

## MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

May 15, 2012

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Pursuant to notice duly and properly given, a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Water Conservation District (CRWCD) in conjunction with the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) was held on Tuesday May 15, 2012, at the Hotel Glenwood Springs, 52000 Two Rivers Plaza Road, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

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#### **CRWCD directors present during all or part of the meeting:**

Thomas R. Sharp, President	James Newberry, Vice President
Tom Alvey	David H. Merritt
Stephen M. Mathis	Andrew A. Mueller
Gary Martinez	Steve Acquafresca
Jon Stavney	William S. Trampe

#### **CRWCD directors not present:**

Warner Dewey	Kai Turner
Tom Gray	John Ely
Rebie Hazard	

#### **CRWCD staff present during all or part of the meeting:**

Eric Kuhn, General Manager  
Peter Fleming, General Counsel  
Dan Birch, Deputy General Manager  
John Currier, Chief Engineer  
Chris Treese, Manager, External Affairs  
Jason Turner, Associate Counsel  
Laurie DePaolo, Executive Assistant  
Audrey Turner, Administrative Chief

#### **CWCB directors present during all or part of the meeting:**

John McClow, Chair	Alan Hamel, Vice Chair
Ty Wattenberg	Barbara Biggs
April Montgomery	Travis Smith
Diane Hoppe	Geoff Blakeslee

#### **CWCB staff present during all or part of the meeting:**

Jennifer Gimbel	Linda Bassi
Jacob Bornstein	Tom Browning

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An 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.

Todd Doherty  
Ted Kowalski

Michelle Garrison  
Suzanne Sellers

**Quorum.**

Chairman McClow found a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

**Discussion with Colorado Water Conservation Board.**

**Colorado River Basin Study by Bureau of Reclamation:**

Ted Kowalski updated the Boards on the Colorado River Basin Study that is being conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation. A draft report on Phase I, which focused on quantifying future demands and estimating shortages that may occur, has been released. Phase II of the study, which focuses on identifying possible solutions and shortage management strategies, is scheduled for release this summer. Both CRWCD and CWCB staff are participating in the study.

**Colorado River Compact Water Bank Study:**

Dan Birch presented a summary on the Compact Water Bank Feasibility Study Phase I Draft Report. Preliminary results indicate that in the event of a Compact curtailment, a water bank based on fallowed row crops alone would only be able to offset a small portion of critical post-compact uses. Other measures such as a reduction in demands, pre-emptive curtailment of certain new uses, and uses of post-compact irrigation water would need to be employed to meet critical post-Compact uses. Phase II of the study will include pilot studies of eight irrigation systems, examining how crop fallowing or deficit irrigation could be utilized, without injury to other users, in establishing a water bank, as well as development of an overall strategy for compact curtailment risk management. Mr. Birch also stated that public outreach efforts to the West Slope agricultural community will be undertaken to explain the water bank concept and the voluntary nature of participation in a water bank. Finally, Mr. Birch expressed the water bank work group's appreciation for \$180,000 in grants awarded by the CWCB in support of this effort.

**Colorado River Water Availability Study (CRWAS):**

Michelle Garrison reported that the scope of work for Phase II of the CRWAS is currently under development. An important component of the study will be examining possible risk management strategies.

**Ruedi Reservoir.**

**Ruedi Reservoir Debt Repayment:**

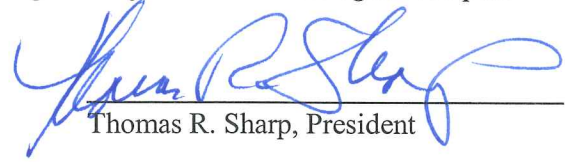
Chris Treese relayed that negotiations with East and West Slope beneficiaries of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project are continuing in order to develop a debt repayment plan for Ruedi Reservoir. Goals of this effort were defined as: 1) clarification from the Bureau of Reclamation that existing contracts for Ruedi water are repayment contracts and no further assessment of unpaid principal and interest will be charged once the repayment terms of the existing contracts are fulfilled. 2) Seeking additional West Slope contractors for the remaining uncontracted Ruedi Reservoir water; and, 3) securing federal approval of mechanisms to discontinue compounding of unpaid principal and interest, the effect of which would be freezing the price of Ruedi water for contractors.

**Colorado River Cooperative Agreement (CRCA):**


Eric Kuhn reported that Denver Water and Grand and Summit Counties recently signed the CRCA. Mr. Kuhn also noted that other West Slope entities are preparing to sign the agreement and have requested public meetings to explain the benefits of the CRCA to the West Slope.

**Adjourn.**

There being no other business before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

  
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Thomas R. Sharp, President

ATTEST:

  
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R. Eric Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager