

Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 4, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at the main meeting room of the district offices located at 548 Front Street in Fairplay. Lisa McVicker, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM.

The members present in the office were Craig Steinmetz, Chris Fuller, and Lisa McVicker. Lynne Buchanan was present via teleconference. Nola Knudsen, Administrator, was present in the office as was Lisa Barden Brown, Operations Manager. Also present was Dan Drucker, Emeritus Board member. David Shohet was present via teleconference.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Lynne Buchanan moved to approve the agenda as presented. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Lynne Buchanan moved to approve the minutes as amended. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

22.1 Administrator's Report on Accounts: Nola Knudsen reviewed the check register with the Board. The check written for the South Park Forum was for \$575. This differed from the \$1000.00 approved by Board vote in September. The Board president directed a lesser amount be donated to be in line with the Upper South Plate's donation. There were additional checks reissued to the Board members for prior meetings when the checks were uncashed and stale Expenses for October totaled \$27,113.70. Total cash assets after bills have been paid is \$1,861,412.41.

2.2 Treasurer's Review: Lynne Buchanan stated she has reviewed all invoices for payment and approved all of them. Lynne reported because this meeting is being held so early in the month, there were no funds received in property taxes and no bank statements were received for reconciliation. Those figures will be reported in October.

2.2.1 2024 Proposed Budget: Lynne Buchanan said the proposed budget was sent out to all board members. She and Craig Erickson worked together to develop the draft 2024 budget based on preliminary information. There is a big jump from what we expect to see from property taxes based on valuations. Most of the other items are from looking at the estimated 2023 costs are

with small increases as well as what we can expect from rental income. When the District was determining how to fund grants, Lynne said the Board decided to take 4% of whatever funds remained in Colotrust at year-end. As an estimate for grant funding, Lynne rounded the amount up to \$80K. Lisa McVicker noted that one of the grants we received is up to \$150K. We might want to revisit this item after a review of the grant applications. Lisa Brown said that given the amount of items she is being required to handle, she thinks the Operations Manager's fee will come in closer to \$40K.

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

OPERATIONS MANAGERS REPORT: Lisa Barden Brown began the Operations Manager's report with an update on Dan Drucker. She stated he is in the hospital recovering from surgery. Lisa Brown updated the board on the following water issues.

Smelter Pipeline Reservoir (SPR)

- The gage height on September 3 was 9.82' for 26.08 AF in storage. On October 1, the gage height was 9.61' for 25.43 AF in storage.
- The fall augmentation release was called for, and I will be releasing 0.33 AF for Adventure Placer 2. I will be working with David Shohet to update the annual accounting to be submitted to DWR.

Chatfield Reallocation Project (CRP)

- Accounting for August was received and there was 136.26 AF in storage on August 31.
- Matt Loose virtually attended the OAC meeting on September 27. There is about 3,000 AF of available space in the Reallocation Pool currently. Matt Loose informed the Committee that if there are junior calls or no call on the river this winter, that CCWCD would like to refill available space. The OAC will meet again on Nov. 1
- The legal team met on September 15 and discussed possible changes to the Operations Agreements. There will be another Participants meeting on October 9 to discuss the possible changes to the bylaws.
- The annual meeting of the CRMC will be on October 25, which I plan to attend.

James Tingle Reservoir (JTR)

- Accounting for September has not yet been received, but 0.70 AF of CCWCD's stored Randall Ditch credits was released, and 4.0 AF will be released in October.
- Swithin has been working with Glen Church of Schnabel Engineering to rectify the crack in the sill wall of the spillway. Lisa Brown said there are some preliminary plans but she has not received any updates on timeline or expected costs.

South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB)

- I virtually attended the monthly SPEB meeting on September 20.

- There were problems with the liner in the alternate river channel that was constructed to divert the river during the Lake George diversion dam removal (pinholes in the liner), which caused a delay in the project. Test runs were to take place last week. The dam is still anticipated to be removed by December.
- There were significant storm impacts in Buffalo Creek, resulting in high turbidity in Cheesman Reservoir, damage in Cheesman Canyon, and rain rutting to trails.
- The group discussed returning to in-person quarterly meetings, with monthly meetings remaining virtual.

Wild Horse Reservoir

- Lisa Brown said she visited the Wild Horse Reservoir site as a representative of HASP. She said they are still in the planning and permitting stage. There will be 93,000 acre feet of storage for Aurora. It is moving forward but the permitting will take about 2 years. Construction is expected to take 7 years. Aurora has done extensive geotechnical mapping. The 39-year fault appears not to be seismically active. Lisa Brown said there is a series of dams being constructed and they are doing more community interaction. Lisa McVicker thinks it is important to have eyes on this.

Michigan Creek Restoration Plan (MCR) No changes since last report.

Bar Star Corporation (BSC) No changes since last report.

Indian Mountain Plan (IMP) No changes since last report.

Guffey-area Augmentation Plan (GAP) No changes since last report.

Division Two Delivery (DTD) No changes since last report.

Currant Creek Two (CCT): No changes since last report.

Kenosha Trout Club (KTC): No changes since last report.

CCWCD Website Issues:

- Daisy has upgraded our hosting to the “Pro Plan”, and our site is working much better. She is still working on creating a new Theme for the site.
- Her quarterly invoice for maintenance plus the upgrade was received in September.

OLD BUSINESS

4.1 548 Front Street Building Updates: Craig Steinmetz said there is some electrical work to be fixed. He is asking Lisa Brown to put together a punch list. Craig said to add the door locks to the punch list also. Craig said he and Lisa would not be around for a couple of weeks he would

like some photos of the work completed. We have natural gas available and to make a decision on what we want to do, he asked Nola to put together 12 consecutive months of excel bills together to compare the BTUs to the gallons of propane.

Craig said the portico needs some surfacing and concrete is longest lasting. His suggestion is to get a price of putting concrete there. We will put in sidewalks and ramps but need a price for the Board to review. We will need a permit for the sidewalk and ramp. Craig found a roofer who will come to Fairplay. Craig wants the Board to approve putting together bids for a tile roof and gutters. Also, Craig said he found an HVAC contractor to engineer tempered exchange air. He will compile prices for all these items and present to the Board.

Lisa Brown said she met with the building inspector, project manager, Mayor, and head of public works and showed them the elevation drawings we had prepared for the sidewalk and ramp for the 6th street entrance. Questions Lisa Brown asked the town was what kind of finish they wanted regarding ramps. The town would like to see #2 broom finish on the ramp and to have the sidewalks stamped to have an old fashioned look. Cesare, the concrete contractor was present, and he has some stamps he can show us. Lisa Brown said we could also order our own. We need to consider color. We were looking at gray but it might blend in with street. Lynne Buchanan sent in a picture of a wood tone. Regarding curbs, the mayor said to look to CDOT standards for curb design. He referenced portions of the code but they want them 6 inches in height because anything lower could pose a trip hazard. Lisa Brown asked about the northwest corner of the building adjacent to the neighbor's driveway. Six inches would be hard to achieve, but if we put in a curb ramp there, it would alleviate the problem. Cesare agreed it would work and he could do that. At the corner of 6th street, they want curb ramps and either a scribed or detectable transition there. A scribed transition is horizontal lines in the cement to give a person with vision impairment a feeling they are at the corner. The detectable transition has raised bumps in the concrete. Kyle, said they would prefer the detectable but it is not a mandate, but they are better for people that are blind but they don't hold up as well. She can work with Kyle to get the permit for construction. They were specific they wanted us to follow CDOT standards and Cesare is familiar with them. Lisa McVicker agrees with having the detectable transition and the color for the sidewalks. Lisa McVicker asked if Cesare had corrected the issue with the neighbor's drive. Lisa Brown said he had. They removed the excess gravel and smoothed the area. They left gravel sloping away from the District building and placed the remained alongside of our building in the alleyway. They also replaced the fence posts secured with concrete. Chris Fuller will determine how to maintain that area.

Lisa Brown said she has asked Cesare to revise his bid for the work to be done. Craig said he sent CDOT drawings of the curb ramps to her and she can compare those with what Cesare has. He will also send copies of "parking only" signs to give to Zuni signs to construct.

4.2 Discuss Lost Park Water Rights: Lost Park Water Rights – David Shohet said he was contacted by a group of developers who retain the water and storage rights in SP HOA. They have McManus ditch water rights. They want to give CCW the water rights and their interest to storage in the reservoir but this means we would have reservoir repair. David has looked at what our obligation would be. He contacted Wheeler and they could review a proposal to reline the

reservoir. They quoted \$5,000 which includes the site visit. If the board wants to continue to explore for rights and storage, we would need additional due diligence. Lynne Buchanan moved to approve the use of Wheeler to review the proposal not to exceed a cost of \$5,000. The motion was seconded by Chris Fuller and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Discuss the Grant Requests received: Lisa Brown said the Burlingame and Chappelle dams are located on the South Fork of the South Platte; it is a very sizable ranch. They want to do major work on the outlets and liners of the reservoirs. They are looking at hundreds of thousands of dollars to prepare a leaky dam and make the outlets safe. The request is for \$150,000. Lisa said she was thinking how does it benefit us? Chris Fuller pointed out there is no educational component. He is a Park County tax payer but there is no community asset indicated. Chris said it is going to protect water quality. The only example of something similar is in Lake George. At the area of CR 77 and 24, it was revamped and work done on river flow, fish habitat and quality. Chris said the key is he didn't get a lot of external support. CUSP helped him with property above his property. Chris said this is good for the river. This is the Winding River Ranch. Applegate is the engineer he went to for this report. Maybe Garver could opine if the need could make a difference on the river. We could ask the applicant for an educational component such as would you consider hosting a fly fishing tutorial for students? We could add some parameters. Lisa Brown was asked to talk to Garver as to how he would prioritize needed work. Is there \$60-70K of work we would be willing to approve with the caveat, we want this done first and second a way to give back to the community such as a tutorial. Chris thinks we can find more reasons to say yes. Chris likes to fund the part that is a priority that makes a difference in the river. She asked David his thoughts. David said he understands the concern of a peer review. We could say we are willing to grant X dollars. Chris Fuller said let's decide what we are funding and make sure it is good for the habitat and the river. Lisa Brown said she understands Mr. Legg has worked with Paco who does river restoration. One of the things Clint does on his ranch, is he does have outreach where they bring in wounded Veterans. Then remainder of funding could go to river restoration. Chris Fuller said we can respond to him, find out who is working with who, what is funneling of funds, and stick with a budget of \$60K. We can also ask him about educational funding. Lisa McVicker thinks November is not too late for a response.

The second grant has to do with augmenting ponds but HASP has voted to suspend augmenting ponds at all. We will study to see if there will be a limit up to a certain amount we could augment. We can't go forward with that grant.

Lisa Brown said she wants to drill a well to refill a dried up pond that used to be fed by the Sessions Ditch. Relating to Lost Park, there was an inquiry from one of the homeowners if the District would be interested in looking at the homeowner's side but we are looking into this project from the developer's side. The place they got the quote from is a civil engineer. Perhaps this is something we look at in the next grant cycle. Lisa McVicker will write a response to her.

5.2 Discuss the painting quotes: Lisa Brown reviewed the costs of paint items. Nola Knudsen discussed the quotes she gathered. Lynne suggested a Mosaic to bring in the tone from the carpet. The discussion was to put an accent color on the current rust wall and a lighter tone on other

walls. It was decided Lynne Buchanan, Chris Fuller, Lisa Brown and Nola Knudsen were to make a final decision on colors.

Lisa McVicker made a motion to approve painting not to exceed \$8K after it has been reviewed and decided upon which contractor to go with. The motion was seconded by Lynne Buchanan and carried unanimously.

Craig thinks terra cotta tiles might be \$5-8K for tiles only. He thinks it will be around \$15K.

5.3 Discuss quote to install new A/V equipment: Lynne Buchanan sent an email to vote on AV equipment. The vote was for a rally plus, an extra microphone, and a tablet controller (tap IP). The contractor recommended a bring your own device mode. He said we didn't really need an extra mic. There will be mounting hardware and switch that would allow people to connect their own PC. It is about the same cost of what we already approved. They came back with an installation and training quote of \$3K. It includes dual speakers a central camera and two microphone pods and hubs. Lynne will be the contact person; she will work on getting the equipment ordered. Chris Fuller moved to approve the A/V labor installation and training as described by Lynne Buchanan for an amount not to exceed \$3500. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

David Shohet reviewed his legal report.

Case 22CW3185: This application seeks to change several senior water rights on Tarryall Creek (Link and Petrie Ditches). HASP provided comments to Aurora on Aurora's initial engineering and proposed decree in September.

Case 23CW3092: CCWCD filed an application to make absolute portions of its water right decreed to Chatfield Reservoir based on storage that occurred in 2023. We are trying to go absolute on 43 acre feet. The application was filed in September and the statements of opposition are due by the end of October.

Case 23CW__: CCWCD and UPWCD obtained several conditional exchanges for the use and operation of the Deer Creek water rights. Wheeler is currently reviewing the exchanges made by HASP to determine whether some or all of the conditional exchanges could be made absolute.

Nothing going on with HASP. Only one new application in Indian Mountain. We have an IGA with the Metro District. As result of the settlement with Bar Star, the applicant can't be added. Those that want to join HASP have to do it individually.

As of this meeting, the Wheeler report was not available.

Chatfield Reservoir: As a result of free river conditions there were several questions about the Division Engineer's administration of in-priority water and other water in storage in Chatfield Reservoir. Working internally among participants regarding amendments to the bylaws for Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company to clarify and address the administrative issues that arose this year. Some of the original comments were lengthy, but they have scaled back. Denver

water just provided comments yesterday. They participated but also have different accounts within Chatfield. Hopefully they will sign off.

The excluded lands previously talked about is still being working on. We are trying to pin down which lands were excluded.

Lisa Barden said she is actively searching for someone to replace Dan Drucker on the board. She doesn't see that we have to have a representative from Bailey but rather it was a board preference. There is a requirement for 5 board members and we need to recruit another member. The board discussed finding another member.

DIRECTORS ISSUES

Chris went to the JTR today and there was a new lock. She will go back. She went to the Smelter and the Canada was significantly less. There was one area below the shed. Overall, the Canada was 70-80% less than the previous visit. The willows are hiding baby Canadas but the whole place is looking very good.

Chris Fuller moved to adjourn the meeting. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the meeting adjourned at 2:08 PM.