

**WINTER WATER STORAGE PROGRAM  
Board of Trustees Annual Meeting  
Minutes  
Friday, October 17, 2014**



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

Acting Chairman, Bob Hamilton, called the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Winter Water Storage Program (WWSP) to order at 10:40 a.m. Introductions were made and roll call of voting members was taken.

**Winter Water Board of Trustees Voting Members Present:**

Glenn Wilson, Amity Mutual Irrigation Company; Justin DiSanti, Bessemer Irrigating Ditch Company; Greg Williams, Catlin Canal Company; Scott Campbell, Colorado Canal Companies; Wesley Eck, Fort Lyon Canal Company; Dan Henrichs, High Line Canal Company; Donny Hansen, Holbrook Mutual Irrigating Company; Jeff Baylor, Las Animas Consolidated Canal Company; Alan Ward, West Pueblo Ditch; Mark McCuiston, Oxford Farmers Ditch Company arrived after the roll call. There was no representative from the Riverside Dairy Ditch.

**Others in Attendance:** Directors from the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District, Leonard Pruett (Lamar) and Kevin Karney (Otero County); Abby Otega, Mark Shea, and Scott Lorenz, Colorado Springs Utilities; Roy Vaughan and Terry Dawson, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation Pueblo Field office; John Schweitzer, Catlin Canal Company; Dennis Caldwell, High Line Canal Company; Terry Hart, Pueblo County; Russ Jordan; Steve Miller, Colorado Water Conservation Board; Rick Kienitz, Rocky Ford Ditch/Aurora Water; Michael Hill, Bessemer Irrigating Ditch Company; Phil Hemphill, Jerred Hoffman, and Mike Spady, Fort Lyon Canal Company; Mark Morley and Mark Marsh, Excelsior Ditch; Terry Howland, Amity Mutual Irrigation Company; Lonnie Spady, Jeanette Myers, John Van Oort, Phil Reynolds, Rebecca Nichols, Rachael Zancanella, and Bill Tyner, Colorado Division of Water Resources; Lauren Nance, Las Animas Consolidated Ditch; Daniel Niemela, Bishop, Brogden & Associates; Larry Small and Val Snider, Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control & Greenway District; Keith Goodwin and Jim Baldwin, Otero County; Jay Winner and Jack Goble, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District, Chris Woodka, Pueblo Chieftain; Jim Broderick, Garrett Markus, and, Bob Hamilton Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Hamilton asked if everyone had received the Minutes of the October 18, 2013 Board meeting and asked for a motion to approve those minutes. Wesley Eck made the motion, seconded by Dan Henrichs, to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Terry Dawson reported in her PowerPoint presentation on the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (Project) as of October 14, 2014 there was:

- 171,700 AF stored in Pueblo
- 112,519 AF of Project water
- 9,725 AF of excess capacity water
- 13,387 AF of Winter water
- 144,430 AF of Project space in Pueblo

Project reservoir storage as of October 14, 2014 were - Turquoise - 100%, Twin Lakes - 106 % and Pueblo Reservoir – 126 % of average. Based on Pueblo Reservoir’s current content, new Winter water, Project water, M&I inflow, total releases, and evaporation; the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) estimates 3,351 AF of water will be in the Joint-Use Pool on April 15, 2015. With the use of Winter water and ag Project water, 11,549 AF of space will be available after May 1, 2015 in the Conservation Pool.

**Division of Water Resources – Division Engineer’ Office**

Phil Reynolds of the Division Engineer’s Office made a PowerPoint presentation reviewing operations of the 2013–2014 Winter Water Storage Program (WWSP); including Fort Lyon Storage Canal’s siphon failure. Mr. Reynolds’ presented and discussed the last five years of the WWSP yields. Mr. Reynold’s requested a letter from each ditch specifying where they would like their water stored.

John Van Oort’s presentation titled “Water Rights Protection Task” evaluated Pueblo Reservoir Flood Control and the 6,000 CFS limitation at the Arkansas River at Avondale gage in relation to downstream water rights and the Colorado/Kansas Compact.

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

Mr. Hamilton reported that he has received a letter from Rick Kienitz of Aurora Water informing the group the amount of the delivery of Rocky Ford Ditch’s and Leadville Ranches’ historic winter return flows by the City of Aurora that will be delivered at Pueblo Reservoir. Aurora’s preliminary calculations indicate a total winter return flow obligation (2014-2015) is currently estimated to be at least 1,468 AF compared to 1,618 AF in 2013-2014. The amount may increase because Aurora’s accounting won’t be complete until October 31, 2014.

**Fountain Creek Flood Control Study – Water Rights Protection Kick Off Discussion**

A water rights protection kick off discussion of the Fountain Creek Flood Control Study consisted of five parts:

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|---|-------------|
| • Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District | Larry Small |
| • Flood Control Practices and Water Rights Administration       | Mark Pifher |
| • Impacts of Flooding on Fountain Creek and the Arkansas River  | Bud O’Hara  |
| • Administration of Pueblo Reservoir for Flood Control          | Bill Tyner  |
| • Water Rights Protection Task                                  | Abby Ortega |

Two sign up sheets were passed around by Larry Small concerning Fountain Creek Flood Control Study: one was for stakeholders (information only) and the other was for technical committee participation (information and meetings). Meetings will be held periodically and notification will be sent via email.

Mr. Hamilton asked if there was any additional business to come before the Board, hearing none, Mr. Hamilton reminded the Board the next annual meeting will be at the same location, on October 16, 2015 (the third Friday of October) at 10:30 a.m.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Garrett J. Markus, Water Resources Specialist/Engineer, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

Date Approved: 10/16/15