SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER

CONSERVANCY DISTRICT MINUTES July 21, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) was held on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 9:33 a.m., at the District office, 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado. The ZOOM platform was also made available for Board members and visitors.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Alan Hamel	Curtis Mitchell	Pat Edelmann (remote)	
Andy Colosimo	Howard Miller (remote)	Patrick Garcia	
Ann Nichols	Mark Pifher	Seth Clayton	
Bill Long	Matt Heimerich	Tom Goodwin	

DIRECTOR(S) ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Dallas May, Greg Felt, and Kevin Karney

President Long asked all present to introduce themselves. President Long asked Margie Medina for a roll of those connected via ZOOM. A quorum was present.

DISTRICT OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Executive Director James Broderick; General Counsel Lee Miller; Staff Attorney Peter Levish; Senior Policy and Issues Manager Chris Woodka; Water Resource Engineer Garrett Markus; Principal Engineers Kevin Meador and Mark Scott; Administrator of Finance and Administration Leann Noga; Accountant Stephanie Shipley; Administrative Support Specialists Margie Medina and Patty Rivas (remote); Intern Eleanor Ludwig; and Steve Leonhardt (remote @ 9:42), Burns Figa and Will.

VISITORS PRESENT:

Abba Ahmed and Rick Kienitz, Aurora Water; Abby Ortega, Colorado Springs Utilities; Bill Tyner, Division Engineers Office; Patrick Fisher and Mike Holmberg, Bureau of Reclamation; Krystal Brown, USGS; and Curt Thompson, AECOM.

VISITORS CONNECTED REMOTELY:

Cathy Garcia, Congress-Woman Lauren Boebert's Office; Jerry Pena, Kennedy Jenks; Kim Swearingon (9:46), Pueblo West Metro District; Lisa Brown, Wilson Water Group; Nathan Pilcher, Kleinfelder; Rachel Duran (10:14) Kansas Dept of AG; Renee Martinez, Senator Michael Bennet's Office; Roy Heald (9:55) Security Water and Sanitation; Scott Lorenz (11:19) Colorado Springs Utilities; and Travis White (9:40), JHL Constructors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Long said the minutes of the June 16, 2022, District Board meeting were posted to OnBoard and the Board website for review and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Mr. Garcia moved, seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

TREASURER REPORT:

Ann Nichols reported the financial statements for May and June 2022 were posted to OnBoard and the Board website for review. Ms. Nichols moved, seconded by Mr. Clayton for acceptance of the May and June 2022 financial statements and payment of the July 2022 bills. Motion unanimously carried.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

GFOA DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

Mrs. Noga discussed that the District has now earned the award for the eleventh time for the 2022 Budget Publication. The 2022 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is presented to the Finance Team of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District. The Finance Team is made up of Jim Broderick, Leann Noga, Chris Woodka, Stephanie Shipley, and Lynette Holt.

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program to encourage and assist state and local governments in preparing budget documents with a very high quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on state and local budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting. In addition, to then recognize these individual governments with the success in achieving this goal.

The guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as; a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. The GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. More information can be found at <u>http://www.gfoa.org/budgetaward</u>.

President Long thanked the team for their great work. A copy of the award was provided to the Board.

ACTION ITEMS:

INCLUSION OF LAND ANNEXED BY COLORADO SPRINGS

Mr. Garrett Markus started out by advising the Board that the Resource and Engineering Planning Committee did not meet this month, however after speaking to Chairman Curtis Mitchell it was agreed to recommend the Board approve the inclusion of the annexation in the City of Colorado Springs into the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) with the standard terms and conditions. Once approved by the Board of Directors, staff will send the annexation to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for assent. The District will submit the inclusion to the District Court for final decree. The inclusion manual requires that annexations be processed in a timely manner.

There are three methods of including lands into the District:

- 1. Annexation by a town or city located in the District.
- 2. Petition of the property owners.
- 3. Vote of the property owners.

All three of these methods require assent from the Secretary of Interior, for which Reclamation requires a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the lands to be included in the District boundaries. Once the Board approves the inclusion by Resolution, then Secretarial Assent by Reclamation is requested. The inclusion is submitted to the District Court for a decree including the lands within the District.

The Application of Assent has been submitted to the District and will be forwarded to Reclamation for the property.

RESOLUTION NO.	More Commonly Known As	Legal	Acres	County
2022-20D INCL-AX	Extol Park Vista Addition No. 1	Sec26 T13SR66	0.331	El Paso

Mr. Garcia moved, seconded by Mr. Pifher that the Board approve, by Resolution, the inclusion of the Extol Park Vista Addition No. 1 annexation annexed by Colorado Springs subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Approval of these inclusions into the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District will not increase the amount of Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water available to the city. Any Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water used on these included lands will need to come from the water allocated to the city through Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water allocations made pursuant to the District's Allocation Principles and Policies; and

2. Any use of Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water on the included lands is subject to the decrees for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, and to all lawful rules, regulations, principles, policies, and contractual obligations of the District; and

3. The annexed lands will be subject to ad valorem taxes levied by the District as any other similarly situated lands in the District at the time of this inclusion; and

4. Prior to the District filing a petition for District Court approval of this inclusion, the Municipality, and/or owner(s) of the annexed lands shall have paid all the costs charged by the United States in connection with the contracting officer's assent to this inclusion. Motion unanimously carried. The Board was provided copies of the Resolution.

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY REPORTS:

U.S BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REPORT

Mr. Mike Holmberg provided a written report reviewing the following as of July 11, 2022:

- There were 188,220 acre-feet stored in Pueblo Reservoir; 134,581 acre-feet of Project water; 39,941 acre-feet of Excess Capacity water; 15,776 acre-feet of Winter water and winter carryover
- There is currently 110,792 acre-feet of Project space in Pueblo Reservoir and 22,963 acre-feet of space in Turquoise and Twin Lakes Reservoirs.
- Charts illustrating storage amounts in Turquoise Lake, Twin Lakes, and Pueblo Reservoir
- Project Reservoirs: Turquoise 98%, Twin Lakes 92%, Pueblo 100% as of July 11, 2022
- Snowpack summaries for Arkansas River Basin and Colorado Headwaters
- Boustead Stored Cumulative Imports 2022

- As of June 30, 2022, Total M&I in the System = 124,219 AF
 - 1. East = 20,634
 - 2. West = 9,474
 - 3. Pueblo = 18,456
 - 4. Other = 4,114
 - 5. FVA = 71,811
 - a. CSU 52,414
 - b. Fountain = 6,172
 - c. Security = 5,085
 - d. Stratmoor = 1,929
 - e. Widefield = 6,211

Deputy Area Manager Patrick Fischer from the Bureau of Reclamation provided a Q&A to the Board.

DIVISION ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Bill Tyner presentation included:

- Pueblo Memorial Airport WY2022 Perception Projections.
- Notable Updates:
 - 1. Arkansas Basin Supplies/Impacts
 - 2. Follow-Up on ARCA Approval of Multi-Purpose Account in John Martin
- Running Three consecutive Year Supplies Pueblo Reservoir to John Martin Reservoir
- 2022 Monsoon Daily Average Surface Dewpoint at Tucson International Airport Operations
- 8-14 Precipitation Outlook
- Seasonal Precipitation Outlook
- Summary Conclusions
 - 1. Expecting 2022 Supplies to Drift Down
 - 2. Remaining Winter Water and Project Water Supplies Critical
- Multi-Purpose Account in John Martin
 - 1. Authorized by Arkansas Compact Admin 7/1/22
 - 2. Resolution established the 20,000 AF Account through 3/31/2028
 - 3. Storage Charge to Kansas (12.5%)
 - 4. Initial Participants
 - a. LAWMA/C-SU (Ft Lyon Shares)
 - b. LAVWCD Catlin Canal Lease Fallow Projects (Fountain, Security, C-SU)
 - c. Catlin Augmentation
- Additional Multi-Purpose Account Details
 - 1. Operating Plan Approved Annually
 - 2. Opportunity to Include More Participants
 - 3. Opportunity to Include More Arkansas Basin Sources
 - 4. Projects that Promote Water Quality Optimal Chance of Inclusion and Potentially Lower Storage Charge

Mr. Tyner presented a tribute to Bruce Smith. Bruce Smith had a 40-year career with the Division of Water Resources as Water Commissioner, and later Deputy, in District 11 in Chaffee County. Bruce exited this world the week of July 11, 2022. Mr. Tyner thanked the Board for allowing him to pay tribute to Mr. Smith.

Q&A was opened to the Board.

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT

Mrs. Krystal Brown presented an update from USGS Discussion about CyanoHABS (Harmful Algae Blooms). This report was provided courtesy of Natalie Day, Biologist, USGS Water Science Center at the Grand Junction office.

- Cyanobacterial (blue-green algal) blossoms are often triggered by excess nutrients and warmer water temperatures.
- They most commonly occur in areas with larger residence times like lakes and reservoirs.
- Cyanobacteria can produce taste-and -odor compounds and toxins
- Organisms, and the toxins they produce, can be transported to downstream water users.
- Many questions remain regarding spatiotemporal occurrence, environmental triggers for toxicity, and methods to predict the timing, duration, and toxicity of specific CyanoHAB's.



- Current Projects involving HAB monitoring:
 - 1. Remote sensing of water quality at Colorado River near Cameo, CO
 - 2. White River Benthic Algae Project
 - 3. Blue Mesa HABS Project
 - 4. Three Lakes Project

Q&A was opened to the Board.

COLORADO RIVER ISSUES STATUS

Mr. Lee Miller reported to the Board during a June 14, 2022, U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources hearing to examine short and long term solutions to extreme drought in the western United States, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton announced that between 2 and 4 million acre feet of additional conservation is needed just to protect critical reservoir elevations for Lakes Powell and Mead in 2023.

Commissioner Touton gave the Basin States 60 days to propose a plan to achieve this goal or she would use federal "authorities to act unilaterally to protect the system, and we will protect the system."

This has spawned several interstate and in-state meetings. A letter of response from Charles Cullom, Executive Director of the Upper Colorado River Commission dated July 18, 2022, was discussed by Mr. Miller, which was posted to the SECWCD website.

Mr. Miller took questions from the Board.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

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

- Water Court Resume
- Audio and Visual Upgrades to Board and Conference Rooms Status
- NWRA Western Water Seminar information
- CWC Summer Conference information

President Long reminded the Board that if anyone still wishes to attend the Colorado Water Congress August 2022 conference, to please let District staff know after the Board Meeting adjourns. President Long asked if there were any other matters to come before the Board, hearing none, Mr. Long adjourned the District Meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Rivas Administrative Support Associate

Secretary