

Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 9, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, July 9, 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 1:12 PM.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Wallie Weld moves to amend the agenda to move the 2025 scholarship recipient to top of the agenda and present introductions. Chris Fuller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS: Haley Land, the recipient of the 2025 education scholarship from CCWCD, introduced herself. She lives in Bailey, Colorado and recently graduated from Platte Canyon High School. She will be attending Oklahoma Pan Handle State College in July. She also received a volleyball scholarship to college. She will study animal science and business. Her family has approximately 170 cows altogether. All board members and staff introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chris Fuller moved to approve the minutes as amended. Craig Steinmetz seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 New Director's Oaths of Office for Lisa McVicker and Chris Fuller: Chris Fuller who verbally attested to the Oath of Office. Lisa McVicker verbally attested to the Oath of Office.

2.2 Administrator's Report on Accounts:

Nola Knudsen reviewed the July check register with the Board. Invoices for the month of July totaled \$42,783.46. Cash assets remaining after payment of July invoices is \$2,678,019.28.

2.3 Treasurer's Review: Nola Knudsen reported for Treasurer Lynne Buchanan. She said there was a July deposit of \$1,285.34 into High Country Bank for rent and utilities from Knudsen Counseling and the district received \$9,903.66 in interest from Colotrust and \$0.90 from High Country Bank. Property taxes from June have not been received in July as of this date. Nola discussed the issue of late rent related to the change of name and personnel with the dental office.

2.4 Approval of Invoices and Warrants: Wallie Weld moved to approve the invoices and warrants as presented. Craig Steinmetz seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Additional Administrative matters: The officer at TBK Bank was requesting organizational papers and tax returns for the district to set up the new bank account. It was explained the district was a quasi-municipality and did not submit tax returns. Additionally, the district was set up through an election with board members appointed by the Judge. The officer then asked for our bylaws. The district does have a set of bylaws from the date of establishment. The board members have decided to ask legal to review them and see if changes might be warranted.

OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

Smelter Pipeline Reservoir (SPR):

- I visited the SPR at least three times in June. On July 1st, a gage height reading of 7.05' was read, equivalent to 17.49 AF in storage. I plan to try to store the Giraud 3T water for Adventure Placer 2 before construction on the headgate begins, if available.
- The CCWCD Board selected FlyWater for the headgate replacement project. I am working with them to get the contract for the project written. They would like to get started on it by the end of July.
- I am working on getting the accounting updated.

Additional Information: FlyWater sent Lisa Brown their standard contract which Lisa had reviewed by David Shohet. David agreed the contract was acceptable for the district to use. Lisa is waiting for them to write the details of the contract into their master contract. She said they are wanting to get going on this project by the end of July. The flows in Mosquito Creek are way down and there was no flooding this year. There were no issues with Beavers either. If the contract gets in place, Fly Water will get going by the end of this month.

Chatfield Reallocation Project (CRP):

- I attended the virtual CRMC bimonthly meeting in June.
 - The Adaptive Tree Management Plan (ATMP) memo will go to the TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) this summer with requested modifications to some of the monitoring requirements. One area that's been particularly troublesome is the persistence of Hairy willowherb and that it's listed as a Type 1 noxious weed. Treatment of noxious weeds is currently ongoing.
 - The USACOE approved the annual monitoring report, the ATMP report, and the offsite monitoring report. The offsite monitoring requirement has now been cleared and that responsibility has moved from CRMC to Douglas County. CRMC's manager continues to work with Douglas County to ensure a smooth transition. Douglas County officials would like to hold a barbeque at Sandstone to commemorate the hand-off and partnership on a yet to be determined date in mid-late September.
 - Gridding of tree stands and tree health monitoring will be done at the end of July. Some tree monitoring will be done with drones.
 - A Great Blue Heron rookery has formed in the Plum Creek area. This is the first time in 20 years. This is an area that still has a lot of dead and dying trees, but will be left alone to not disturb the rookery.
 - CRMC's fiscal year ends at the end of September. The draft 2025/2026 budget estimates the per share cost to be \$152 for next year. Additional tree removal has been included in next year's budget.
- Accounting was received at the end of June and has been updated to the state system through May 31st. On May 31st, there was 127.75 AF in storage for CCWCD's use.

chatfieldreallocation.org is an informative website of interesting information for those interested in more information. There is a news tab that provides information on the removal of trees.

James Tingle Reservoir (JTR)

- Accounting was received in June and had been updated through May 31st. CCWCD had 91.99 AF in storage.
- Swithin and Matt have been coordinating on storage and operations plans. The full requested amounts of Randall and Sessions water have been stored for CCWCD. No releases are requested for July.
- One of the raptor towers was constructed in June. There is an issue with a high-water table in the desired location for the second raptor tower, so that one is currently on hold while we work on an alternate plan. We think it can be done using a different construction method in the fall. The annual dam safety inspection is scheduled for July 10th, and Swithin and I will discuss plans at that time.

- We received the invoice for the first raptor tower in the amount of \$5854.16. This is \$187.16 above the quoted price of \$5,667 due to additional hardware needing to be purchased for the guywire rigging.
- Park County used 0.75 AF of Randall Ditch credits in June.

Additional Information: Lisa discussed the size and process of installation of the raptor tower. It is 30' tall with a perch. Raptor towers are needed to control the rodents that like to burrow into the earthen dam.

South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB):

- The monthly SPEB meeting was held virtually on June 18th.
- Two grant applications were received: one is for aquatic restoration at Camp Alexander (\$25,000 ask) and the other is for temperature sensors to be installed at four stream gaging stations (\$7,000). Grant decisions will be made at the July 18th in-person meeting.
- An update was given by Trout Unlimited on the Gill Trail Project. Work will be starting this summer to close social trails and improve the main trail that goes down to the river. The use of COTREX was suggested to find maps of official trails all over the state.
- Denver Water reported that construction is proceeding on Gross Reservoir, but permits to store water have been vacated. Denver Water filed notice that they will appeal the judge's decision.
- An update from CUSP was requested by the Board, and Adrian Knight said that could be done in late fall or early winter. He mentioned that the day use area at the mouth of 11- Mile Canyon will be opened this month.

Additional Information: Discussions were held due to the fact that Camp Alexander is private property even though it is owned by the Boy Scouts, a non-profit organization. There was some debate about SPEBS bylaws not using grant money to enhance the value of private property. That is ongoing and will be made at the July 18th meeting.

River Flows:

- Flows into Spinney are at 106 cfs, which is about 41% of normal flows of 258 cfs.
- Flows on the Tarryall are at 36 cfs, which is 36% of normal flows of 100 cfs.
- The drought monitor indicates that the western 1/3 portion of Park County is listed as D1-moderate drought. D0-abnormally dry conditions exist in the adjacent 1/3 of the county. The southeast portion of the county is not currently listed in drought conditions.

CCWCD Website Issues:

- Daisy has renewed the accessiBe subscription and everything has been running well. She also posted the open house announcement. She is updating our schedule to reflect the earlier joint meeting times for August and November. I also asked her to add the open house to the meeting schedule as a special meeting.

Lisa Brown said she has ordered her new computer.

Advertising:

- Summer in the Park came out in June. The CCWCD/HASP/USPWCD full page advertisement is well placed on page 5 adjacent to the table of contents and calendar of events.

Additional Information: Lisa Brown has placed advertisement for the Open House which ran in the 4th of July addition and another will run on the 19th. Sandwich boards advertising the open house will be placed out prior to the open house.

Wild Horse Reservoir:

- There was a technical snafu during the meeting scheduled for June 12th. After trying to join the meeting for about 15 minutes, I gave up and spent the rest of the scheduled time reading associated documents. An explanation was circulated the next day explaining the major technical glitch that kept most virtual attendees from joining the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17th, and there will be a recap of the material presented at the June meeting.
- Meeting notes were distributed after the meeting, and the focus is still on Aurora's goals and objectives, and their calculated need for an additional 95,000 AF of storage by 2075.

Kenosha Trout Club (KTC): • We have received the annual operations and maintenance invoice for this year in the amount of \$14,487.50.

- Matt Loose has coordinated with Dave Echter to arrange an exchange of water to fill CCWCD's storage in Lininger Lake. The exchange of 2.47 AF of Deer Creek water is scheduled to take place this week, provided the right stays in priority.

Michigan Creek Restoration Plan (MCR): • No changes since last report. Further, I haven't seen any activity at this ranch all summer.

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):

- The HASP Board voted in favor of the \$3500 bid from South Park Tree services to have the dead Ponderosa Pine taken down, cut, and covered. I met the crew at the property on June 30th, and the tree was taken down without incident. I asked them how many pheromone packets they would recommend to protect the other trees on the property and they said about 50. They cost about \$8 a piece and come in packs of 10. Lisa will get them ordered and begin placing them on the trees.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Introduce 2025 Scholarship Recipients: Moved to top of agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Update on Plans for Water Law Class: Garver Brown, Dawn Jewell, David Shohet and Lisa Brown had a virtual meeting to come up with a solid outline for the class. Lisa Brown would like to make a flyer to handout at the Open House. She will also distribute to realtors, HOAs, and property managers with an RSVP. Lisa discussed which individual was going to present information that will be followed by a panel discussion.

Lisa also plans to get some snacks

5.2 548 Front Street. Nola Knudsen checked with the Small Drain company who is willing to work with Lazano to fix the bathroom drain issue. This is will be able to be done toward the end of summer and after Burro Days. We will need to determine if they will cut into the curb. If so, a permit will be needed. Lisa Brown has a copy of the permit which will cost \$550 and there is a \$2,000 bond that is refundable after one year after it is shown the work is holding up.

Nola followed up on calling companies to get a service call on the boiler. Aspen Grove Mechanical will come service the boiler next week.

5.3 Update on 2025 Open House Planning: Lisa Brown said ads have been placed and an announcement placed on the website. Cookies and cupcakes have been scheduled. Lisa Brown estimates 5-6 dozen cupcakes. The board suggested mini-cupcakes. The water will be placed outside. Lisa has new pictures uploaded to the drive from Twelve Mile Ranch, Winding River, Raptor Tower, and Scholarship Recipients. We are waiting for maps to upload for.

The meeting will be noticed since more than two board members will be present. We will start at 10:00.

5.4 Update on 2025 Grant Agreement progress: Lisa Brown said three grants are complete. She needs a signature from Twelve Mile Ranch after a few modifications. Stewardship West has rough drafts for two projects to send to Chris Fuller and David Shohet to review. Lisa Brown will meet with Jim Legg to help him with his final report. Lisa McVicker said when it is time for next year, we might consider expanding our grant applications. Lisa Brown has already received some interest for help for next year. Twelve Mile Ranch has already built the bridge which is the first part of his project and it is complete. The bridge is to go across Cave Creek to access the project area where they are going to be putting in the headgate and the splitter boxes. Lisa has seen pictures of the completed bridge and the headgate and splitter boxes will be completed over the winter. Shawnee received their check and presented their project to the Land and Water Trust Fund Board last month. They will be before the County Commissioners today to answer questions.

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

Sedona Chavez reviewed the cases in David Shohet's absence.

Case No. 22CW3185. This application seeks to change several senior water rights on Tarryall Creek associated with the Johns Ranch for use within Aurora's municipal water system. This case on hold while Aurora does some further engineering investigations.

Case No. 23CW3153. HASP is the applicant under conditional exchanges for water rights on Deer Creek. We are working with CPW and Aurora to address CPW's concerns regarding HASP's water storage in Spinney Mountain Reservoir. It appears to be related to contractual water with Aurora.

Case No. 23CW3170. HASP is an opposer in this case of the application of the Girl Scouts of Colorado. The Girl Scouts have circulated a revised proposed decree and engineering at the end of June. HASP's comments are due the end of August.

Case No. 23CW3180. HASP is an opposer -Central Colorado Water Conservancy District is seeking a change of their Chatfield Reservoir storage water rights. HASP is required to respond to their revised proposed decree and engineering by August 15, 2025.

Case No. 24CW3036. This case is in regards to the application of Will-O-Wisp Metropolitan District and Mountain Mutual Reservoir Company. The final decree was entered in this case and is now complete.

Case No. 24CW3134. Park County is the applicant to make several water rights absolute. HASP provided comments on Park County's initial proposed ruling. Park County is running into the same issue HASP has had regarding the use of Spinney Mountain Reservoir. Park County is currently working with Aurora and the State Land Board to resolve these issues.

Director Terms and Appointments: On July 1, 2025, the Court reappointed Chris Fuller and Lisa McVicker to the Board. The memo lists each director's appointment date. There was a

mistake on Chris Fuller's appointment and expiration date. Sedona said they have filed a motion to have that corrected. Center will be notified when the court makes the correction.

JTR Agreement – Sedona said we are waiting to hear back from the Highlands Water Ranch attorney regarding a proposed revised agreement to modernize and update the operations agreement between the parties.

HASP Water Planning: Sedona said that Wheeler is currently working on revisions to the mapping part of the HASP Phase 1 water planning study. Lisa McVicker said John Matteson sent out an email vote for Wheeler's new budget proposal. Lisa believes what they are doing is extensive and smart. It will be beneficial to the Center as well.

Bylaws: Counsel has been asked to review the bylaws of the district and advise if updates are recommended. Sedona explained the process of amending the bylaws. Notice will need to be made at a regular meeting.

DIRECTOR ISSUES

Lisa McVicker said Lynda James has been sending out emails about the South Platte Basin Roundtable who wants to have their September meeting here at the CCWCD conference room for their meeting, lunch, and dinner. They plan to go to Montgomery Reservoir and perhaps view any restoration at the London Mine. If anyone is interested, please let Lynda James know. Wallie Weld will represent the Center.

Chris Fuller shared the southern entrance to Wild Horse Reservoir is across from her property. Chris said the CUSP meeting that was held at the Center's office was very good. There were about 13-14 people attend.

Craig Steinmetz asked about the visitation dates for the grant properties. Mr. Legg will be here next week. Who would Craig and/or Wallie contact to make arrangements to visit? Lisa Brown will make contact to see what days would be available.

Walter Weld moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chris Fuller and the board adjourned at 3:00PM.