

**WINTER WATER STORAGE PROGRAM  
Board of Trustees Annual Meeting Minutes  
Friday, October 19, 2018**

**10:30 a.m. Otero Junior College Student Center  
2001 San Juan Avenue  
La Junta, CO 81050**

Acting Chairman, Garrett Markus, called the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Winter Water Storage Program (WWSP) to order at 10:37 a.m. Introductions were made then roll call of voting members was taken.

**Winter Water Board of Trustees Voting Members Roll Call:**

Glenn Wilson, Amity Mutual Irrigation Company; Mike Hill, Bessemer Irrigating Ditch Company; Greg Williams, Catlin Canal Company; Stacey Sober, Colorado Canal Companies; Jerred Hoffman, Fort Lyon Canal Company; Jack Yaklich, High Line Canal Company; Donny Hansen, Holbrook Mutual Irrigating Company; Jeff Baylor, Las Animas Consolidated Canal Company; Mark McQuiston, Oxford Farmers Ditch Company; Tom Pope, Riverside Dairy Ditch; and Alan Ward, West Pueblo Ditch.

**Others in Attendance:** - Terry Howland, Amity Mutual Irrigation Company; Jeanette Myers, John Van Oort, Phil Reynolds, Lonnie Spady, and Bill Tyner, - Colorado Division of Water Resources; Bob Barnhart, Holbrook Mutual; Kalsoum Abbasi, Colorado Springs Utilities & Colorado Canal; Terry Dawson, Shane Hayden and Roy Vaughan - U. S. Bureau of Reclamation Pueblo Field office; Van Lieber, Oxford Farmers Ditch Company; Emily Logan, West Pueblo Ditch; Wesley Eck, Burt Heckman, and Rex Davis, - Fort Lyon Canal Company; Rick Kienitz, Rocky Ford Ditch/Aurora Water; Israel Ortega, and Kacey Myers – Rocky Ford Ditch; George Hanzas, and Casey Williams - Catlin Canal; Jim Broderick, Garrett Markus, Margie Medina, and Chris Woodka - Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

**Minutes**

Mr. Markus asked if everyone had received the minutes of the October 20, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting and asked for a motion to approve those minutes. Alan Ward made the motion, seconded by Donny Hansen, to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Fry-Ark Operations – U. S. Bureau of Reclamation**

Shane Hayden reported in a PowerPoint presentation on the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (Project) as of October 17, 2018 there was:

- 186,137 AF stored in Pueblo
- 131,333 AF of Project water
- 44,093 AF of excess capacity water
- 8,998 AF of Winter water
- 114,040 AF of Project space in Pueblo
- 39,380 AF of Project space in Twin & Turquoise
- 70,000 AF of Winter Water Space in Pueblo

Project reservoir storage as of October 17, 2018 were: Turquoise, 89 percent; Twin Lakes, 86 percent; and Pueblo Reservoir, 137 percent. The 2017-2018 WWSP in Pueblo Reservoir was 60,637 acre-feet (AF) which was the third highest year on record; the average is 41,490 AF. Bureau of Reclamation anticipates moving 15,000 to 20,000 AF from the upper reservoirs during the WWSP season, but the movement of

water will be adjusted according to the snowpack forecast and customers’ needs as they appear.

**Division of Water Resources – Division Engineer’ Office  
 2017-2018 Program Review**

Phil Reynolds of the Division Engineer’s Office reviewed 2017-2018 final WWSP numbers totaling 138,904.70 acre feet. Mr. Reynolds identified timeline and actions:

- Fort Lyon Canal started diverting on 11/16/17, but reached it’s storage limit and stopped diverting by end of December due to storage restrictions.
- Great Plains storage diversions ran in December and again for a couple of weeks in February. (Couldn’t use the Ft Lyon Storage Canal)
- Holbrook Canal diverted from January 6 through January 14 (370 cfs)
- Colorado Canal started diverting to Lake Meredith February 8 and ran through March 15.
- Cut the gate at Pueblo to 50 cfs from January 25 – February 25.
- Increased the gate at Pueblo to 300 cfs starting March 1 due to storage level in Pueblo Reservoir Oxford starting diverting WWCO before March 15th.

**Storage in John Martin Reservoir:**

- Nov 16 – Nov 30 = 1,836 a/f
- Dec 1 – Dec 15 = 1,159 a/f
- Dec 16 – Dec 31 = 1,145 a/f
- Jan 1 – Jan 15 = 1,091 a/f
- Jan 16 – Jan 31 = 3,365 a/f
- Feb 1 – Feb 15 = 2,647 a/f
- Feb 16 – Feb 28 = 1,354 a/f
- Mar 1 – Mar 15 = 1,036 a/f

**Current Winter water Carryover Balances total 9,002 AF:**

- Colorado 804
- Fort Lyon 6,224
- High Line 1,050
- Oxford 909
- West Pueblo 12

**2018-2019 Winter Water Storage Program Operations**

John Van Oort reviewed the off-channel storage reservoir accounts. The objective was to show a relationship to WWSP yield in relation to available basin storage. The upcoming WWSP season will have one of the highest amounts of space available for non-WWSP reservoirs in recent years. This would correlate to an anticipated low-yielding WWSP in the upcoming year. The following table shows storage in those reservoirs.

Reservoir	Total in Storage on November 14 <sup>th</sup>				10/17/18	Capacity
	2014(af)	2015(af)	2016(af)	2017(af)		
Turquoise	111,398	114,986	113,006	107,919	99,443	129,440
Twin Lakes	121,535	113,416	104,596	114,779	97,756	141,000
Clear Creek	6,227	6,102	6,063	5,863	5,801	9,213

<b>DeWeese</b>	2,210	2,843	2,183	3,499	1,080	4,338
<b>Pisgah</b>	709	2,192	1,675	1,801	1,243	2,192
<b>South Slope</b>	5,382	5,342	2,719	2,782	?,???	3,500
<b>Skagway</b>	1,744	1,915	1,808	2,074	1,854	2,066
<b>Brush Hollow</b>	805	2,263	1,???	3,399	1,859	3,933
<b>Pueblo</b>	171,493	182,949	182,229	206,187	186,210	311,384 <sub>Δ</sub>
<b>Colorado Canal System</b>	27,429	32,525	29,371	50,068	22,362	52,517
<b>Holbrook Canal*</b>	3,104	2,061	1,663	4,009	366	9,700
<b>Fort Lyon Canal System**</b>	6,930	38,564	48,279	64,219	5,728	78,720 <sub>ΔΔ</sub>
<b>Great Plains System***</b>	0	7,902	6,855	34,000	0	256,000
<b>John Martin</b>	9,167	209,072	102,273	251,447	133,524	340,703

Δ Includes the Joint Use Pool.

ΔΔ Outlet under construction (No additional storage)

\*consists of Dye Reservoir and Holbrook Reservoir

\*\* includes Adobe and Horse Creek Reservoirs

\*\*\*consists of Neesopah, Neenoshe, Nee Gronda, and Neeskah (Queen)

Phil Reynolds prediction for the upcoming WWSP was taken using ARKPORCO & ARKLASCO gauges matching the 2002, 2003 & 2013 years. The WWSP's total storage these year were below 100,000 AF making his prediction 90,000AF. Bill Tyner's prediction graphed irrigaton diversions with Pueblo and John Martin reservoirs (Jan-Oct) versus WWSP predicting 110,000 AF. John Van Oort's prediction was taken using Catlin Canal diversions versus WWSP in previous years as the patterns ran along the same lines, generating his prediction of 104,566 AF. All predictions were below average WWSP production.

In a graph John Van Oort referenced how upstream available storage related to the Winter Water storage comparing this year to 2013-14 as closest in storage of non winter water participants of 100,377 AF to winter water storage of 87,812 AF. Current storage is at 104,566 AF on participatns at 83,946 AF.

**Aurora Rocky Ford Ditch Water Estimate of Return Flow Storage Availability**

The amount of the Rocky Ford Ditch delayed return flow transfer is 1,399.99 acre feet delivered to the WWSP at Pueblo Reservoir pursuant to both of Aurora's Rocky Ford Ditch decrees (83CW018 and 99CW169) and at the direction of the WWSP – Board of Trustees.

**Other Business**

**Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District Ag Updates**

Garrett Markus informed the participants that the District plans to do a cost of service analysis in 2019 comparing revenues to expenditures this could effect possible futre water and storage fees.

Shane Hayden explained the differences between the Bureau of Reclamation forecasted amount of Project water of 58KAF versus actual imports of 39KAF. This difference in amounts had to do with two primary reasons: 1) an abnormally dry May thru August, and 2) abnormally windy May/June.

Normally May through August precipitation is 6.5 inches (29,738 AF), this year we received 1.8 inches (21,502 AF) showing a difference of 15,052 AF that normally is imported. This has been the opposite of 2015 water year May through August precipitation was 11.5 inches or 52.613AF, 5 inches or 22,875AF

above normal subtracting losses there is 16,013AF extra. Average imports of 60,000AF, 30 percent comes from snow/rain after May 1.

**Arkansas Decision Support System (ArkDSS) River Admin Tool**

Bill Tyner reported the ArkDSS is being developed in three phases: 1) **GIS** consists of canals/soils, aerial photos, and irrigated parcels. 2) **Modeling** ditch/reservoir data, CU analysis and SW model-STATEMOD then finally 3) **Administrative** tools – well meter tool, transit loss tool and river/reservoir ops tools.

Close to completion are historical aerial photos 1954, 1978, 1988; canal line mapping; soil evaluation; and, 2010, 2015, 2016 (HIM – HI model) irrigated parcels. Historical irrigated parcels are in progress for parcel boundaries and crop types. Then DWR will review parcels/canals.

Modeling task 2 data development is nearly complete the ditch and reservoir data development is in process. Task 3 consumptive use DWR is developing initial basinwide ET datasets to be reviewed in November. Task 4 surface water model input files are under development.

The Corps of Engineers will be working at John Martin Reservoir, which will effect Amity Canal. The cleaning project will commence November 1 and they will be out by April 1, 2019. There will be update meetings regarding the project every two weeks.

Mr. Markus reported the next meeting would be October 18, 2019. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Margie Medina, Administrative Support Specialist, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District

Date Approved: