

Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 8, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at the water district offices located at 548 Front Street in Fairplay. Briggs Cunningham, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

The members present in the office were Briggs Cunningham and Chris Fuller. Present via video conference were Craig Steinmetz, Lisa McVicker, Lynne Buchanan, and legal counsel David Shohet. Nola Knudsen, Administrator, was present in the office as was Lisa Barden Brown, Operations Manager.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chris Fuller requested to add Web-site update as item 5.1. Lynne Buchanan requested the addition of District Anniversary as 5.2, both under New Business. Lynne Buchanan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Lisa McVicker moved to accept the February minutes as presented. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 Administrator's report on Accounts: Nola Knudsen reviewed the check register with the Board. Expenses for March totaled \$12,64.81. Total cash assets after bills have been paid is \$1,474,527.38. The Board discussed the Snow More Snow as a possible vendor for snow removal around the office next year. Lisa believes having a contract for seasonal removal is needed. Lisa McVicker made a motion to engage Snow More Snow Removal for March and April of this year and for the 2023-2024 winter year. Discussion: Briggs asked if there could be a conflict with the Town of Fairplay and asked for someone to check with the Town. Nola Knudsen agreed to talk with the town regarding any possible conflict. Chris Fuller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Lisa Brown pulled up the Town policy on snow plowing which states private properties, residences or businesses, are responsible for clearing their drives and sidewalks, but not to throw snow onto public streets.

GoDaddy was acquired by HostPapa and is updated by Daisy Design. There are some updates and maintenance that should be done for our web-site. Leesa, with Daisy Design, provided a couple of options for a contract for service. Nola Knudsen emailed it to the Board to review. Lisa McVicker thinks we need this. Lisa moved to accept the proposal from Daisy Design for the Extended Maintenance Plan. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Lisa

McVicker said we originally had reserved five domain names. Nola will check with Daisy Design too see if those domain names have been retained.

2.2 Treasurer's Review: Lynne Buchanan reported the deposits for the month. The property tax receipts for January which were not available before the February meeting, were \$8,592.43. Additionally, there was rental income including utilities from Knudsen Counseling and South Park Dental totaling \$2,090.74. HASP paid the annual Soda Springs fee of \$50.00. Interest from the two accounts totaled \$5,348.14.

2.3 Approval of Invoices and Warrants: Chris Fuller moved to approve the invoices and warrants as presented. The motion was seconded by Lisa McVicker and carried unanimously.

OPERATIONS MANAGERS REPORT

Lisa Barden Brown emailed all board members a copy of her monthly report prior to the meeting. Lisa highlighted certain areas:

Chatfield: The audit for 2022 was completed and came back clean. Tree removal was one of the last items of expansion and is coming in under budget by approximately \$200,000.

Lisa Brown has possession of new Chatfield shares and asked the Board for direction as to what to do with them. It was decided the shares will be put in the safe in the office and the safe will be put in the fire proof room.

James Tingle Reservoir: Lisa Brown shared the water accounting for the JTR. Lisa spoke with Swithin Dick about grading of the dam and he said he is anticipating the grading to be starting in June when there is no risk of freezing. There is no decision yet on the Raptor pole being replaced but they plan on doing something more permanent when weather permits.

Smelter Pipeline Reservoir: Lisa Brown said there is a lot more snow sitting on the reservoir. Snow plowing has been maintained and Lisa is preparing an inventory of needed tools and supplies for the shed when weather permits.

South Platte Enhancement board (SPEB): Lisa Brown reported the Forest Service is hiring River Patrol Rangers for the section under their purview. Lisa McVicker asked about position posting and Lisa Brown will inquire further. Lisa Brown said SPEB's river segments are under the South Park Protection Plan. She took a field trip to familiarize herself with Segments E&H and spent time reading the South Park Protection Plan.

Snowpack update from Monday: Lisa Brown provided an update on Snowpack and said overall the South Park Basin is 105% of median.

Briggs Cunningham asked Lisa Brown to look into areas of potential water storage areas. David Shohet identified four areas of potential use that Lisa Brown wrote in her report. They are Tarryall Creek, North Fork of the South Platte, South Fork of the South Platte, and Twin Creek. David said Buffalo Creek may allow additional entities into their plan, up above Antero. It belongs to Ranch of the Rockies and Campground of the Rockies. With Twin Creek there are highland lakes to look at. On the North Fork is Lininger Lake. The North Fork will continue to see development; our largest applications out of HASP have largely been on the North Fork.

Lisa McVicker thinks it is worthwhile to continue our explorations. We should encourage Lisa Brown and David Shohet to continue to explore and bring back information to the board. Craig Steinmetz said Chatfield is still iced over. He asked if they start filling to the new elevation when runoff starts. Lisa Brown said it was contingent on Cheesman filling. And at the time of the meeting, it was approx. 20,000 acre feet to fill. We have our Deer Creek credits and we having exercised our junior priorities. The 94 acre feet in there are some Randall and Deer Creek water. We can fill it when we come back into priority.

OLD BUSINESS

4.1 Craig Steinmetz sent out an email with a summary of the environment review and maintenance needed for the 548 Building. Craig will start talking to sub-contractors. Black Mountain does not interact with sub-contractors but Nola and others can help get subs for the report. He is encouraging others to get involved with a floorplan. We will start getting numbers put together and the Board will vote yeah or nay. Craig said we will replace lighting with LED lighting. We will only replace what is not functioning properly.

Nola indicated the Dentist would leave after March. The Flume is still interested in space. The Board discussed talking to some real estate brokers to assist with rentals. Nola Knudsen will get a resume from one of her sources and ask the agency to prepare a list of her most recent activity and send to board.

Chris Fuller said she was looking at the grant funding process and realized the documents were not updated on the web-site. Lisa McVicker suggested to wait to have a robust web site running and then come back with documents for the 2023 year grant process. Chris said she will make sure the right documents will get to Daisy Design. Lisa Brown will be the contact for the grant application documents.

5.2 Anniversary celebration: Lynne Buchanan asked if the Board wanted update the District logo and pull something together for the 25th anniversary of the formation of the CCWCD. She will happy to draw up some logo designs. Lisa McVicker thinks putting together an anniversary plan is a good idea and wants to revisit the logos. The summer is a good time for an anniversary celebration; there could be a table at Burro days, something at the County Fair, and we can advertise in the Flume. It could also be a good time to announce possible mini-grants. CUSP could lend a perspective or perhaps COCO. Dan Drucker had mentioned providing some water education. On the web-page we could say “join us for a pod cast on Colorado Water Law” and make that available virtually. Another idea is to have an Open House on Burro Days.

Briggs Cunningham liked Dan’s logo with the cross hairs. Briggs asked if David would be interested in teaching a law workshop. Lisa McVicker said May is a joint meeting and we should have some specific plans in place. Another idea is to purchase some giveaways and announce plans on the website. Come back to the April meeting with ideas to bring attention to what we do.

LEGAL UPDATE

David Shohet said this was a short month for legal updates. There are three water court applications that are all with HASP.

Case 21CW3224 Application of Garrett. HASP was an Opposer in this case but has stipulated out several months ago. David is monitoring this case.

Case 22cW3185 Application of City of Aurora. This case entails the Johns Ranch water rights. HASP filed an opposition and is waiting for the parties to get together to establish a case management plan.

Case 22CW3200 Application of HASP. This is Upper South Platte's Rosalie Ditch water right case. There is nothing pending on this. HASP was substituted in as the applicant. Six to seven statements of Opposition were filed.

Other legal matters. There are no new HASP applications. Wheeler's operations report for February had not been provided at the time of drafting the Legal Update.

Lisa Brown is going out of town for two weeks in Montana but will be available by phone.

DIRECTORS ISSUES

None

Lisa McVicker moved to adjourn the District meeting. The motion was seconded by Chris Fuller. The Board adjourned at 2:36 PM.