

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting October 22, 2018

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District was convened at the Walsenburg Housing Authority, 220 Russell Ave, Walsenburg, CO by President Scott King on Monday, October 22, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Directors present: Michael "Sandy" White, Scott King, Al Tucker, Kent Mace.

Secretary: Carol Dunn; Attorney: Steve Monson.

Guests: Gerald Cisneros, Ronald Barbee, Max Vezzani, Ray Garcia, Larry Waide, Kent Hay, Doug Brgoch, Delmar Janovec, John Sakun, Steve Werner, Duane Helton, Jim Berg, Gail Terry, Phil Cummings, Rebecca Cummings, Keith Bouchard, John R. Hicks, Joel Norton.

The agenda was approved on a White/Mace motion.

MINUTES – White moved and Mace seconded to approve the September 24, 2018 minutes. Board approved.

TREASURER REPORT – White moved and Mace seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Board approved. There was a White motion, seconded by Mace, to approve publication of the proposed budget. Board approved.

OLD BUSINESS –

John Faux and a fluvial morphologist, inspected the Pass Creek watershed to determine if potential flooding would damage the Sheep Mountain Augmentation (SMAF) pond. In Faux's report to the board, dated 10/19/18, he determined it would not.

Board discussed the revised SMAF Phase 2 bid from Paul Morgan Construction. There was a White motion, seconded by Mace, to proceed with the project per the revised bid in the amount of \$158,064 for access road, trenching and pipeline installation. Board approved. Mace reported he walked the site trying to choose an appropriate access road location.

A letter to Rachel Pittinger at Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) requesting an extension to June, 2020 for the loan availability was approved on a White/Mace motion.

NEW BUSINESS –

Water Commissioner Doug Brgoch reported that a number of diversions have been destroyed on the Huerfano and Cucharas rivers in the post-fire flooding.

On behalf of Paradise Acres Homeowners' Association, Kent Hay asked if PAHA will still qualify for the \$51,100/acre-foot aug water price if they wait six months to buy a certificate. PAHA is in danger of post-fire debris flows from Iron Mountain for five years or more, is not using its well now and doesn't know yet if it will be usable.

Augmentation Plan participants made reservations for augmentation water: PAHA - 0; CO61 Water Association – ½ acre-foot, purchase; Huerfano County – 3 af, lease-purchase; Gardner PID – 5 af, lease-purchase; Pop's Farm/Cummings – 1 af, purchase (+1 additional desired if available, by purchase); SCG/Sakun – 2 af, lease-purchase (+ ½ additional desired if available, by lease-purchase); NuGro/Janovec – 2 af, lease-purchase (+ ½ additional desired if available, by lease-purchase); ACME/Bouchard – 3 af, lease-purchase (+1 additional desired if available, by lease-purchase). HCWCD has not had any communication from Emerald Valley/Scott Clark.

A grant application is in the works and due to CWCB on November 2 to fund sediment basins and other post-fire flood mitigation. The request is \$500,000 from CWCB, with a match of \$500,000 from Huerfano County (through the pending NRCS Emergency Watershed Project).

La Veta Mayor Doug Brgoch explained a new watershed protection oversight collaborative is being formed to coordinate post-fire grant funding. Invited participants are: City of Walsenburg, Town of La Veta, Huerfano County, Cucharas Sanitation & Water District, Gardner Public Improvement District, PAHA, Tres Valles subdivision, and HCWCD. This collaborative will define restoration needs, obtain grants, manage them, implement contracts, and will be managed by an Exec Director or Exec Committee. The organization will sunset in 10 years or whenever the fire resultant damages are expected to cease. In the interest of time, for the first grant application, HCWCD will serve as the lead agency. On a White/Mace motion, board authorized HCWCD to participate in the Cucharas-Huerfano Watershed Oversight Collaborative and to submit a watershed protection grant in an amount to be determined by Mayor Brgoch.

White reported that a pending federal infrastructure bill may be an opportunity to fund one or more reservoirs identified by the Cucharas Basin Storage Collaborative geotechnical study. The next storage collaborative meeting will be November 29 at 6 pm.

King reported Sandy White is stepping down as president of the Ark Basin Roundtable. The new president will be Mark Shea.

GUEST COMMENTS:

Ray Garcia, Keith Bouchard and John Sakun commented on the augmentation water pricing.

King called for a break at 7:41 pm, and the meeting reconvened at 8:09 pm.

BILLS: White moved, Mace seconded and board approved paying the following bills, which total \$99,440.85, and transferring \$3,000 to ColoTrust savings. Board approved.

BILLS: Payable to		
Mountain States Financial Group	120.00	Bookkeeping, October
Monson, Cummins & Shoheit	4,767.50	Bd mtg, Sheep Mtn, aug plan, exchg storage, Perrino & Wbg cases
Dunn Write	1,780.00	Contract, mileage, postage, ink, paper, card, water for mtgs
Dunn Write	1,106.28	BIP Coordinator grant admin, 9/24/18 - 11/15/18
Dunn Write	236.25	Infrastructure improvements grant admin, 9/24/18 - 10/21/18
Dunn Write	491.25	SMAF grant admin 5/21/17 to 9/30/18
Dunn Write	296.80	PRWCD Ditch infrastructure project, fiscal agent, 7/23-11/30/18
Dunn Write	2,897.94	Collaborative Geotech Investigation grant adm, 9/24/18-10/21/18
La Veta Carpentry	500.00	Water analyst contr:data download;turn on water to recharge pond
La Veta Carpentry	300.00	Water analyst contract, inspect SMAF for erosion @ Faux request
La Veta Carpentry	150.00	HCWCD Web site maintenance, October
TZA Water Engineers	1,638.00	Water acctg; Walsenburg case; augmentation projections
total due \$4,128.79 (incl credit)	3,865.38	SMAF phase 2
CenturyLink	51.00	Phone service, October
Balanced Management Services	825.00	Roundtable secretary, under BIP Coordinator grant
HRS Water Consultants	722.50	Infrastructure improvements grant project, September 2018
Applegate Group	73,111.41	Collab Storage Geotechnical Investigation grant project
Garald Barber	5,048.15	BIP Coordinator invoice for September 2018
Picketwire Ditch Co	1,468.39	PRWCD Ditch infrastructure project
Spanish Peaks Library	65.00	Rent, October
	<u>Total</u>	
	\$99,440.85	
Available in checkbook	104,025.55	
	diff.	
	<u>4,584.70</u>	
Suggest transfer to ColoTrust	3,000.00	
Leaves checkbook balance	\$1,584.70	

At 8:19 pm, there was a motion by White, seconded by Mace, to go into executive session to discuss matters involving ongoing Perrino case and Cucharas River exchange litigation and augmentation plan, 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 9:24 pm, White moved, Mace seconded and board approved closing the executive session and returning to open session. The meeting returned to regular session at 9:24 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

Scott King, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary