

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting September 28, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District Board of Directors was called to order by President Sandy White on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Directors present: Lewis "Beaver" Edmundson, Michael "Sandy" White, Scott King, Al Garcia. Secretary: Carol Dunn; Attorney: Steve Monson; Water Engineer: John Faux. Guests: Max Vezzani, Jonathan Bryan, John Vallejos, Dennis Hoyt, Gerald Van Nort, Al Tucker, Mike Graber, Gerald Cisneros, John Stroh, Delmar Janovec, John Sakun, Keith Bouchard, Doug Brgoch, James Eccher, Caitlin Dunn; David Rinehart & Bill Knowles, Press.

Edmundson moved and Garcia seconded to approve the agenda. Board approved.

MINUTES – Edmundson moved and King seconded to approve the August 24, 2015 minutes as presented. Board approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – King moved and Edmundson seconded to accept the September Treasurer's reports. Board approved. Dunn reported that the 2016 budget will be published in the local papers before November 6 in order to give 30 days of public comment time before it is adopted.

OLD BUSINESS – Garcia reported that the Red Wing Augmentation Facility project is still on hold.

Wm. Craig Ranch: The water was turned back on September 27 and irrigation has been implemented again. The dry-up affidavit has been signed and notarized by Al Garcia and submitted to the State.

Sheep Mountain easement: Garcia said that the signed easement contract for an additional reservoir site has finally been received.

Collaborative Storage Study: The grant was approved, but the district has yet to allocate various tasks. The CWCB money will cover about 88% of the tasks. The project will most likely be underway late this year or early next year and presents a good opportunity for those entities in need of water storage.

Water Infrastructure Improvements: Both rivers need accurate measurement up and downriver. The existing gauges must be repaired and two new gauges need to be installed. A futile call model will also be developed. The grant application is scheduled to be submitted this fall and, if approved, work would begin sometime in mid-2016.

Two Rivers water court case: John Stroh reported on behalf of John McKowen. Two Rivers does not like the way the wintertime water rights call is being administered. McKowen offered for HCWCD to join the case with Two Rivers Water & Farming at no cost unless the board is satisfied with the wintertime call situation.

NEW BUSINESS – The October 2015 meeting date was changed to November 2, and the meeting following that will take place on November 23 as originally set.

River Reports: The Huerfano River is running 9 cfs, and the call is at 10. Brgoch reported there may be a little bump in flow rates if the trees drop their leaves and stop taking water, but not much.

Aug Plan Participants: 14.5 total acre feet of augmentation water has been requested by all participants. White stated that the District will be looking at limiting the amount of augmentation water that will be made available to any particular segment of water users, for instance marijuana growing operations.

Water Providers Meeting: White reported that the meeting was a success and a good opportunity for private and public providers of water to discuss issues.

DIRECTOR COMMITTEE REPORTS — King reported on the Arkansas Basin Roundtable meeting and the program Live Like You Love It, a Colorado public schools project to educate students about the importance of water. The Roundtable hired two new coordinators. The Collaborative coordinator is planning to visit Huerfano County to view the District's current projects.

DIRECTOR AND GUEST COMMENTS – The board thanked Al Garcia for his hard work and effort for the board. Garcia was filling the unexpired term of Dawson Jordan for the past two years and his term is up. Garcia opted not to remain on the board but agreed to serve until his successor is appointed by the District Judge.

Al Tucker reported on behalf of the Public Education Participation Outreach (PEPO) program and said it has been successful. PEPO has had a couple of meetings so far and has chosen Huerfano County as part of their outreach to discuss issues pertinent to the area. A short recess was called at 6:59 p.m. The meeting was called back into session at 7:12 p.m.

BILLS – There was a motion by King, seconded by Edmundson, to pay the following bills, total \$23,660.56 plus a \$22,000.00 transfer to the ColoTrust savings account. Board approved.

Gary Hanisch – Research workers comp issues in February \$600.00

Dunn Write – Contract, mileage, office supplies, shipping, mtg snacks \$1,669.61

Felt, Monson & Culichia – Board mtg, SWSP, New aug applicants, Aug plan, futile call

La Veta Carpentry – Read wells and report to Faux, September contract- \$200.00

The Signature – Board vacancies legal notice \$22.50

World Journal – Board vacancies legal notice \$44.88

TZA Water Engineers – Aug Plan, needs analysis, Ranch, SWSP, new participants \$7,955.50

Walsenburg Lumber– Concrete mix for Ranch (authorized by Al Garcia) \$203.20

Century Link – September phone bill \$71.47

Career Building Academy: Rent for September \$65.00

At 7:22 pm Edmundson moved, King seconded and Board approved going into executive session to discuss matters involving the regional augmentation plan, ongoing litigation and SWSP, 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 9:32 pm, King moved and Garcia seconded closing the executive session and returning to regular session. Board approved. The meeting was called back to regular session at 9:32 pm.

Garcia moved Edmundson seconded to sign the “Grant of Easements for Reservoir and Water Transmission Pipelines” with Sheep Mountain Ranch. Board approved.

There being no further business, King moved and Edmundson seconded to adjourn. Board approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Sandy White, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary