

RECORD OF PROCEEDING

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**SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

**May 16, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) was held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 10:24 a.m., at the District office, 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado.

President Long announced a quorum was present.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Bill Long	Ann Nichols	Vera Ortegon
Gary Bostrom	Kevin Karney	Harold Miskel
Gibson Hazard	Greg Johnson	Carl McClure
Howard "Bub" Miller	David Simpson	Shawn Yoxey
Tom Goodwin	Leonard Pruett	Jay Moore

**DIRECTOR(S) ABSENT AND EXCUSED:**

Alan Hamel-Advisory Board Member.

**DISTRICT OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Executive Director James Broderick; General Counsel Lee Miller; Administrative Manager Toni Gonzales; Project Engineer Kevin Meador; Director of Engineering and Resource Management Bob Hamilton; Project-Program Coordinator Jean Van Pelt; Administrative Support Specialist Leann Noga; Special Water Counsel Alix Joseph; and Federal Lobbyists Ray Kogovsek and Christine Arbogast.

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

David Mau, U.S. Geological Survey; Chris Woodka, The Pueblo Chieftain; Steve Witte and Julie Pearson, Colorado Division of Water Resources-Division 2; Doris Morgan, Congressman Cory Gardner's office; Terry Book, Board of Water Works of Pueblo; Alan Ward, Busk Ivanhoe Water System Authority; Mike Collins and Roy Vaughan, Bureau of Reclamation; Rick Kienitz, Aurora Water; Roy Heald, Security Water District and Fountain Valley Authority; Paul Blanchard, Northwest Pipe Co.; Tim Payne, Fremont County; Matt Cook and Gary Fuller, HDR Engineering; Keith Goodwin and Jim Baldwin, Otero County; Scott Campbell, Twin Lakes and Colorado Canal; Dan Henrichs, High Line Canal Company; Christine Thiebaut, Senator Mark Udall's office; Dwight Gardner, Senator Michael Bennet's office; Brian McCain, Congressman Scott Tipton's office Lee Lindeen, Providence Infrastructure; Tom Bregar, CWPDA; Brett Gracely, Colorado Springs Utilities; Bill Vaupel, Jacobs; and Jerry Peña, CDM Smith.

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**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:**

President Long welcomed the visitors to the meeting, and asked them to introduce themselves and identify the organization they represented.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

President Long asked if the members of the Board had received their copy of the minutes of the April 18, 2013 Board meeting, and if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Mrs. Ortegon moved, seconded by Mr. Goodwin, to approve the minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Treasurer Ann Nichols reported the financial statement for April was posted to the Board website for review. Treasurer Nichols moved, seconded by Mr. Howard "Bub" Miller, for acceptance of the April 2013 financial statement and payment of the May 2013 bills. Motion unanimously carried.

**CONSENT ITEMS:**

None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**SECWCD WEBSITE OVERVIEW**

Leann Noga gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the new District website reviewing the following:

- Public: Meetings and Agendas
- Calendar of Events
- Public: Minutes of Board Meetings
- Secure Login: Member Landing Page
- Password Instructions
- Board Meeting Information
- Committees

Mrs. Noga reported an IT team was formed to work on this project. A Beta test of the website had been done by staff, Board members, and a member of the public. The new website will be live and available for view May 20, 2013. Mr. Broderick thanked the team and Mrs. Noga for great finished product.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

President Long reported the annual election of officers is done in May of each year. Nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are made.

The Executive Director serves as the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. A nomination is required for that office.

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President Long opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Karney moved to retain the current slate of officers and that Mr. Broderick serve as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, seconded by Mr. Goodwin. Motion unanimously carried.

The elected officers are as follows:

- President – Bill Long
- Vice President – Harold Miskel
- Treasurer – Ann Nichols
- Secretary – Vera Ortegon
- Assistant Secretary-Treasurer – James Broderick

President Long thanked the Board for their support of the re-elected slate of officers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Howard “Bub” Miller moved, seconded by Dr. Moore, to approve President Long’s recommendation and appoint the following to the Executive Committee:

Bill Long, President and Chairman of the Arkansas Valley Conduit Committee  
Harold Miskel, Vice President and Chairman of the Excess Capacity and  
Enlargement Committees  
Vera Ortegon, Secretary and Chairwoman of the Resource & Engineering Planning  
Committee  
Ann Nichols, Treasurer and Chairwoman of the Finance Committee  
Greg Johnson, Chairman of the Colorado River Committee  
Gary Bostrom, Chairman of the Human Resources Committee  
Carl McClure, Chairman of the Allocation Committee  
James Broderick, Executive Director (nonvoting member ex officio)

Motion unanimously carried.

WATER COURT RESUME

Mr. Hamilton reported Case No. 13CW19 is an application for Approval of a Plan for Augmentation by St. Charles Mesa Water District (SCMWD) and was mentioned in the April 2013 Board Water Court Resume Information Item as a case of interest to the District. The sources of water for this plan are Bessemer Ditch Water Rights and Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water and Project water return flows. There are two zones within SCMWD and Zone 2 is mostly (if not all) outside of the District boundaries. Staff, general counsel, and special water counsel have discussed this case and believe there are sufficient issues concerning the use of Fry-Ark Project water that a Statement of Opposition should be filed in this case. Alix Joseph said the attorney for SCMWD has contacted District legal counsel and have begun discussions to address the District’s concerns with this application.

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Mrs. Ortegon moved, seconded by Dr. Moore, the Board authorize special water counsel to file a Statement of Opposition in Water Division 2, Case No. 13CW19. Motion carried, with Mr. Simpson abstaining.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REPORT**

Roy Vaughan provided a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the following:

- As of May 14, there were 165,860 acre-feet stored in Pueblo Reservoir; 123,431 acre-feet of Project water; 32,441 acre-feet of Excess Capacity water; 9,831 acre-feet of Winter water.
- There is currently 133,518 acre-feet of Project space in Pueblo Reservoir and 60,515 acre-feet of space in Turquoise and Twin Lakes Reservoirs.
- Project Reservoirs: Turquoise 39%; Twin Lakes 81%; Pueblo 89%
- Time Series Snowpack Summary for Upper Colorado River Basin and Arkansas River Basin
- Snow Water Equivalent Graphs for Independence Pass, Ivanhoe, Nast Lake, and Kiln
- Forecast: February 32,900 AF; March 25,700 AF; April 24,700 AF; May 47,231 AF

**DIVISION ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Witte reviewed the following:

- River and Reservoir Reports
  - Arkansas River Daily Report. River Call is
    - (1) 12/03/1884            Catlin
    - (2) 01/29/1885            Buffalo
  - <http://www.dwr.state.co.us/div2/aras/arascal.asp>
- Current River/Reservoir Operations
  - Low flow conditions
    - (1) Run-off appears to have begun on Monday 5/13/13
    - (2) Inflow increase at Portland observed Wednesday 5/15/13
    - (3) Numerous releases of Winter water (Bessemer, High Line, and Oxford currently, but Catlin, Holbrook, and Fort Lyon have run out of their Winter water)
    - (4) Exchanges / alternate point of diversion into Pueblo 70 cfs
    - (5) Upstream Exchange 118cfs
    - (6) Increased transit losses
- Reviewed Rule 14 Replacement Plans to replace well depletions.
  - Total temporary pumping approvals:
    - (1) AGUA            5466
    - (2) CWPDA        14,666
    - (3) LAWMA        10,132
  - Replacement supplies will be needed to preserve the ability of a number of municipal and domestic well users who are members of CWPDA.

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- LAWMA has submitted plan to address in-state replacement deficit.
- Final approvals will be issued following District allocations, May 16, 2013.
  
- Two applications for approval of Rule 10 Plans have been submitted, one by the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District (LAVWCD) and a second plan specifically addressing improvements under the Ft. Lyon Canal system under the auspices of the LAVWCD.
  - Both plans state their intention to rely on Fry-Ark return flows to be used as a source to maintain return flows associated with surface water irrigation improvements. Additionally, the LAVWCD intends to utilize two recharge ponds as means of maintaining return flow patterns.
  - Both plans were approved on April 30, 2013.

President Long congratulated Mr. Witte on receiving the Bob Appel Award at the Arkansas River Basin Water Forum.

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT

Mr. Mau presented a PowerPoint titled, *Summary of Water Conditions in the Arkansas River Basin*, reviewing the following:

- Current Stream Flow Conditions
- Colorado SNOTEL Snowpack Update Map
- Mountain Snowpack as of May 1, 2013
- Colorado Reservoir Storage Map
- Arkansas, Colorado, and Rio Grande Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts as of May 1, 2013
- Precipitation Maps
- Drought Maps
- Observed Fire Danger Class, May 13, 2013

President Long said Chris Woodka did several great articles last week regarding farming in Bent County, and suggested reading them.

STATE LEGISLATION UPDATE

Lee Miller reported the General Assembly adjourned on May 8, 2013. On the final day of the session, the General Assembly passed two pieces of legislation that the District has been following. HB03-1130, sponsored by Representatives Fisher and Sonnenberg was passed accepting amendments made by a conference committee. This bill allows the state engineer to reapprove operation of an interruptible water supply agreement. Also passed on the last day was HB03-1248, which, as amended, authorizes the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to administer a pilot program to demonstrate the practice of fallowing agricultural irrigation land and leasing the associated water rights for temporary municipal use. The bill was signed by the Governor on May 13, 2013. SB03-19 was signed by the Speaker of the House, and no further information is known at this time.

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The Board was provided a copy of the D 2013-005 Executive Order, directing the Colorado Water Conservation Board to commence work on the Colorado Water Plan. Lee Miller read paragraph III B. as follows:

The CWCB is directed to commence the work necessary to submit a draft Colorado Water Plan for review by the Governor's Office no later than December 10, 2014. The CWCB will work with the Governor's Office to complete the final plan no later than December 10, 2015.

**NRCS COLORADO BASIN OUTLOOK REPORT MAY 1, 2013**

Mr. Hamilton reported the Colorado Basin Outlook Report for May 1, 2013 was posted to the Board website and a copy was in their Board binders. Mr. Broderick said this item will move to an information item in the future.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

The Board was provided written material on the following topics, which were posted to the Board website:

- Committee Appointments
- Water Court Resume
- O M & R Update
- Bob Appel Award

**OTHER BUSINESS MATTERS:**

President Long called attention to the packet regarding the upcoming 2013 Xeriscape Tours of Pueblo and Pueblo West.

President Long asked if there were any other matters to come before the meeting, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Gonzales  
Administrative Manager

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Secretary

SECWCD  
May 16, 2013  
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