

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting

November 23, 2020

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 online with GoToMeeting on Monday, November 23, 2020 at 6:01 pm.

Directors participating: Lewis “Beaver” Edmundson, Michael “Sandy” White, Scott King, Kent Mace, Lonnie Brown.

Secretary: Carol Dunn; **Attorney:** Steve Monson; **Engineer:** John Faux.

Guests identified: David Steffan, Doug Winter, Doug Brgoch, Carrie Adair, Greg Sund, Jared Walter, Josh Oden. There was one unidentified caller who joined by phone.

The meeting **agenda** was approved.

MINUTES – The minutes for the October 26, 2020 board meeting were approved as presented on a White/Edmundson **motion**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – There was a White/Edmundson **motion** to accept the financial reports. Dunn summarized the cash flow and the loan and grant information reports.

The budget hearing was set as a December 11 GoTo Meeting at 6:00 pm.

OLD BUSINESS – The settlement agreement with ACME Growers has been signed both by Keith Bouchard individually and as the CEO of ACME Growers.

NEW BUSINESS –

There were no new water cases to review.

Water Commissioner Doug Brgoch reported on the extremely low flows in both the Huerfano and Cucharas Rivers, although the snowfall has helped. Most lower ditches are shut off. The Welton is calling for water, but it is not available at this time.

The board discussed ways to handle the increased demand for augmentation water that will be caused by the wildcat pond enforcement pending by DWR.

Fire Remediation grant projects: On behalf of ARWC, Dave Steffan reported that the work on Spring Creek Fire 2019 Phase 3 is finished. The contract for the 2020 project has been received, and it will commence in January.

The purchase order was received for the CDPHE nonpoint source water quality project, and two contractors have bid on the work. It will include debris removal, protection of the County Road, sediment catchment and diversion, and channel stabilization on Pass Creek and Middle Creek. Work is expected to begin the last week of October and must conclude before year-end. CDPHE must be billed and the project closed out by December 31.

Sheep Mountain Augmentation Facility Phase 4 – Faux and Walter reported there may need to be a change order for a river crossing/ramp. An engineering opinion was requested from Faux about it. The board also asked Faux to advise whether we need to install another flood warning gage on the Huerfano River upstream of the SMAF diversion structure to notify us if/when the diversion needs to be closed during a significant flood event originating from the Spring Creek fire burn scar.

King called a break at 8:05; meeting resumed at 8:12.

BILLS – White **moved**, Edmundson seconded, and board approved making a \$43,000 transfer to ColoTrust and paying the following bills, which total \$35,213.77:

Mountain States Financial group: bookkeeping –	\$120.00
Monson, Cummins & Shoet – legal	\$6,988.00
Applegate Group – Collaborative Storage Phase 5, Bruce Cyn	\$17,209.10
Dunn Write: contract, mileage, data, deposit slips –	\$1,778.57
Dunn Write: Collab storage Phase 5 Bruce grant admin –	\$388.50
Dunn Write: CDPHE nonpoint source grant admin Oct. –	\$1,100.00
Dunn Write: CDPHE nonpoint source grant admin Nov. –	\$3,636.08
Dunn Write: Spring Creek Fire Flood Mitigation grant admin, Oct, Nov –	\$3,746.90
La Veta Carpentry: water analyst, Ranch –	\$200.00
La Veta Carpentry: website maintenance –	\$150.00
Walsenburg Insurance: bond for Brown –	\$100.00
Spanish Peaks Library, November rent –	\$65.00
World Journal: budget publication –	\$120.12

Payable when grant funds are received: ARWC (SCF Fire mitigation project) \$26,965.23

There was a White/Mace **motion** to pay the proceeds of the Ranch sale to CWCB against the loan payable when we receive instructions from CWCB, before year-end. Board approved.

There was a White/Mace **motion** to order the final three years of flood emergency gage monitoring and cloud services when appropriate. Board approved.

At 8:15 there was a **motion** by White, seconded by Mace and approved by the board, to go into executive session to discuss matters involving the ACME Growers settlement, implementation of exchange for pond enforcement, and amending the regional 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 8:49 pm, White **moved**, Mace seconded and board approved closing the executive session and returning to open session. The meeting was called back to regular session at 8:49 pm.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Scott King, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary