

**Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**August 14, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, August 14, 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 1:05 AM.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Wallie Weld made a motion to approve the July minutes for the monthly meeting of the Center and the minutes for the special meeting held prior to Burro Days open house, as presented. The motion was seconded by Craig Steinmetz and carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

2.1 New Director's Oath of Office for Lynne Buchanan and Walter Weld: Lisa McVicker welcomed Wallie Weld as the new Director for the Board of CCWCD, taking the place of Dan Drucker whose term ends 5/31/2026. Lynne Buchanan is reconfirmed as a Board Director for an additional term of four years. Both board members affirmed their oath of office and signed the required documents.

2.2 Administrator's Report on Accounts: Nola Knudsen reviewed the check register with the Board. Invoices for August totaled \$22,003.08. Cash assets remaining after payment of August invoices is \$2,499,002.76.

A late check was approved at the meeting for John Sponseller who revised plans as requested by the Town of Fairplay to add the ramp design and submitted the amended plans to the town. The additional invoices for \$1000 increases monthly payments to \$23,003.08.

Lisa Brown added the new website has been working well. Daisy has added a new picture gallery as part of this month's invoice. However, she has been getting high data usage alerts from Host papa and despite having already upgraded our plan, they are asking us to upgrade again. A possible technique some hosting platforms use is to throttle the speed. Daisy has pleaded with them to keep the site going so it doesn't crash. She also removed some items but it didn't resolve the issues. She recommended switching to A2 hosting that doesn't have the high use issues on her other sites. Daisy said the Center site is small and doesn't have other items such as chat that can cause high usage. The initial year's subscription is \$71.40 during a summer special and would increase to \$132.00 during the next year. They do offer multi-year discounts. If Center is happy with them the first year, we can then consider a 2 or 3-year subscription next time.

Daisy has also been monitoring the accessiBe tool and states it has been running smoothly. There were a couple of minor issues they identified in the monthly monitor and she thinks those will be resolved if we switch to a new hosting platform. The Board approved the switch to the A2 hosting.

2.3 Treasurer's Review: Lynne Buchanan said as far as deposits for the month, in High Country Bank we received the rent from the Dental Office and rent and utilities from Knudsen Counseling \$2,166.91 and \$0.39 in interest. In the Colotrust account, Center received taxes in the amount of \$36,486.68 with interest earned of \$11,134.46.

Chris Fuller made a motion to approve the invoices and warrants as submitted. Craig Steinmetz seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

- On July 1, the staff gage reading was 9.12' for 23.90 AF in storage. On July 31, the staff gage read 8.75' for 22.75 AF in storage.
- After receiving another bid for road repair, I have engaged RNS Excavating to do the job, including adding another upstream relief culvert. They are planning to get started at the beginning of next week. A 50% deposit on the quote is due. The amount is \$4941.
- I met with Christine Mugele from W.W. Wheeler at the SPR and she took measurements, pictures, and sketched the headgate and diversion point to facilitate the design of the replacement structure. I later met with Tom Burnett, who originally surveyed and mapped the reservoir, and obtained digital versions of the maps he had drawn in 2011.
  - Additional information to report: RNS is requesting a 50% deposit. The total amount of the invoice is \$9,882.00. A check will be prepared after the meeting for \$4941.00.
  - Lisa Brown sent the additional information to Christine and she and Todd Street are going to incorporate that all into a digital SPR file. Lisa has been working with Wheeler

to work out some kinks in the accounting and learn how to perform the new detailed accounting that is on the level of the Chatfield and James Tingle reservoirs.

- Regarding the storage, Lisa said we have a space available for approximately 3af. She talked with David Shohet and Matt Loose about either storing the Guiraud 3T water since it is in priority and there have been more senior calls on the river. David Shohet had the idea of trying to operate an exchange out of Chatfield, however, that is not a possibility now because the flows are too low downstream. Matt Loose is still keeping an eye on doing exchanges with other water supply. Lisa Brown expressed a concern about the state of the head gate that once she opens it, would she be able to close it with the way the concrete around it is deteriorating. She said we do have plenty of water in storage to cover the Adventure Placer 2 that we are responsible for but she is not comfortable trying to store water because of the surrounding structure of the head gate. David Shohet said the Guiraud 3T water can only be used for the Adventure Placer and we have enough in the SPR for Adventure Placer for several years so we don't need to make the diversion to make Adventure Placer's plan work. Lisa Brown said she thinks there is over 8af in the Guiraud 3T account and their annual depletion is approximately only a third of an acre foot.

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

- Accounting through June 30 was received in July from Wheeler, and CCWCD had 140.1 AF in storage on June 30th.
- There was no Chatfield Reallocation Management Company (CRMC) meeting in July. The next meeting will be in person on August 26, immediately following a meeting with the Project Coordination Team and the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE).
- Matt Loose participated in the Operations Advisory Committee (OAC) meeting on July 24th, and provided me with updates:
  - o The Reallocation Pool had about 17,500 AF in storage, or about 3,100 AF below full.
  - o With CCWCD's storage remaining full, I inquired about the possibility of operating an exchange, but unfortunately, flows on the river downstream are presently too low for such an exchange to take place.
  - o Drones were flown over the inundated trees, and the hot weather has adversely affected them. I expect this to be a main topic of discussion at the upcoming meetings.

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

- Accounting has been updated though July, and CCWCD's storage was at 92.45 AF.

- The targets for July operations were to leave about 12.25 AF of Randall Ditch credits in the stream, not take any Sessions Ditch credits, and no releases from JTR are planned.

All of this occurred as planned, and was reflected in the accounting.

- Park County has requested that 4 AF be left in the stream for their use so far this season, which has been accommodated and accounted for. We are currently looking for an opportunity for them to utilize the remaining 1 AF. \*\*

- Swithin Dick and I have been looking for a tower to build a new raptor pole out of for over a year, as requested by the dam safety engineer. He has found a few on Craig's list, but they have all been sold before we've had a chance to look at them. He found one at the end of last week, that we went to look at yesterday. It was a fair deal for the tower, and I purchased it. The price was \$575. Swithin and one of his colleagues will pick it up today and bring it up to JTR tomorrow.

\*\* Additional information to report: After this report was written, the call changed this morning and went to an 1888 call which means utilizing this one AF a possibility. She has asked Centennial to reflect this in their accounting to make this available for Park County. She is waiting to hear back and if this passes, then they are taken care of their 5AF for the year.

Regarding the Raptor pole, a concrete base will have to be poured and then put together. Swithin Dick has a contact in Como that specializes in odd concrete job. Lisa will look at how this works in the James Tingle agreement so Centennial pays their share.

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

- I attended the SPEB meeting on July 17th, and grants were awarded to all four applicants: Pine Elk Creek Improvement Association, CUSP, the U.S. Forest Service for expansion of the river patrol program, and Trout Unlimited, for rehabilitation of the Gill Trail.

#### **CCWCD Website Issues:**

- Covered under Administrative Matters.

#### **Lost Park Water Rights:**

- I sent a letter to Steve Sypher reflecting the Board's stance on not pursuing the Lost Park water rights and reservoir, but did extend an invitation to the LPROA to apply for a grant during the next grant cycle to assist with the replacement of their reservoir liner.

**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):**

- I made a brief visit to the property last week. There had been substantial rain right before I visited, causing flood debris to flow down over the driveway. Some rocks will need to be moved and some regrading done to the driveway. Behind the cabin, flooding had also brought down a bunch of debris onto the deck, which I removed, allowing the deck to dry out. I will get back down there this month to re-stain it.

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

Lisa Brown sent out an email asking the Board to vote authorizing her to go forward with RNS for work to be performed on the road and round the Smelter Pipeline. RNS requested a 50% deposit. Chris Fuller moved to approve preparation of a check in the amount of \$4941.00. Lynne Buchanan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Lynne Buchanan made a motion that CCWCD will not require Board approval for expenditures that are \$1,000 or less. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Lynn Buchanan made a motion to allow Lisa Brown to sign checks for \$1,000 or less. Wallie Weld seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

4.1. Progress of 2024 Grant Contracts: Lisa Brown has a contract written for Shawnee. It was reviewed by David Shohet and Chris Fuller. There were some minor changes made. Lisa needs to have all documents incorporated when the contract is sent to him.

Lisa Brown said the deadline for grant applications was May 1<sup>st</sup> and was open from March 1<sup>st</sup> until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Chris Fuller said we appropriate 4% of one of our accounts for grant funding to

allow people who are managing their land properly, repairing equipment, to suit our mission. Jim Legg has Winding River ranch and he needed to repair the dam outlets. He made a proposal to CCW and we gave him \$64K. This year we only had two applicants. CUSP was one. They are looking for design and planning funds removing a fish passage on the South Platte river by Lake George. It is down river where CUSP removed a dam. CCWCD provided \$10,000 to help with that project. Shawnee Water Consumers Association is receiving \$1500. They are putting in a pipeline from their reservoir going to the river. It is one section of the pipeline. They have already done one piece, this is another piece and they will do another piece next year. Ultimately, they will get some type of a measuring device so they can measure what is being delivered from their augmentation plan.

4.2 548 Front St. Building Updates: All plans have been submitted. They have to be stamped by the engineer and be original. John, the architect put the plans together and sent them to the town of Fairplay. Craig said we need to take the proposals and put together contracts. We have none yet. When we hire a subcontractor, we need a contract and an insurance certificate. We will be the certificate holder or the additional insured. Craig's suggestion is we only require being a certificate holder. Craig said he would like Wallie Weld, Lisa Brown and anyone else interested to help work together to ensure things get done. The structural engineer drew some structural items that need to be added to above the ceiling. He said the roof is fine and the structure is fine, it is strong. We need a carpenter that can read the structural plans and then perform the work. We will put in new beam and one side will be for the cassette. One copy of the plans will be in the office with an attached letter from the engineer.

Craig will send out an email explaining what the difference is between Additional Insured or Certificate Holder of insurance.

Lynne Buchanan made a motion to approve up to \$5K for electrical engineer and electrician (Carlos) to move forward with design permitting and upgrades the dentist would like done. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously. A lease amendment will be created with CCWCD and Summit Community Care Clinic. The motion carried unanimously.

4.3 Open House Review: Next year, a water jug will be placed by the door. Also, next year we want no blueberries that can get on the floor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 Consider sponsorship of South Platte Forum-consider sponsorship levels. Lisa Brown said she thinks the exhibitor levels are the same as last year. An exhibitor is \$375, a break sponsor is \$575 and on upward. A lunch sponsor is \$1,000. Lisa described different options for the board. Last year, CCWCD paid \$500 and USPWCD paid \$500. Early registration is open through October 1. All sponsorships give one free admission ticket. It will be held at Aims Community College in Greeley. The Board will discuss with USPWCD during the next joint meeting.

## **UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES**

None. To be covered in the Joint meeting following.

## **DIRECTOR'S ISSUES**

Wallie Weld moved to adjourn the meeting. Lisa McVicker seconded and the Board adjourned at 2:00PM.