

Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
February 11, 2026

The monthly meeting of the Center of Colorado Water Conservancy District was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 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 1:07 PM.

The member present in the office were Chris Fuller and Wallie Weld. Lynne Buchanan was present by teleconference with Craig Steinmetz and Lisa McVicker. Nola Knudsen, Administrative Manager and Lisa Brown, Operation's Manager were present in the office. David Shohet, legal counsel, was present in the office.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2.1 Administrator's Report on Accounts: Nola Knudsen reviewed the checks paid via bill pay with the board. The total bills from the previous board meeting to February 6th were \$23,776.14. Cash assets after payment of the invoices is \$2,810,968.85.

2.2 Treasurer's Review: Lynne Buchanan review the deposits in TBK bank. They were \$5.20 of interest; \$4,200 for rent for the year of 2026 from the Upper South Platte Water Conservancy District; and a deposit of \$1,000 from Knudsen Counseling. The Colotrust deposits were \$8,975.04 of interest and property taxes in the amount of \$10,362.18.

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

OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

Smelter Pipeline Reservoir (SPR):

- I visited the SPR 3 times in January. On January 1st, a gage height of 8.69' was observed, for 22.56 AF in storage. On February 1st, I read a gage height of 8.60', for 22.28 AF in storage. The ice remains thick on the reservoir.
- I started using the air tester for the last couple readings in the vault and am working on a template for a visit log sheet to document visits, observations, maintenance items, etc.

This idea was spurred by this year's insurance renewal.

- FlyWater's project manager got back to me and he is working on some ideas for improvements to the access road. I was reminded by Dan Drucker that CCWCD only has an easement to the driveway.

Chatfield Reallocation Project (CRP):

- There was no CRMC meeting in January. The first meeting of 2026 will be held virtually on February 25th.
- Charly Hoehn sent out some updates in mid-January regarding the tree removal project:
 - o The helicopter work is finished for the season, with over 4,500 trees removed. The debris was expected to be chipped, hauled, and cleaned up by early February. All areas that could only be reached via helicopter have been completed.
 - o Stump removal and removal of some remaining stands will be a future focus. The remaining tree stands can be treated via land access, so the helicopter should not need to be brought back.
- Accounting was received at the end of January and has been updated to the state system through December. On December 31st, there was 118.34 AF in storage for CCWCD's use.
- Matt Loose attended the OAC meeting on January 21st and provided some updates:
 - o The reservoirs in the Lower South Platte Basin were full except for Sterling #1.
 - o Plum Creek is experiencing base winter flows. Construction should commence soon on the new Plum Creek gage.
 - o Denver Water reported that the snowpack within its S. Platte and Colorado River collection systems were both tied with 2002 and 2013 for lowest snow water equivalent. They predicted that their storage system would reach 88% full. Later noted from an interview with Nathan Elder in Fresh Water News, he stated "We always fill.
 - o Highlands Ranch and Castle Rock's water treatment plants were offline, and they are storing water in Chatfield.
 - o Matt relayed that he didn't anticipate any operations currently for CCWCD.

- o The next OAC meeting is scheduled for February 25th, and the USACOE will be asked to attend to provide their annual update on anticipated flood control requirements.

Additional Information: Lisa Brown reported she replaced the No Trespassing signs around the reservoir.

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James Tingle Reservoir (JTR)

- Accounting for January was just received and CCWCD had 52.71 AF in storage on Jan. 31st. One AF of stored Randall Ditch credits was released during January, and the same amount is planned to be released in February.
- The annual operations and maintenance accounting was just received and I am reviewing it.
- W.W. Wheeler has begun preparing a timeline for the investigation into the Sessions Ditch headgate and canal system. This is an effort to find a more efficient way to deliver water to James Tingle Reservoir.

South Platte Enhancement Board (SPEB):

- I attended the January 21st meeting virtually.
- The Forest Service reported on their current operations. They reminded the group that recreation has been de-prioritized, while range & timber and mineral & energy production are now priorities for the agency. The hiring freeze is still in place, and the South Park District is currently about 40% down in staffing. They are looking to partner agencies for support, like CPW and the Jefferson County Sheriff. Some good news for Segments A & B is the completion of the new entry station at 11-Mile Canyon and campground improvements, and upgrades at Happy Meadows including three new outhouses and fencing off the river.
- The grant budget for 2026 will be determined at the February meeting and the announcement will be sent out in March.
- New officers will be elected in March.
- An update on CCWCD and Park County projects that relate to SPEB interests was requested from me to be presented at an upcoming meeting. I am planning to give a

presentation at the March meeting on the CCWCD grant funded projects on the North Fork.

Snowpack Report:

- Hoosier Pass is at 45% of median, Buckskin Joe at 36%, Michigan Creek at 41%, Rough & Tumble at 25%. The Upper South Platte Basin is at 40% of median. The South Platte Basin is at 56%.

Lisa discussed the study with Swithin Dick and he had no concerns with it.

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CCWCD Insurance:

- I received the annual insurance renewal questionnaire in January and have submitted it to our agent following consultation with Nola Knudsen and David Shohet. Nola and I discussed updating an emergency plan for 548 Front St.

CCWCD Website Issues:

- The website has been functioning well.
- One issue is that the posted scholarship application deadline is May 1st, but it was discovered that South Park High School is having their senior awards night on April 29th this year. Should we move the deadline up? The April CCWCD Board meeting is scheduled for April 8th.

Additional Information: The deadline for submission could be April 1st which would allow Call all previous applicants.

Wild Horse Reservoir:

- No updates since the December 11th meeting. The next CA meeting will be on February 19th.

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):

- I visited the property last weekend and all was in order. I will remove the plastic that was covering the downed pine tree the next time I visit.

OLD BUSINESS

4.1 Update on 2025 Grant Agreements: Lisa Brown said the first item is the Webber Park Grant and discussion with Jennifer Baker. Lisa was told when meeting with the forest service they want to focus on the Badger Flats area and not in the Webber Park area at this time. The two areas are adjacent to each other. Jennifer redid the budget and it basically puts all the money in the archeological surveys for prescribed burns in that Badger Flats area. That is their priority and they want to start prescribed burns next winter when weather conditions allow. They found a lot more archeological resources than anticipated which caused them to have to do more collection and field studies. They are now done with the field studies and are compiling a report for the Forest Service and they need it completed by the end of this year. Basically, they are asking to change their budget from the last revised budget in which hand thinning was the major component of that budget and archeological resources was a minor component. Now they have moved all funds into the archeological resources while maintaining some money for signage and public outreach. The signage is basically an explanation of what is being done in the area. Lisa Brown asked the board whether to go ahead and give them the sixty thousand dollars with this new focus or if it is too different from the original grant purpose.

Lisa McVicker asked Lynne and Chris from their water shed protection point of view and what they see come across their requests. The real intent of the grant was to protect the water shed and abate extreme fire damage that could be upcoming. That is important now with it being so dry. Chris, although prescribed burns help with the risk level of the water shed, she said Badger Flats is different and doesn't have a lot of water. She said the Tarryall is the closest thing that would be affected. CUSP has worked in Badger Flats before and there was the huge mitigation work done by Wilkerson; there are piles to be burned there also. Lynne feels they stepped pretty far away from what their original plan was and she isn't sure this is protecting the watershed as much.

Lisa McVicker said we have earmarked the money and we could ask them to come back with a revision based on their 2026 plan. Chris Fuller said we should ask them to come back and rewrite the application. Archeology is important but not for our purposes. Lynne Buchanan agreed. David Shohet said from a legal perspective, they requested public money based on "X" project which is no longer going on. He believes they probably should submit a new application. Lisa asked who could help write a response. Chris Fuller said they could go through the old application, find the things that were important to Park County and CCWCD and ask why those parts are not in the new plan. David Shohet said or keep it simple and say the plan you applied for is not being pursued, we view this as a new project and a new application needs to be submitted showing how the project is related to our mission and we can have a discussion to whether or not we can continue with the grant money.

Lisa Brown said Jennifer wanted to express their appreciation of the board for consideration of the grant the way it was originally proposed. The project at Glen Isle is going forward and doing

well. Lisa McVicker asked Lisa Brown to let them know we will look forward to working with them in the future.

Lisa Brown said she sent out the grant opportunity partner letter to partner organizations. One is to Hartsel Water, a project where they are trying to put in a water station; drill a deep well and put in holding tanks. They are submitting an application to the Water, Land, and Trust fund tomorrow looking for grants. Lisa Brown received a brief email back from Angie Mills who is spearheading this. They are going to need augmentation water and they are looking at a million-dollar project. The water would be used for people that don't have wells. Would be potable water and they would need a treatment facility. There are places the wells don't produce good water, or too difficult to drill, cost prohibitive and many issues.

4.2 548 Front St. Building Updates: Lisa McVicker asked about the water drainage on the side of the building where the new asphalt has been poured. However, it has been too cold to be pouring water and watching for drainage.

Conference room use. Lisa Brown said after the request of the use of the conference room for the Republican Committee caucus, a question arose whether the board only wants to provide access for the water groups or other entities including political entities and whether that could create a conflict. Craig Steinmetz said we need to think about the other appendages of the building that would be used as well as potential repairs. The capacity for the conference room is 101 people. It is estimated the caucus would draw approximately 30 people. David Shohet said we need two things if we are going to rent the room. We will need a simple rental agreement saying the party agrees to pay for the rental and that they agree to the established rules. David said he is envisioning two documents. And protocol as to who to reach. Reach out to insurance to see if it covers third party rentals. Chris Fuller said Park County has a facilities use guidelines. David will work on them for next meeting.

The board approved the use of the room for the Republican Committee caucus on March 3, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

None

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

David Shohet said we had issues last year with Park County and them claiming their 5af of Randall water. Now they are asserting they are entitled to transit losses wherever they call or want their water delivered on top of the 5af. The board has instructed David to send a letter telling them we will deliver to the headgate of the Randall or Sessions. They will bear the transit losses. He is expecting a reply next 30-45 days. They claim CCWCD agreed to deliver them 5af of water and they understood we would have to deliver it to where they wanted it. We have a letter from their engineer saying no, and for the last 8 years we have been delivering to the headgate.

PATRON'S COMMENTS

None

DIRECTOR'S ISSUES

Wallie Weld said the Indian Mountain Community Center offers area of use to the public. The Democrats were offered use there but the Democrats don't have a PCP meeting. It's a little different scenario but an offer was made.

Craig Steinmetz contacted the state about the number of HOAs in Park County. The state of Colorado has lists of all the HOAs established. He is almost done compiling the information. Chris Fuller said she learned from Dave Wissel that Park County has 254 sub-divisions.

Chris Fuller moved to adjourn. Wallie Weld seconded and the meeting adjourned at 1:59pm.