

MINUTES¹

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND OF THE COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS COLORADO RIVER WATER PROJECTS ENTERPRISE

March 29, 2012

Pursuant to notice duly and properly given, a special joint meeting telephone conference of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Water Conservation District (CRWCD) and of the Colorado River Water Conservation District acting by and through its Colorado River Water Projects Enterprise was held on Thursday, March 29, 2012, at the offices of the Colorado River Water Conservation District, 201 Centennial Street, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Directors participating during all or part of the meeting:

Thomas R. Sharp, President	James Newberry, Vice-president
William S. Trampe	Gary Martinez
Stephen M. Mathis	Jon Stavney
Warner Dewey	Rebie Hazard
Kai Turner	Tom Alvey
David H. Merritt	

Directors not participating:

Steven Acquafresca	John Ely
Tom Gray	Andrew A. Mueller

Others participating during all or part of the meeting:

Eric Kuhn, General Manager, CRWCD
Dan Birch, Deputy General Manager, CRWCD
Chris Treese, Manager, External Affairs, CRWCD
Audrey Turner, Administrative Chief, CRWCD
Denise Hussain, Records Specialist, CRWCD
Mary Kalmes, Chief Accountant, CRWCD
Ian Philips, Accountant, CRWCD
Jason Turner, Associate Counsel, CRWCD
Danny Williams, Corporate Advocates
Laura Locke, Corporate Advocates
Shanna Koenig, Water Quality/Quantity Committee, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

Quorum.

President Sharp found a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

External Affairs.

State Issues:

HOUSE BILL 12-1322: CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL PUBLIC LANDS.

This bill would require the United States to sell any agricultural public lands before December 31, 2014, and provides that any qualifying lands that the U.S. does not sell as of that date will no longer be exempt from property tax under Colorado Law.

¹An audio recording has been made of the meeting. The motions described herein may not necessarily represent a verbatim transcription. The audio recordings are available for listening at the CRWCD offices during regular office hours. These minutes are the official record of the Colorado River Water Conservation District's meeting.

Recommendation: Monitor

Director Merritt moved, seconded by Director Stavney to **take no position on HB12-1322**. Motion carried unanimously.

Chris Treese reported that HB12-1161, which, as amended, would require the Interim Water Committee to review proposed numeric water quality standards regulating nitrogen and phosphorus was scheduled for a third reading in the House. Pursuant to the bill, the Water Quality Control Commission would not be permitted to adopt any nutrient regulations until they were approved by the General Assembly by bill. Mr. Treese relayed concerns about the Water Quality Control Commission's recent actions and reminded the Board of its position to monitor HB12-1161.

Mr. Treese provided an update on HB12-1317, which creates the new, combined Parks and Wildlife commission, stating that the amendment requesting water expertise on the commission was adopted by the Agriculture Committee. The River District's requested amendment for West Slope representations, requiring at least 4 out of the 11 members reside on the western side of the Continental Divide will be likely offered next week, though there is uncertainty about whether or not that amendment will be adopted.

Chris Treese also reported that the CWCB Construction Fund bill and the Species Conservation Trust Fund bill have yet to be introduced.

Federal Issues:

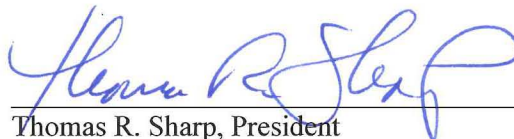
Chris Treese relayed that a number of hydropower bills have been introduced that provide incentives for hydropower, especially small hydro projects. The River District's main federal priority continues to be securing Congressional reauthorization for the Upper Colorado River Basin and San Juan Recovery Programs.

General Manager's Update

Eric Kuhn reported that the current hydrology/snowpack conditions in the entire state are very dry. One major difference between 2012 and 2002 is that in 2002, reservoir levels were much lower at the beginning of the fill season in contrast to 2012 levels which are much higher as a result of high runoff and a wet summer in 2011. Mr. Kuhn also reported that Grand and Summit Counties are planning to formally approve the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement in late April. Mr. Kuhn also noted that the Windy Gap Firing Project negotiations are continuing and progress is being made.

Adjourn.

There being no other business before the Board, President Sharp adjourned the meeting at 12:42 p.m.



Thomas R. Sharp, President

ATTEST:



R. Eric Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager