

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting March 26, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District was called to order by President Raymond Harriman on Monday, March 26, 2012 at 6:04 pm.

ROLL CALL

Directors present: Raymond Harriman, Dawson Jordan, Ray Ryan and Erin Jerant.

Secretary: Carol Dunn

Consultant: Ted M. Zorich, Jr.

Guests: Beaver and Kathy Edmundson, Gopa Ross, Gary Barber, Kirsty Cameron, John McKowen, David Rinehart (press), Juan Trujillo, Sandy Borthick, John Galusha, Gail Terry, Rick Loeffler, Bob Northup.

MINUTES

There was a motion by Jordan, seconded by Jerant, to approve the February 20, 2012 Minutes as presented. Board approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The total of all three CDs is \$64,560.60; total in the First National Bank in Trinidad/Walsenburg checking account is \$3,215.81; for a grand total of \$67,776.41 in all accounts. Jordan moved and Jerant seconded to accept the March Treasurer's Report. Board approved.

There was a motion by Jerant, seconded by Jordan, to approve the Exemption from Audit application prepared by Ortiz Tax Service.

CONSULTANT REPORT

Zorich had nothing to report to the District.

OLD BUSINESS

Case 11CW45 – Harriman reported that Blouin was out of the country, so the conference call was postponed until April.

Case 07CW25, Mark Cornelius, case has been postponed until the end of the year because Cornelius has been injured.

Case 11CW94 and 11CW96 – Gail Terry told the Board there is a conference call scheduled for parties protesting these cases on April 10 at 2:00 pm. The board did not have information about the call, but thought it may be related to the fact that there are so many protests on the case.

John McKowen, Gary Barber, Juan Trujillo and Kirsty Cameron were in attendance to represent Two Rivers Water Company. McKowen questioned the District's opposition to the two water cases, and Jordan explained the District needs to make sure the cases meet all current requirements under Colorado law. He noted the lack of information in the applications. Harriman reported he has had many calls at home with questions about the cases. Barber clarified that Two Rivers will not actually be moving water into Huerfano

County, but rather making up for water that the company will not be allowing to leave the County. Barber also told the Board that the Bradford Reservoir pre-dates the Kansas-Colorado water compact. New water storage and new consumptive use are not available since the Kansas compact. One of the alternate points of diversion for the Robert Rice Ditch is in Pueblo County.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed a mill levy increase election in November so it could raise money to purchase water rights and keep water in Huerfano County. John Galusha told the Board that the County Clerk and Secretary of State would need to know the Board's decision by early July. An increase of 4 mills for 15 years would result in a total of 4.128 mills and about \$500,000 in tax revenues per year. Jordan moved and Ryan seconded to investigate a mill levy increase of 4 mills for 15 years. Motion failed. Jerant moved and Jordan seconded to explore the possibility of a mill levy increase. Board approved.

The Board considered water cases 12CW8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 21. There was a Jordan motion, seconded by Ryan, to take no action on these cases. Case 12CW22 is for 50 gpm with a May 1930 appropriation date. Case 12CW18 lists conditional and absolute rights. Zorich said these may be misprints or errors, and he will check on both of them before the next meeting.

DIRECTOR AND GUEST COMMENTS

Bob Northup with the Cucharas Sanitation & Water District spoke to the Board about the potential to develop the White River Reservoir a few years in the future. CSWD is trying to determine interest among Huerfano County entities to become partners in developing the reservoir. Another feasibility study would need to be done. The Board indicated the District would be interested in participating.

BILLS TO PAY

Jerant moved, Ryan seconded, and Board approved payment of the following bills, total \$2193.24:

- Ted M Zorich, Jr – \$216.50
- Carol Dunn, clerical, mileage & tax forms – \$326.74
- Ortiz Tax Service – \$150.00
- Felt, Monson & Culichia – \$1500.00

OTHER

Next meeting will be April 23, 2012 at 6:00 pm at Walsenburg City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Jordan moved and Ryan seconded to adjourn. Board approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Raymond Harriman, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary