

# HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

## Minutes of Board Meeting November 4, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District was called to order by President Scott King at Walsenburg Housing Authority on Monday, November 4, 2019 at 6:02 pm.

Directors present: Michael "Sandy" White, Scott King, Kent Mace, Lonnie Brown, Lewis "Beaver" Edmundson. Secretary: Carol Dunn; Attorney: Ryan Farr

Guests: Rick Dunn, Doug Brdoch, Dave Steffan, Keith Bouchard.

The agenda was approved.

**MINUTES** – Correction: The last motion was not seconded by Edmundson but Mace instead. White **moved** and Brown seconded to approve the September 30, 2019 minutes as corrected. Board approved.

**TREASURER REPORT** – White **moved** and Brown seconded to approve the Treasurer's reports. Board approved.

Dunn presented the 2020 budget to the board. There was a White/Edmundson **motion** to accept the budget for publication. Board approved. The budget will be published in the November 7 edition of the World Journal.

**OLD BUSINESS** – There was a White/Brown **motion** to set the application fee for the Southway gravel mine augmentation water application at \$25,000. Board approved with Edmundson abstaining.

**NEW BUSINESS** – White reported that the request to enlarge the CWCB loan principal by \$440,000 was well received by the staff. The request will go to the CWCB board on January 13, 2020. A loan origination fee of 1% will be added. Interest accrues when payments are drawn, but it is not payable until the project reaches completion.

Rick Dunn reported that the work for Sheep Mountain Augmentation Facility Phase 3 appears to be finished. There are still piles of spoils and topsoil onsite. The fence estimate from Tyler Huff is \$46,403.31, including materials and labor. Brown suggested an alternate design. On a White/Mace **motion**, the board authorized Brown and Rick Dunn to rebid the fencing, then contract to get it constructed with a budget not to exceed \$47,000 and coordinate the installation with Paul Morgan Excavating. Board approved.

Water Commissioner Brdoch reported the Huerfano River flows are at 16 cfs, and the call is #20. Cucharas River flow is six feet at the upper reach. As of November 1, water is for the Maria Stevens storage season, with the call for the rest of the winter. City of Walsenburg is trying to get water into City Lake, which is finished with its rehab. The aim is to fill it to a depth of about ten feet. Brdoch reported the channel protection work on Middle Creek is just starting. Town of La Veta will bill HCWCD by the end of November for up to \$4,500 to cover the local match needed.

For the flood mitigation grant work, the phase 3 budget is being developed. A Phase 2020 application has also been submitted in the amount of \$700,000. The innovative pilot projects are: 1. Using clay-encased seed, which isn't palatable to birds and wild turkeys. 2. Using turnip and radish seed in seed mixes to break up the hydrophobic soil. 3. Using log barriers called abatis to catch and impound sediment eroding downhill.

White presented estimates on the potential Cucharas Basin Storage Collaborative projects from now through 2027. We need to build these projects to keep water in Huerfano County. The proposed

Collaborative Phase 5 grant applications for 2020 include: WSRF for 50% design of Bruce Canyon Reservoir; CWP for 50% design of Maria Stevens Reservoir enlargement (MSRE); WSRF Basin grant for partial match required on the MSRE project. For eventual reservoir construction, potential funding sources include state and federal. After the 50% design is complete, we may talk to other potential collaborators (ie. Parks & Wildlife, Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, etc).

Strategic Planning – The meeting will be held February 21, 2020, 10 am to 3 pm. White suggested attendance of about 20 people.

At the Arkansas Basin Roundtable meeting the same slate of officers was reelected.

White reviewed the current project list in the Basin Implementation Plan, which he has reviewed with the responsible entities to determine if they want to keep their project on the list. In order to encourage future funding, he will see that additions to the list are made for the flood emergency warning gages project, the potential post-fire headgates work, and the flood remediation projects.

At 8:12 King called for a break. At 8:22 meeting was reconvened.

Bills: White **moved**, Edmundson seconded and board approved transferring up to \$37,000 from ColoTrust and paying the following bills, which total \$75,121.75:

Mountain States Financial group, bookkeeping –	\$120.00
Monson, Cummins & Shohet: board mtg, Ranch, Wbg and exchg storage cases	\$10,197.40
Dunn Write, contract, mileage, snacks, Windows upgrade, projector, Water Day	\$1,641.18
Dunn Write, Early warning gages project admin –	\$600.00
Dunn Write, Spring Creek Fire flood mitigation grant admin –	\$4,490.00
Dunn Write, Collaborative Storage phase 3 grant admin –	\$800.00
La Veta Carpentry: water analyst –	\$200.00
La Veta Carpentry: Website maintenance –	\$150.00
La Veta Carpentry: water analyst for SMAF Phase 3 –	\$604.40
Lamp Rynearson: Water acctg, Collab exchange case; MLGA mtg; SMAF –	\$21,019.79
Applegate Group: Storage collaborative phase 3 –	\$715.00
Applegate Group: Storage collaborative phase 4 –	\$1,727.25
Dixon Waller & Assoc: Audit of 2018 financials –	\$3,250.00
Water Quality Control Division: permit SMAF –	\$350.00
Walsenburg Insurance: bonds –	\$325.00
Parsons Water Consulting: 1/3 share of Collab exchange case	\$760.00
OTT Hydromet: spare flood warning gage	\$12,890.30
Simbeck and Associates: SMAF installation 10/16-10/17	\$15,156.00
Century Link, October phone bill –	\$60.43

At 8:24 there was a **motion** by White, seconded by Brown and approved by the board, to go into executive session to discuss matters involving Walsenburg Exchange case 17CW3060, Cucharas Collaborative exchange case 17CW3075, including the purchase, acquisition, lease or sale of real, personal or other property interest as in CRS 24-6-402(4)(a); conference with an attorney representing the District for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b); and determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(e).

At 9:35 pm, Edmundson **moved**, White seconded and board approved closing the executive session and returning to open session. Meeting called back to regular session at 9:35 pm; adjourned 9:36 pm.