utah. Inviting them on river trip through the Grand Canyon to see first hand how things are operated. Grand Canyon guides have the ball in their court at this time. CPRG needs to sit on it and wait to see if a letter campaign is necessary for the future.

6. Spillway enhancement. Rather than drop the lake 4.5 feet to accommodate flood reduction measures, the idea is to raise the potential 4.5 by adding a spillway enhancement. This way you can keep the water in Lake Powell for future use. This plan will take away our camps and our rapids when the lake is full in the San Juan and Cataract. What it is doing to Rainbow Bridge, what it is doing to the ecosystem. There will be scoping meetings and public comment periods for this issue in the future that we need to take note of. JOHN WEISHEIT WILL VOLUNTEER TO FOLLOW THRU ON THIS ISSUE.

7. Prospectus for Canyonlands will come out in December of 1995. Will not become effective until 1997 season because the 1996 brochures are already out. Guide training will be a part of this. Drug testing prior of employment and random checking. Drug testing cost \$300,000 (?) per positive result (Paul C.) Who is going to pay for these tests. The membership is very opposed to this measure.

Motion: That a letter be written on CPRG letterhead to Denver Regional (NPS) that we agree to drug testing only under duress of our constitutional rights (John W.) (Dean M. second). Unanimous except for Saina who abstained.

That the letter be issued in The Confluence to tear out for personal use.

Three bills in Congress to reform concessions so that government can make money (end subsidies): Hansens bill that would create a unified criteria for all the agencies in the

Interior and Agricultural as regards to concessions. 2. Would do away with preferential right of renewal. 3. Bennett's bill to enhance maintenance improvements with concessionaire fees.

8. Guide Training Seminars. CFI to make it affordable to guides in the Moab community. It is not cost effective for outfitters to train guides. Want a program to give guides basics training so that they can be polished by the individual outfitters. Right now the money is paid by the guide. Eventually it will be paid for by the outfitter. The Colorado River Fund (prospective) may also in time be funding guides training.

Grand Canyon concessions are using CFI programs for documentation (certification) in view of prospectus requirements. CFI is doing a Salt Lake City training session to accommodate these concessions.

9. Guide Certification. We should see this as coming and that we should be visionary enough to head this on right now and work out the standards of certification ourselves.

Standards Committee formed of three people with Steve as chair and Michele, Saina. To determine standards/levels of certification.

11. Grant writing. Tom Hicks works for Outward Bound, friend of Steve Young. Could be a board member -- to be Penny's successor. American Rivers is willing to pay somebody to get grants for guide training, river management agendas, reveg, etc. Mike Smith might be able to help out here with his non-profit connection called PRI, Inc. Gayla at Seekhaven writes grants too -- friend of Saina. Should also hit up the river suppliers. Somebody should be on top of the grant writing -- a full time job. Try not to compete with CFI in grant writing.

12. On-river training interp trip. To be done on all river sections, so as to be available to more than just 40 people in view of camping restrictions. Outfitters said that they will make it happen. Susette is on the committee for Cataract Canyon. John Weisheit is volunteer for Desolation Canyon committee. Call Tom Rice to get a San Juan trip going through Wild Rivers. Michele to see if Dinosaur is interested.

13. Sign-up box. Committee for a tri-fold with the 3 D's of Cataract Canyon camps to be issued at the box. Committee to be Saina, T-Berry and Susette.

14. Fly camp at Ten-cent to be somewhere else. No big deal because they need this camp to make radio contact. Helicopter landing, etc.

15. Rebecca filled us in about Atlas tailings pile. Meeting November 16th at Star Hall. To cap or to move, that is the question. There is too much disinformation about this subject. We need to become knowledgeable citizens. Cost analysis reports are not consistent. How much does it affect us as we conduct river trips below the pile. The Round Mountain issue. Traffic on Hwy. 128 issue.

16. Spring meeting will be sometime between Cat clean-up and Easter weekend.

17. Michele Reaume is nominated and elected to be vice-president of CPRG

18. Steve Young is nominated and elected Moab Director.

19. Vernal position to be tabled. Steve to take charge on finding this director. "Wan" Brown, Tom Hicks possible directors.

CPRG Spring Meeting PRIVATE
Dan O'Laurie Canyon Country Museum
May 3, 1996 at 9:00 a.m.

In attendance: Sean, Susette and John. A quorum since we are down two directors.

Absent: Michele and Steve and 180 members

Call to Order: 9:30 a.m.

Confluence articles: Dee Holiday to write of the changes of thirty years. Susette on emergency protocols and heli evacs. Sean on water quality.

Jeanne Treadway nomination to be honorary member. John, Sean, approved.

Nominations for president. Sean, John, approved. If he accepts and there are no further nominations by mail.

Vernal Director. Tom Hicks was nominated by Susette, John seconded, passed. Pending acceptance/mail nominations.

Bluff Director: John nominates Tamara Wiggans, second by Sean, approved. Pending acceptance/mail nominations.

Moab Director: Susette nominates herself, Sean seconded, passed. Pending mail nominations.

Computer payment schedule: John, Sean, passed.
\$150 a quarter paid to John and Susette paid in five years. No interest.

Membership Dues Increase: Tabled

River Rendezvous: Contact GCRG about adjusting to a Spring Rendezvous at Cunningham Ranch. Need permission from Utah Fish and Wildlife. Will be a joint adventure. Find out when will be the best time in Spring; week after Easter. Susette volunteers to chair this committee.

PGI: Resolve that CPRG be an advisor to the PGI process and advocate that costs for training are not directly passed on to the guides.

Grant to CFI: No. We give time and energy right now.

Internet: We have a home page through T-Berry's sister. No need to be subscribers at CPRG computer terminal.

T-shirts: Confluence contest for a jingle. Contest for artwork with our logo. To sell them at outfitters retail outlets. After we have a design we run a pre-order mailing.

Prospectus coming in June or July. Drug testing: see minutes of November 12, 1995 about letter Denver Regional.

America Outdoor membership: To become a member, susette, seaan passed. Pursue with Dougs Tims as per conversation at Spring UGO meeting for special arrangements.

Volunteer check-ins at Westwater. You can get a free permit to run Westwater if you volunteer one-day as an assistant to the rangers. Check with Marilyn. Put this in the confluence.

Cataract camping issues: Spanish Bottom conflicts with canoeists. Tabled to Cataract Canyon trip May 6 - 9. Canoe education is needed. Red box is gone.

Lake Powell: CPRG votes to get rid of Lake Powell.

Highway Cleanup: adopt a highway sign was tabled.

Toilets at Potash: Park service has a toilet to donate. Ugo is willing to pay for installation. No more heard from this point. John to analyze progress.

Tri-folds: get a reprint going at TI. John to do this.

Grants: Tom Hicks to possible work on grants. Work on TInes Foundation.

Board Meeting
Colorado Plateau River Guides
April 11, 1997
Fat City lunch meeting
Steve Young, Anne Egger, Michele Reaume, Jose Tejada, John Weisheit
Today's date is April 14, 1997

Jose Tejada volunteered to be Moab Director

Spillway enhancement was talked about at the GCRG meeting at Marble Canyon, April 4. GCRG seems positive about the project despite our dislike, because it will destroy habitat in Cataract and San Juan. John wrote an article to the BQR as of today. The article also encourages demolition of Glen Canyon Dam.

Steve Swanke of Island in the Sky District of Canyonlands, of which the River District is now a part of, has given us the okay to modify the red box sign up sheet with a map and brochure. CNHA will probably print it for us if we do the text and photos, etc.

Anne Egger is progressing on the CPRG membership brochure. Wants our feedback.

We will form committees at the CPRG Spring meeting in Green River to do educational brochures for:

1. Cat, Laby, and Still
2. Ruby and Westwater
3. Dino
4. Deso
5. San Juan

Topics to include sensitive areas like Butler Wash Panel, Rock Creek camping, possible sign-in box at Deso, Mineral Bottom, and etc.

CNHA will do the brochures. Funding available as of September. Need to be completed by then.

Rough draft due June 15.

Revision draft due July 15

Final draft due August 15 and submitted to agencies for approval.

T-berry will consult Meg Hatch to get Dino guides involved. Maybe Darren can help here. John and T-berry to go up to Vernal to do an interpretation program.

Land guide issues will be given a spot in THE CONFLUENCE as a short-term goal. Call it "Off the River" or something like that. We will try to encourage them to organize as a long-term goal.

Jose wants data base of the Moab guides who are CPRG members. John will prepare an address book for every director. The idea is to encourage them to build our membership.

River Rendezvous at Cunningham Ranch will be experimental and small this fall. Susette is in charge. Larry Hopkins and Anne Egger will help Susette. We will plan a BIG rendezvous in the fall of 1998.

Short-term this fall will be a Westwater trip. Long term in 1998 will include two river trips; one from Green River to Mineral Bottom and the other Mineral Bottom to Hite.

Susette thinks we can probably get a couple good speakers like: Rod Nash, Martin Litton, Bob Webb, and Roy Webb this coming fall. Speakers are to submit a hard copy and computer disk of their talk so that a symposium book can be published.

Submitted by John Weisheit
Secretary

Colorado Plateau River Guides
Minutes of the Spring Meeting
April 26, 1997 at 1:00 p.m.
Ray's Tavern in Green River, Utah

Attendance: Steve Young, David Focardi, Jose Tejada, Marty Shelp, Chris Smith, Shane Edwards, Dave Wilson, John Weisheit, and Darren Smith. Bob Quist attended towards the end.

Steve reviewed with the group the CPRG Board lunch meeting held on April 11 in Moab; it is our agenda.

Discussion of spillway enhancement at Glen Canyon Dam as gleaned from the Grand Canyon River Guides meeting held in the first week of April, 1997, which Steve attended in our behalf. It appears that some river guides in Grand Canyon are in favor of adding eight-foot flash boards to the top of the spillway gates. We found this to be the case at the GCRG Fredonia meeting the CPRG Board attended in the Fall of 1995. We stated our disapproval then, but that was for a 4.5 foot flash board proposal. So not only is the discussion continuing, but now the flash boards are taller.

Motion by Jose: The spillway enhancement program is not endorsed by the membership of CPRG. CPRG feels that Lake Powell should be a flood control facility rather than a water storage facility. Increasing the pool of Lake Powell will degrade the river experience of Cataract and San Juan canyons, damage riparian tributary streams, and further encroach upon Rainbow Bridge National Monument. The river community of the Colorado Plateau should not endorse the degradation of an upper basin canyon to improve the resources of a lower basin canyon; it is not consistent. The river guides of the upper basin extend an open invitation to anybody who is in favor of this spillway enhancement program to join us for a free river trip through Cataract or San Juan canyons to see the resource they are considering destroying.

Second by Steve; motion carried unanimously.

Task: Steve to write a letter for publication in the BQR concerning the above motion.

Glen Canyon Institute's mission statement was reviewed by the group.

Motion by Dave Focardi: CPRG endorses the mission statement of Glen Canyon Institute; to decommission Glen Canyon Dam and restore Glen Canyon to its natural state.

Second by Steve; motion carried with John abstaining (board member of GCI).

CPRG brochure for membership drive will soon be printed; Anne Egger, Bluff Director, is in charge.

CPRG educational brochures for our resource areas will be accomplished by the following volunteers:

1. San Juan Canyon by Anne Egger.
2. Deso/Gray by Dave Focardi.
3. Ruby, Horsethief and Westwater canyons by Marty Shelp and Darren Smith.
4. Dinosaur by Darren Smith and Marty Shelp.
5. Labyrinth, Stillwater and Cataract canyons by Steve Young.

Steve is the committee chair of this production team. The front page logo will be the common denominator for these brochures, but the subtitle and the text will be canyon specific. Canyonlands Natural History Association will print the brochures. Need agency final approval. The due dates are:

Rough draft - June 15

Final draft - July 15

Camera ready - August 15

The register box above Spanish Bottom. The park service has indicated to CPRG that they will work with us concerning the register box in Cataract Canyon. CPRG would like the park service to move the sign down river about 1/2 mile to the river left side (Needles District). We think that the current text (“warning dangerous rapids”) of this sign presents a possible liability case for the park service. We would like the text to be changed: “This is the camp sign-up box -- permit required” or something to that effect. Steve is preparing a new sign-up sheet. Included is a laminated sheet with a description of the camps in low, medium and high flows. Laminated topographic map sections will also be provided at the sign-up box.

Task: Steve to continue dialogue with the park service in Canyonlands. Provide copies of the sign-up sheet and the description sheet to the Board for their review and suggestions. Also to provide a camera ready copy of the above-mentioned sheets for THE CONFLUENCE so that the membership will be familiar with the new procedures.

Defending Constitutional Rights. Get the word into the river community, educate, encourage guides to send money to this organization, and get off their pissy pots. (pun intended)

THE CONFLUENCE will have a special section, as needed, for issues concerning land guides. Long-term goal is to unite and (or) form a land guides organization. John discussed with the group how letters occasionally come in explaining how CPRG appears to be too political. This group feels that we have to be political and to continue THE CONFLUENCE format as is.

We discussed **what the term “Guide Member” and “General Member” means.** We determined that the term “Guide” means industry related and not specific to the Colorado Plateau. For example: shuttle drivers can be guide members and guides that work outside the Colorado Plateau can be guide members. “General member is as is, i.e., “Must love

the Colorado Plateau”.

River Rendezvous at Cunningham Ranch. John spoke for Susette, committee chair. The facility is remote, quiet, scenic, quaint, and has riparian hiking. We need portable toilets and an outdoor kitchen. Our dates should not conflict with hunting season. Caretaker Dan Murphy is agreeable. Utah Division of Wildlife needs to be informed of our plans. We would like to have special speakers, record their talks and print them in a special edition of THE CONFLUENCE. River trip in Westwater. Invite all guides from all over the country--RSVP of course. This 1997 event is practice for a bigger event in 1998. We discussed moving the date up because if it was after the season ended, nobody would come. Tentative date, pending Susette's speaker consultations, is September 13 and 14, 1997.

Karla Vanderzanden of **Canyonlands Field Institute** has approached CPRG to consider taking over their guide training, which is in partnership with the **Guides Training Institute**. CFI would still provide staff, facilities and boats, etc. CFI will provide an office for CPRG at their headquarters. This office needs to be built. Long-term planning for CFI includes office expansion. We would share expenses for this facility, share utility expenses, etc.. This office will also be used for CPRG activities. We would need “seed” money to get this plan off the ground. Funding for programs is already available but needs to be upscaled and so Development directives are necessary. We would hire an Executive Director. The ED might work 25 to 30 hours a week in the winter and not at all in the summer. Programs would be held before and after the season. It is a perfect job for a river guide. For CFI, guide training is time-consuming and is a break even situation. Karla runs the guide training program at CFI and does not have time for it anymore. This opportunity is very plausible and should be considered seriously. One project for this ED would be to publish a text book for guide training.

Board recruitment for 1998 includes the vice president and the Vernal and Green River directors. The Green River position is currently vacant and Shane Edwards and Chris Smith volunteered to share the position together till the election this fall.

Other stuff included discussion by Darren to expand involvement outside of the Moab epicenter. He suggested that we always list the other interpretive trips happening on the Colorado Plateau (Dinosaur has an annual trip and we have never put it in THE CONFLUENCE). Steve and John have discussed, in the recent past, doing a special Vernal/Jensen event. We decided that the fall meeting in 1997 will be in the Uinta Basin around September 21. Speakers could be Roy Webb, Ted Hatch, Herm Hoopes, and etc. Buy a keg of beer too.

Jose as Moab Director will be doing a small newsletter to be mailed to Moab guides between issues of THE CONFLUENCE. He motioned for postage from CPRG. Second by Darren; carried.

Bob, who is a Director of Outdoor America, briefed us for an upcoming letter writing campaign. It concerns the bill that Larry Craig is introducing into Congress for AO and concerns concession reform. It will end the Prospectus process, give ten-year contracts, and raise performance ratings. Jim Hansen, Congressman from Utah, is a key player to send letters too. His chief of staff, Steve Hodapp is not concessionaire friendly.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

John Weisheit
Secretary/Treasurer

Minutes of the Fall Meeting

September 21, 1997

Location. Old City Park, Moab, Utah

Attendance. Attendance was well represented by the CPRG board, outfitter management, and guide membership. Best attendance ever with encouraging dialogue that indicates the organization is maturing .

Election of the president. Three nominations were considered and voted upon. Steve Young was elected.

Moab director. Three nominations were considered. None of the nominees were present. The office is therefore vacant until the spring meeting.

Bluff director. Anne Egger wrote a letter expressing her interest in the position and we will call her to confirm. Confirmation in January 1997. Anne accepted the position.

Grand Junction director. We created a new position for the CPRG board. A Grand Junction Director. We elected Darren Smith to fill this position.

Guide interpretation trip. Last year's trip was in Cataract. We felt it was time to do one in Dinosaur and will work on this concept for the future.

Prospectus. Canyonlands and Dinosaur prospectus in the mail and will be due in January 1997.

Drug testing. The membership feels this is unconstitutional. The issue has been in court already (Skinner vs. Railway Labor Executives Association). Let guides act on an individual basis. In *The Confluence* encourage members to write letters to NPS Denver Regional Office and to Congressmen. Encourage guides to send money to "Guides Defending Constitutional Rights" Box 1123; Flagstaff, AZ; 86002. We nominated a committee to research this issue. Committee is: Jose Tejada, Carol Van Steeter and Tim Thomas.

Canyonland's River Management Plan. After much debate we endorsed these issues: no jet-skis; allow outboard motors in Stillwater Canyon; red sign-up box [change the location, change the text and the map]; spread the canoe launches out; keep group sizes at 40.

Red Box. CPRG will make an educational tri-fold.

Finances. We have \$2000 in the bank.

Spring Meeting. Date to be announced

Adjournment

Submitted by John Weisheit
Secretary/Treasurer CPRG

Minutes Spring Meeting PRIVATE

May 3, 1996

Attendance. Sean, Susette and John at the Dan O'Laurie Canyon Country Museum, 118 East Center, Moab.

Honorary member. Jeanne Treadway nomination approved.

Vernal Director. Tom Hicks was nominated pending his acceptance.

Bluff Director. The office is vacant and Tim Thomas will be asked if he will fill the vacancy till the fall meeting.

Computer payment schedule. \$150 a quarter paid to anonymous donor for five years. No interest.

Membership dues increase: Tabled

River Rendezvous. Grand Canyon River Guides would rather do this in the fall. Site will be Cunningham Ranch. Need permission from Utah Fish and Wildlife. Susette volunteers to chair this committee. We have volunteers who will help.

Professional Guide Institute and Headwaters Institute. Resolve that CPRG be an advisor to the process and advocate that costs for training guides be passed on to the outfitters.

Internet. We have e-mail on Steve Young's computer. No need to be subscribers at CPRG computer terminal right now.

T-shirts. Develop a CPRG T-shirt in the future. Need investment monies.

America Outdoor. Doug Tims says we can be members but doesn't know what the classification or fee would be for a guide's organization.

Cataract camping issue. Spanish Bottom conflicts with canoeists increasing. Canoe education is needed. What do we do about the red box? Tabled.

Lake Powell. Advocate removal of Glen Canyon dam.

Adopt a highway sign. Tabled.

Toilet at Potash. Park service has a toilet to donate. Will be installed by 1997.

Tri-folds. Do a reprint of a membership tri-fold.

Grant: We could use one to pay for our publishing infrastructure. Conscript a volunteer.

Adjourn.

Submitted by John Weisheit
Secretary/Treasurer of CPRG