

Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 11, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 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 PM.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Wallie Weld moved to approve the agenda as presented. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chris Fuller moved to approve the minutes as amended. Wallie Weld seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 Administrator's Report on Accounts:

Nola Knudsen reviewed the June check register with the Board. Invoices for the month of June totaled \$23,296.27. She outlined all the regular monthly invoices and reviewed the checks for the grants that were awarded. Cash assets remaining after payment of June invoices is \$2,700,370.40

2.2 Treasurer's Review: Nola Knudsen reported for Treasurer Lynne Buchanan who is on vacation this month. She said there were June deposits of \$4,207.59 into High Country Bank for rent and utilities from USPWCD, Knudsen Counseling and the Dental Office. The district received \$9,563.85 in interest from Colotrast and property taxes in the amount of \$50,311.98.

2.3 Approval of Invoices and Warrants: Chris Fuller moved to approve the invoices and warrants as presented. Wallie Weld seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Additional Administrative matters: Nola Knudsen reported the new bank will require some additional information from a couple board members, a Certification of Beneficial Owners of Legal Entities form to be filled out by Lisa McVicker as the Board Chair, and to read into the record the board members authorized to open the account and be signers on the account. Lisa McVicker stated those board members were herself, Elizabeth McVicker, Craig Steinmetz, Lynne Buchanan, Chris Fuller, Walter Weld and Operations Manager Lisa Brown.

Nola Knudsen said she has been checking with the courthouse regularly to see if appointments have been made of the board members. However, the Judge has not proceeded with this matter as yet. David Shohet said he has sent a motion to the court and is waiting approval.

OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

Smelter Pipeline Reservoir (SPR):

- I visited the SPR at least three times in May. On May 31st, a gage height reading of 7.47' was read, equivalent to 18.76 AF in storage. I talked to Matt Loose about his opinion on trying to store water in the SPR while in priority. He was also of the opinion to not risk operating the headgate and confirmed that there was plenty of water in storage elsewhere that storing in the SPR was not necessary this season. David asked if Lisa needed to pick up Giraud 3T water. Lisa said she did not as there was still approximately 7af of water in that account which will be plenty to cover Adventure Placer also.
- Obtained and relayed answers to the contractor's questions regarding the headgate replacement project.
- Presented contractor's bids and Wheeler's scope of work for project oversight to the CCWCD Board. Subsequently relayed Wheeler's analysis of the project bids. Flywater was notified as well as Contractor's that were rejected. Lisa Brown said she will need David Shohets help with getting a contract together for Flywater. David suggests asking them if they have one.

Chatfield Reallocation Project (CRP):

- There was no regular CRMC meeting in May. However, there was a special meeting to discuss modifications to the ATMP (Adaptive Tree Management Plan. The goal is to streamline

the monitoring criteria and provide an off-ramp to the monitoring requirements.

- Accounting was received at the end of May and has been updated through May 27th. On May 1st, CCWCD had 129.22 AF in storage. On May 27th, there was 127.88 AF.
- The OAC met on May 28th, and Matt Loose provided some updates:
 - o There was about 12,800 AF in storage in the reallocation pool
 - o The Plum Creek Basin and Castle Rock area had been at the center of some of the rain events at the end of the month.
 - o Weekend reporting to the master accounting spreadsheet has started and will be required through Labor Day.
 - o Matt reported that he did not anticipate operations involving CCWCD's stored water in Chatfield in the near future. He will be looking for opportunities to operate exchanges when available.

Additional Information: The CRMC has circulated a draft, with some minor changes to the Original ATMP written years ago. As the reallocation pool has been filled, they noticed the Requirements didn't account for how things would develop when the allocation pool would remain full for well over a year. They will relay that to the oversight committee which involves the Army Corp of Engineers and see if they accept these revisions.

James Tingle Reservoir (JTR)

- Accounting was received in May and had been updated through April 30th. CCWCD had 62.77 AF in storage.
- Swithin and Matt have been coordinating on storage and operations plans. 9.38 AF of Randall Ditch credits were left in stream for augmentation purposes. 31.22 AF of Randall Ditch credits were stored in the reservoir.
- Matt and I had a call with Swithin to discuss the 2024 water operations. We will attempt to address this while discussing potential modifications to the operating agreements. This is still in process, and a meeting is planned but no date has been set.
- A contract was executed with Spann Enterprises to construct the raptor towers. Work began this week.

- The revised invoice for 2024 maintenance was received, and the new amount of \$2553.01 was verified.

South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB):

- The monthly SPEB meeting was held on May 21st.
- Grant applications are due by June 11th, but none had yet been received.
- One of last year's grants, for improvements and repairs to the Gill Trail, is moving forward, with work expected to begin this fall. Representatives from TU (Trout Unlimited) are planned to discuss this at the upcoming June meeting.
- The report on the Montane Skipper status was postponed and will not be presented until this summer, possibly in July.
- Denver Water reported that they anticipate that Dillon Reservoir will spill at some point this summer. They also reported that testimony is ongoing in the Gross Reservoir lawsuit, but construction continues on the dam.

Snowpack Report:

- The ASO flew a few more airborne survey flights of the Upper South Platte Basin from May 27-31. A new assimilated report came out this week. The ASO estimated about 56,000 AF remaining in the snowpack on May 31st. They observed that soil moistures in the middle elevations are near peak seasonal values, while lower elevations have exhibited significant drying. The average, overall is about 72%.

CCWCD Website Issues:

- I was contacted by another company that offers website accessibility compliance programming. They told me that accessiBe doesn't make everything on the site 100% compliant. They told me that the CCWCD website could be at risk of violating the new legislation. Their service costs 10x annually what we pay for the accessiBe plug-in. I talked to Daisy about this, and we both did some research. From what I understand, we need to post a statement about efforts to make our site accessible, which has contact information for people to reach out to if they need assistance with anything on our site. Daisy can make modifications

if fixes need to be made.

Additional Information: Daisy did turn off auto renew with accessiBe. The contract is coming up for renewal before the end of this month. Lisa Brown said there are fixes Daisy can do on her end if needed. Lisa McVicker thinks auto renew makes sense; it is easier to go back and say renewal is not needed than to remember to make payment. Lisa McVicker said other places she works with uses accessiBe who does very good work. Lisa Brown felt the company that had contacted her was trying to “strong-arm” us. Lisa Brown found a sample statement stating we doing everything possible to make our site as accessible as possible.

Advertising:

- Summer in the Park will come out any day. Michelle Peters said she would bring some to the office when she receives them.

Wild Horse Reservoir:

- A Cooperating Agency Meeting was held on May 15th to provide updates and present a report on Aurora Water’s goals and objectives, which is primarily as an emergency reserve and to provide for future growth. In 2020, total water demand was ~65,000 AF. They project the 2075 demand to be ~103,000 AF. The 2025 population was ~418,000, anticipated to grow to ~759,000 by 2075.
- The next meeting will be on June 12th.

Kenosha Trout Club (KTC):

- Matt Loose contacted Dave Echter to inquire about this summer’s storage operations. They haven’t started to store yet, but plan to later this month.

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 have contacted a couple forestry companies who have given me estimates for the removal of the dead Ponderosa Pine. I will present these bids to the HASP board at Friday's meeting.

Additional Information: Lisa Brown received one estimate of service from McCormack Tree Service out of Woodland Park. The estimate was provided over the phone based on a couple of pictures Lisa sent them. That estimate was \$1,950.0 that includes climbing, limbing, and chipping the smaller material, cutting the tree in into six-foot lengths. The second estimate from South Park Tree Service came out and met with Lisa.

South Park Tree Service provided two different options. One option is called the drop and walk for \$1200.00. This includes climbing the tree and cutting limbs off the main trunk into manageable pieces and leave it off site. The 2nd option cost \$3500.00 which includes, removal and tarping. They will climb and fell the entire tree, remove all limbs from the main trunk, stack into piles, debark the main log, and tarp over all slash to kill adult beetles and larvae. The tarps will be secured to make sure any beetles that do survive will be unable to get out from the tarp to infest any other trees. They expect this to require 2-3 people for one day.

Lisa Brown said South Park Tree Service actually cut back the bark and said the beetles are still alive in the tree. They identified the species and did walk part of the property with Lisa to look for infestation in other trees. They suggested getting pheromone packs for the live trees.

The packet sends out a signal that the tree is occupied and the beetles leave it alone. They cost \$6-8.00 each. Lisa recommends purchasing the pheromone packs as they are other good size trees on the property. Lisa said Lynne Buchanan had mentioned she thought she saw some other trees that were infected. Lisa tried to walk to the area Lynne spoke about but the land became very steep and difficult to traverse. Lisa drove to Guffey and did see some trees within the fence line that could be infected also. They are highly inaccessible. She doesn't know if a crew could get in there.

Lisa McVicker thinks the second alternative makes sense. Wallie said the pheromone packs work.

Wallie Weld asked whether the location of the raptor pole is going to be okay.

Lisa Brown said she and Swithin are looking at another location where the return flow, over flow Outflow pipe is underground that goes from the valve house to the outflow channel.

Unfortunately, that is not good. Another location that was dry, doesn't allow a good line of sight. Lisa has considered getting a drone out there. Because it is hard to imagine what the line of sight is from 30' up in the air when you are standing on the ground. One tower will satisfy the dam safety inspector's requirement. There are plans to put the one tower up next week. The concrete is poured, reinforced with rebar and the base plate is set in the concrete.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Introduce 2025 Scholarship Recipients: None present.

OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Update on Plans for Water Law Class

Lisa Brown said we have settled on August 23rd for the date of the class. She and David were looking at setting up a meeting with the participants the end of June. She has not heard by from Dawn Jewell yet and will be out for a while. Lisa Brown and David Shohet discussed making up a flyer to hand out to local realtors, HOAs, property managers, etc. We are wondering if advertising in the Flume. We will also have flyers at the open house on Burro Days. The board agreed. David suggested an RSVP to get a head count.

5.2 548 Front Street Building Updates

Nola Knudsen provided an update on the drains that were plugged up that were repaired. Lisa Brown has reached out to Lozano to get an estimate for cutting out a section of the sidewalk. They did confirm that would want it cut on the seams. What we don't know is whether they want it cut out and removed as one piece or just removed to the seams. Nola spoke with Small Town Drain who stated they only demo out concrete and would not be able to make precision cuts and lift it out. Lozano will get back to Lisa and we will get estimates on what it will cost and who will do what. Lisa Brown also has a call to the town of Fairplay since the cutting may go into the street.

Nola Knudsen said there have been a few times that the boiler was not functioning. She made some calls and have gotten it fixed. Aspen Grove came out and has got it running three times

without a charge. Nola is thinking a service on the boiler would be appropriate. The board instructed Nola to go ahead and schedule a service call.

Lisa Brown stopped in to the Guffey Bakery and discussed the needs for bakery goods for the Open House. Lisa also suggested getting a water dispenser for the conference room. The board agreed it would be useful. Lisa will price out the products.

Lynne had asked Lisa Brown to get pictures to update the power point display. Lisa is getting her pictures of Grant recipients and scholarship recipients.

5.4 Update on 2025 Grant Agreement progress:

Lisa Brown said she is working on Contracts for the grant recipients. Winding River is done and Lisa has received a signed copy. Jim Legg said he will pick up the check next week when in town. Lisa took pictures of his project that is complete. Lisa met Paul O'Brien and Pat Spival and Twelve Mile Ranch. She is working on their grant agreement and then she will get

Stewardship West done. Those three were less time sensitive because their projects are stretching into next year. She did get some pictures out of Twelve Mile Ranch. The check for Shawnee has been mailed. They are going before the Land and Water Trust board to hopefully get the other half of their grant approved. Lisa McVicker said two board members would like to visit Winding River and Twelve Mile Ranch. She asked to please let Wallie and Craig know when the owners might be amenable to come out and seeing the progress.

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

David Shohet said in terms of water court cases, we are in a bunch but there are three or four

Case No. 22CW3200 is the Rosalie Ditch water right case. The final decree was entered on May 16, 2025 and that case is now complete and we now have ten more AF of fully consumable water which could possibly be used for augmentation in the future.

Case No. 2024CW3036 This case is about the application of Will-O-Wisp. The referee entered a ruling in this case on June 5, 2025. With these cases, there are no trial deadlines; all cases are before a referee.

Other legal matters. HASP has received one new application. It is for a new ADU to be added to any existing household use only well for a property located in the North Fork of the South Platte drainage.

2024 Randall Leased Water. David Shohet reminded the board that the district gets the first 200AF of the Randall water and in 2024 we offered the excess water to Highlands Ranch Water. They historically have taken it but with the way the water year was shaping up, they decided they didn't want it. When prepping for 2025, Matt Loose looked back at the 2024 operations and he said on paper, it looks like they took the additional water after all. Lisa Brown and Matt Loose had a meeting with Swithin Dick. He did agree they took the additional water they had said they weren't going to lease. Lisa Brown and David Shohet have mentioned there are a lot of things operationally that we are learning that are not working as well as they could. Before the reservoir was built, we entered into an operations agreement as to how things would work. Now that we have about fifteen years of operations, there are things we can improve from Highlands Ranch Water and Center in terms of how things are operating. There have been some discussions about modifying or amending the current operating agreement. One of the issues is going to be how we lease this excess 200AF of water, how it's paid for and try to address what happened in 2024. David brought this matter to the board to see if they want to discuss the issue whether to send them an invoice or just let it go and figure out how to deal with this type of issue in the future. Chris Fuller said to let it go and amend the operating agreement. The other board members agreed. Lisa McVicker said this brings urgency to the need to update our operating agreement. She said Alison Gorsevski's memo that came out of the HASP meeting this coming Friday is also bringing it to attention to what will be discussed with Indian Mountain. Lisa said to tell them we won't be invoicing you but let's put a schedule together to rewrite this agreement.

David Shohet said he has been meeting with HRW and had scheduled a meeting approximately two weeks ago but they canceled it. They thought it would be more efficient if they would propose something. He doesn't know if they're going to propose an entirely new operating agreement or some provision they want to change. We are waiting on HRW and will present that to the board when we receive it. Lisa Brown and David did chat about some of the areas of the agreement we think need to be changed or to be modified for the benefit of Center.

DIRECTOR ISSUES

None

Craig Steinmetz moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Wallie Weld and the board adjourned at 2:12PM.