



## LAND STEWARDSHIP NETWORK COMMITTEE

October 30, 2008  
4:30 to 6:00 PM  
Bud Werner Memorial Library

PO Box 4134  
1694 Thirteenth Street, Suite 201  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477  
(970) 879-4370  
[www.communityagalliance.org](http://www.communityagalliance.org)

### Meeting Notes

Present: Lyman Orton, Chair  
Christy Belton  
Barry Castagnasso  
Lisa Gamber  
Carl Herold  
Lori Jazwick  
CJ Mucklow  
Wanda Redmond  
Marsha Daughenbaugh

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the following items as requested by the Executive Committee of the Community Agriculture Alliance per discussions held by the Board of Directors and Advisors during 2007 and 2008:

- An effort to convene various ag-interested groups
- Define "New Agriculture" versus "Old Agriculture" in the context of generational operations
- Determine which (if any) advocacy issues/organizations Ag Alliance could support
  - i.e: permitting/zoning issues, water, air, land use, capital gains, estate taxes, safety-related issues
- Anticipate what is coming for our area – possibly as determined from the Vision 2030 surveys

Lyman reviewed the purpose of the LSN Committee, the work that has been done by this Committee and the successes and failures of the LSN programs. He asked the group to focus on the following during the discussions:

- \* Does anyone care if Routt County Agriculture were to disappear?
- \* How can we "reinvent the old and bring back the new"?
- \* How can we best advocate for public policy changes that will benefit agriculture and business

The group discussed and made the following proposals to be presented to the Ag Alliance Board of Directors:

#### **Proposed Advocacy #1**

Support the Deep Roots Local Food Trust of the Yampa Valley under the Community Agriculture Alliance Northwest Colorado Products Program

#### Proposed Program Development

- Review any agricultural land use policy changes when proposed by Deep Roots
  - i.e: HOA prohibition of home gardens, county ag tax status for commercial nurseries
- Develop better understanding between traditional ag producers, home producers and consumers
- Assist Deep Roots with venture capitalism process

Committed to the Yampa Valley's Agricultural Heritage  
Through Bridging of Agriculture, Business, Community and Resort Interests

**Proposed Advocacy #2**

Protect current water right appropriations that exist in the Yampa Valley, including but not limited to Agriculture, Municipal, Utilities and Recreation.

**Proposed Program Development:**

- Ascertain all agencies, organizations and groups within the Yampa River Basin that have water interests
- Develop a contact database for the groups
- Convene all groups to start discussions
- Develop a partnership with a wide variety of water agencies, organizations and groups
  - Determine specific resources and interest levels
  - Determine Yampa Basin Roundtable acceptance of said partnership
- Develop a community-wide water education program
- Research “Out-of-the-Box” Concepts
  - Offer community-wide input opportunities
- Develop a Northwest Colorado Advocacy Statement regarding water quality, quantity and use
  - Be pro-active with regional, state and national water issues

**Other advocacy topics discussed:**

- Routt County fence laws
- Venture Conceptualism – Helping people get started with new ideas and new ways