

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting April 25, 2022

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District, which had been properly noticed and was available for public participation, was called to order by President Scott King in person at Walsenburg Housing Authority, 220 Russell St, Walsenburg on April 25, 2022 at 6:01 pm.

Directors: Scott King, Kent Mace, Lonnie Brown, Beaver Edmundson, Sandy White.

Secretary: Carol Dunn; **Attorney:** Ryan Farr

Guests: Doug Brgoch, Rick Dunn, Lenna Rauber, Mayor Charles Bryant, Larry Dasenbrock.

The meeting agenda was discussed. It was approved on an Edmundson/White **motion**.

MINUTES – The minutes for the March 28, 2022 board meeting were approved on an Edmundson/Brown **motion**. The minutes for the April 4 special meeting were approved on an Edmundson/White **motion**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – There was a White/Edmundson **motion** to accept the financial reports. Board approved. Dunn summarized the cash flow report.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Meeting date: The July meeting was changed to July 11 on an Edmundson/ Brown motion. Board approved.

River reports: Lenna Rauber reported on Huerfano River flows. Most water in the river is coming from Pass Creek. She is still working on wildcat pond enforcement, with one last owner to comply. Doug Brgoch reported on Cucharas River flows. Water is coming off the Spring Creek Fire burn scar rapidly. Walsenburg has not turned on #62 yet, although it was available on March 1. We are honoring the call on the Arkansas River.

Sheep Mountain Augmentation Facility – Mace reported the Huerfano River is running red and full of silt from Pass Creek. The fence has been repaired. New metal posts have been planted for the replacement sign. The parts have arrived to prevent heating in the electrical cabinet in the pumphouse. An electrician will do the work. There was a Mace/White **motion** authorizing up to \$1,000 to pay for the electrical work. There is a plan to insert steel in the river for a sediment drop spot. Bruce Bacon, Hydrologik, will be finishing work the first week of May on a valve to release water from the reservoir. Programming still needs to be done for the Pass Creek emergency flood warning gage. Mace said five or six a.f. of water could be put into the reservoir when the water is clear enough to avoid siltation.

Infrastructure improvements project: Farr reported that negotiations are ongoing with Great Plains Irrigation Company (GPIC) about the final monitoring well in the silt bed of the former Cucharas #5 Reservoir.

Collaborative Storage Phase 5: Steve Smith reported Applegate is in the final days of 50% design on Maria Stevens Reservoir Enlargement. Smith is working with Mark Perry, Dam

Safety Inspector, on the design of an outlet structure to accommodate the required emergency drawdown period.

Maria-Stevens Reservoir Dredging Feasibility Study is underway.

Applegate presented a quote for 90% Design of Bruce Canyon Reservoir.

Huerfano Augmentation Plan water availability: Farr and Smith reported that 50 acre-feet of **Tier 1** water will be dependable annually under typical conditions. The reservoir holds just over 46 a.f. For **Tier 2** water, 100 acre-feet should be available in seven out of ten years. That could range from as little as 20 a.f. after two dry years to as much as 120 a.f. in a normal water year. King called a break at 7:43; meeting reconvened at 7:55.

BILLS – On a White/Brown **motion**, board authorized the transfer of \$2,200 from ColoTrust savings and approved paying the April bills, which total \$47,948.09:

Mountain States Financial group: bookkeeping	\$236.97
Monson, Cummins, Shohet & Farr: exch storg, aug plan & applicants, misc	\$9,197.67
Dunn Write: contract, supplies, mileage	\$1,864.28
Admin SCF Recovery Strategic Analysis	\$584.16
Admin MSR Dredging Feasibility grant	\$258.00
Admin SCF Flood Mitigation grant (5 months)	\$2,995.08
La Veta Carpentry: Water analyst for diversion readings & website maintenance	\$350.00
Applegate Group: water eng, water rights admin, SMAF, tier 2 water, aug plan apps	\$7,570.00
ARWC: SCF Flood Mitigation project – H&H study, sedimentation study, mapping	\$23,945.02
World Journal: legal ad for adding Mace aug as participating diversion	\$66.00
American Express: sponsorship for Ark Basin Water Forum	\$500.00
Huerfano County Clerk & Recorder: recording new SCG aug certificates	\$69.00
San Isabel Electric: monthly usage + access fee at SMAF	\$246.91
Spanish Peaks Library: April rent	\$65.00

At 7:58, there was a **motion** by Mace, seconded by Brown and approved by the board, to go into executive session to discuss matters involving comments by the public at board meetings and easement matters at Cucharas #5 Reservoir. Discussion included 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).

On a White/Edmundson **motion**, the executive session was closed at 8:29, and the regular session was reconvened.

There was a White/Brown **motion** to instruct the attorney in a reply to GPIC: The HCWCD request is limited to an easement for a monitoring well. The introduction of other matters for consideration are not bargaining in good faith. An offer of \$2,000 will be made for an easement for access and construction of the monitoring well. Board approved.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Scott King, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary