

**Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**November 13, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 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 1:00 PM.

The members present in the office were Lynne Buchanan, Lisa McVicker, and Craig Steinmetz. Chris Fuller and Wallie Weld were present by teleconference. Nola Knudsen, Administrator, was present in the office as was Lisa Barden Brown, Operations Manager. Sedona Chavez, legal counsel, was present via teleconference.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Lynne Buchanan moved to approve the agenda as presented. Wallie Weld seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chris Fuller made a motion to approve the Board's October minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Wallie Weld and carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

2.1 Administrator's Report on Accounts: Nola Knudsen reviewed the November check register with the Board. Invoices for November totaled \$205,797.27. Cash assets remaining after payment of November invoices is \$2,333,569.05

2.2 Treasurer's Review: Lynne Buchanan reported income for the month. She said going into the High County Bank is rent for November from Summit Community Care Dental Clinic and Knudsen Counseling of \$2,000.00. Interest in High County Bank was \$0.18. At Colotrust, property tax income was \$9,247.83 with interest being \$10,691.52. The budget was reviewed last month and there were no changes suggested by any board member. Lynne Buchanan said Craig Erickson is keeping an eye on possible changes to the budget.

Craig Steinmetz said we have purchased most of our materials for the air exchange system. We are buying the lumber and odds and ends for Alex the carpenter. The good news is we are right on budget. We have gas piping on the side of building that will be brought into the utility room. Lisa Brown has been monitoring the propane. Lynne Buchanan said we budgeted most of the construction funds for next

year but it appears it will all be paid in 2024. Lisa McVicker suggested Lynne Buchanan discuss with Craig Erickson how to make amendments.

2.3 Approval of Invoices and Warrants: Chris Fuller moved to approve the warrants and Treasurer's review. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Nola Knudsen advised the Board that the town of Fairplay requires an inspection of the water lines. Nola will contract with Kat White to perform the inspection. The normal cost is around \$100.00. The dental office sent Nola an email stating they wished to install some type of security that would advise them if someone enters the office that is not staff. Nola will take a look at the suggested product but advised them she would need a key as access to the electric panels is a requirement. The product is not hard-wired rather it is a type of internal alarm in case of an emergency.

During the last snow fall, the Dental office asked about laying down ice melt. Nola addressed a concern that regular ice melt could damage the color in the sidewalks. Research into a product that will not harm the sidewalks will be done and appropriate materials purchased.

## **OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **Smelter Pipeline Reservoir (SPR):**

- The staff gage read 8.37' on October 1<sup>st</sup>, for 21.56 AF in storage.
- I made a few trips to the SPR to clear beaver dams from culvert #1, but their activity had slowed down a bit with colder temps, so I held off on making another dam in favor of keeping the culvert clear for freeze-up and the future run-off.
- The design of the headgate replacement was received from Wheeler, with some updates a few weeks later from the structural engineers which called for reinforcing the headwall. The most recent drawing set accompanies this report. I have also sent the design to the Water Commissioner, who shared it with Jara Johnson for any comments. She did make one note, involving the replacement of the boulders for the diversion, which I have shared with the engineers. (Incidentally, Jara is now the Upper South Platte River Coordinator) The next step will be to solicit bids for this job. It most likely will not be able to be done until next year's run-off has diminished.
- The updated spreadsheet with the "Owe the River" amount of 1.32 AF was confirmed to be correct, so I began the release of that water and the augmentation water for Adventure Placer 2 on Oct. 12. The release of the required 1.65 AF was completed on October 17, with supervision by the district 23 Water Commissioner. On Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, the staff gage read 7.72 feet. I am working on finishing the accounting for the year and will get that submitted to DWR as well as the Adventure Placer 2 report.
- The reservoir is now frozen over and culver number one is free of beaver activity; the creek is frozen over.

## **Chatfield Reallocation Project (CRP)**

- Accounting through September 30th, was received at the end of October from Wheeler, and CCWCD had 134.16 AF in storage on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- I attended the annual meeting of the CRMC members on October 23rd
  - Directors were nominated and elected. The same slate of directors will carry on for FY 24-25 will carry on for the upcoming year.
  - The FY 24-25 budget was approved. The assessment rate was set at \$161 per share. CCWCD's assessment will be \$22,701.
  - Tree removal has begun. After the meeting we observed the onshore operations. Helicopter removal is scheduled for the first two weeks of December. A special meeting may be scheduled for January to discuss how the heli-tree removal is going. There are some encouraging signs of cottonwood seedlings coming up just above the fluctuation zone, and grasses were coming up in the fluctuation zone, so it's not a total mud flat. CPW sent out a press release about the tree removal, and there will be updates posted to the website.
    - The ACOE came out in September, and among other items, toured the offsite mitigation areas of Sandstone and Schmidt. They thought the areas looked great, and are recommending that CRMC has met the obligation of five years of monitoring.

The new CoAgMet weather station installation is complete and the data is available online. This will provide more accurate calculation of precipitation and evaporation.

- The ASO is seeking funding for flights this year. CRMC opted to write a letter of support for the program. It was decided that the program is something that individual member entities could support as they see fit.

Additional discussion: Lisa McVicker said last year the district provided some funding for the ASO and suggested this topic be added under new business. Chris Fuller stated ASO should make the request first. Lisa Brown said she communicated with them last year and notified them about the grant program. The timing didn't work out for them with our window of opportunity for funding. Lisa McVicker suggested contacting them and letting them know about our interest. Lisa Brown will follow-up.

### **• Matt Loose provided me with some updates from the OAC meeting held on October 30<sup>th</sup>.**

- DWR anticipates more calls at Chatfield and Waterton Canyon.
- While there were junior calls below Chatfield in part of October, there was insufficient native inflow to store any water.
- Matt reported he anticipated CCWCD's storage to remain stable through the winter. The OAC will meet again on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **James Tingle Reservoir (JTR)**

- Accounting for October has not yet been received.

- 4.10 AF of stored Randall credits were released during October. About 3.60 AF of stored

**Randall Ditch credits will be released in November.**

- After presenting the estimate for erecting the raptor towers to the Board of \$2,765 per tower, Swithin Dick came back with modifications to the needed depth of the concrete for the bases. I am awaiting an updated bid for the increased concrete depth.

**South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB):**

- I attended the SPEB meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - There was a discussion of the future direction of SPEB. How well are the (Outstanding Remarkable Values) ORV's being maintained or improved? Should there be a formal study, or are we best equipped to analyze this? Does the Forest Service have any changing guidance? They stated not at this time. The Forest Plan for the Pike San Isabel is in the works for revision, but that process won't start until 2028, with the grassland segment first.
  - Denver Water's representative confirmed that the extension of the moratorium for an additional 10 years had been formally adopted in a resolution by the Denver Water Board of Commissioners.
  - Denver Water anticipates the Roberts Tunnel to remain on for the rest of the year, at a flow rate of 50 cfs.
  - The grant program was discussed, and how to reach more groups. I asked if any of the members plan on attending the South Platte Forum, and no others planned on attending. I suggested that I could have information about the SPEB grant program to hand out at our table, if the CCWCD Board approved of it.
  - There was discussion of trying to grow the original one-million-dollar corpus, and whether asking the original funding entities would be appropriate. With the grants awarded this past year, \$1,002,000 have been paid out in grants.
  - The next meeting will on November 20th, which I plan to attend virtually.

Additional discussion: Lisa McVicker suggested Lisa Brown discuss at the next SPEB meeting the value of developing a base line report of all that SPEB has done since its inception until now.

**CCWCD Website Issues:**

- The website has been functioning well, and Daisy has made updates promptly as requested.
- The accessiBe tool is functioning well.

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

**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):**

- Lisa Brown stated she hasn't been able to get back to Guffey, but she did purchase a generator. The amount approved was not to exceed \$1,000, but after a bit of research, Lisa determined the best small portable was a Honda, which was \$1,100. Many of the other small portables were not very portable, and were \$1,300 and up. Lisa would not be opposed to keeping this one for herself if the Board would like her to keep looking for a cheaper option.

The Board was in favor of Lisa Brown maintaining a generator that is truly portable. Lynne Buchanan moved to approve \$100 additional for purchase of the generator. Craig Steinmetz seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The initial idea was to keep the generator at the Currant Creek property but decided it will be kept at the Smelter Pipeline Reservoir.

**Winding River Ranch Grant:**

- Lisa Brown said she worked with Jim Legg to get his final report submitted, and have sent it to Chris Fuller for review. He mentioned that he will need to do work on his lower reservoir next year.

Lisa Brown stated the snow pack report shows we are at 156% of average for Nov 9<sup>th</sup> for the South Platte Basin. We went from zero to 156% which means we received about 30 inches of snow out of that snow fall.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

4.1 548 Front Street Building Updates: Craig Steinmetz said Pasterkamp will be here with the roofer, the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The roofer thinks he can get the work done in one day. There is one change order for an additional attic access in the back room of the dental area. Craig has asked Alex for the price. If we set aside \$1K for the change order this should be adequate. Lisa Brown suggested the roofer look at the leak that appears to be coming from around the skylight.

Craig Steinmetz said the gutter iced up and needs to be working. Qualis will check this out.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 Discussion of additional funding for Lisa Brown as her role as superintendent for the HVAC project. Lisa Brown has been doing a great deal of additional work that is not included within the scope of her operations work. Chris Fuller made a motion for the superintendent and project manager to be compensated for work as superintendent for additional projects at a rate of \$60 per hour. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES**

Legal issues will be reviewed at the HASP meeting

## **DIRECTORS ISSUES**

Lisa McVicker thanked the board for approving the district's presence at the South Park Forum. She thanked Lisa Barden Brown and Wallie Weld for attending and representing CCWCD. She thinks the cooperation with HASP and the USPWCD is a good thing.

Chris Fuller moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lynne Buchanan and the meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.