

**RESOURCE AND ENGINEERING PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 1, 2018**

A meeting of the Resource and Engineering Planning Committee was held on Thursday, February 01, 2018 at 10:09 a.m. at the District Office, 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado.

Chairman Mitchell announced a quorum was present.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Curtis Mitchell - Chairman

Tom Goodwin and James Broderick

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:**

Seth Clayton, Greg Felt, and Gibson Hazard

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Alan Hamel, Andy Colosimo, Mark Pifher, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) Directors; Garrett Markus, Kevin Meador, and Chris Woodka, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District staff.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Mitchell asked for approval of the November 2, 2017 minutes, and if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Tom Goodwin moved, seconded by Jim Broderick, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**PUEBLO DAM HYDROELECTRICT PROJECT UPDATE**

Kevin Meador reported that the project is moving fast while presenting images of the construction site. Near term construction goals are to have concrete poured to an elevation over the projected river level after the Winter Water season terminates, install river gates to prevent river water into the powerhouse during construction, and remove the coffer dam in the river in anticipation to spring runoff. Inside the powerhouse, Kevin showed the installation of the three penstocks and how they would tie into the powerhouse and North Outlet Works.

Construction of the Pueblo Dam Hydroelectric Project continues on schedule for mid-2018 start-up. Black Hills Energy has approved the transformer for the substation to meet the anticipated project start-up date. Turbines are scheduled for installation June-July.

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION QUARTERLY REPORT ON INCLUSIONS**

Garrett Markus discussed Reclamation's quarterly status reports on inclusions into the District's boundaries. There is only one inclusion awaiting secretarial assent in the administrative

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process. However, the 45 Colorado Springs True-Up inclusions are still waiting on a response from the advisory council that will ultimately allow secretarial assent and complete their inclusion process.

Staff is working on updating the District's Inclusion Manual which illustrates the incorporation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. The administrative process is determined as "no significant federal action" due to nature of Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water as a supplemental water source. However, if there is a situation that established a federal nexus dependent on a federal action, the full process would be used to study that situation.

**REGIONAL RESOURCE PLANNING GROUP (RRPG) 2018 UPDATE**

Regional Resource Planning Group (RRPG) Joint Funding Agreement with USGS was designed to establish water quality baseline for reaches on the Arkansas River basin in Colorado.

Participants are City of Aurora, Board of Water Works of Pueblo, Colorado Springs Utilities, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District, Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District, and Southeastern Colorado Water Activity Enterprise (Enterprise).

The RRPG group was formed to fund and study water quality issues in specific areas of the Arkansas basin. This task was broken down into phases. Phase 1 was a comprehensive analysis and synthesis of available data and studies in the basin by identifying and prioritizing water quality issues, information, and analytical tools needed to address these water quality issues and gaps in existing data. Phase 2 determined source areas, identified processes, and evaluated potential changes in land and water uses, and diversion/storage operations on water quality; evaluated potential effects of changes in reservoir operations and changes in land uses on water quality of Pueblo Reservoir; and understood fate and transport of metals from Leadville to Pueblo Reservoir.

In 2017, the RRPG initiated to study the Arkansas River between the confluence of Fountain Creek and John Martin Reservoir. This was a two-year study commencing in 2017 and the 2018 Joint Funding Agreement reflects the continuation of the study.

The Enterprise holds the contract with the USGS but funding is broken down as follows:

Board of Water Work of Pueblo, City of Aurora, Colorado Springs Utilities, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District, and Southeastern Colorado Water Activity Enterprise contribute \$25,000. Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District contributes \$10,000.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

None

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

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None

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Garrett J. Markus, P.E.  
Water Resources Engineer