

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

April 13, 2017

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, April 13, 2017, at the offices of the Colorado River District, 201 Centennial Street, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Directors participating during all or part of the meeting:

Tom Alvey, President	David H. Merritt, Vice President
Steve Acquafresca	Mike Ritschard
John Ely	Karn Stiegelmeier
Tom Gray	William S. Trampe
Rebie Hazard	Martha Whitmore
Doug Monger	Alden Vanden Brink

Directors not participating:

Marc Catlin	Stan Whinnery
Kathy Chandler-Henry	

Others participating during all or part of the meeting:

Eric Kuhn, General Manager, CRWCD
Dan Birch, Deputy General Manager, CRWCD
John Currier, Chief Engineer, CRWCD
Laurie DePaolo, Executive Assistant, CRWCD
Mary Kalmes, Senior Accountant, CRWCD
Martha Moore, Public Affairs Specialist, CRWCD
Ray Tenney, Deputy Chief Engineer, CRWCD
Chris Treese, Manager, External Affairs, CRWCD
Audrey Turner, Administrative Chief, CRWCD
Jason Turner, Senior Counsel, CRWCD
Torie Jarvis, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, Q/Q Committee
Robert Simpson, Williams+Simpson
Dan Williams, Williams+Simpson

Quorum.

President Alvey found a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Approval of Contract with CH2M Hill Engineers regarding Wolford Mountain Wetland Mitigation Assessment:

Ray Tenney reported that staff received a proposal from CH2M Hill Engineers in the amount of \$35,710 for Wolford Mountain wetland mitigation areas, comparison of current conditions to the last performance review performed in 2000, and a report on the wetlands mitigation area conditions and achievement of the mitigation goals in the project mitigation plan.

Director Merritt moved, seconded by Director Whitmore, to authorize the General Manager to execute an

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.

agreement with CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$35,710 to perform an assessment of the condition of the wetland mitigation areas associated with the Wolford Mountain Project and achievement of the goals of the project mitigation plan. Motion carried unanimously.

State Affairs:

SB 17-282 Dedicate Reservoir Release Environmental Purposes

CONCERNING THE DEDICATION OF RESERVOIR RELEASES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES.

Chris Treese noted that the Board previously discussed this bill. SB 17-282 is the bill Northern Water believes it needs to fulfill its mitigation requirements on the Poudre River. The River District's principal interests include the Savings Clause and inclusion of the amendment that makes the applicant responsible for "structural modifications to . . . existing diversions structures . . . necessary . . . to bypass the qualifying releases."

Director Merritt moved, seconded by Director Stiegelmeier, to **support SB 17-282 with the Savings Clause and protection for existing diversion structures.** Motion carried unanimously.

HB 17-1321 Parks and Wildlife Financial Sustainability

CONCERNING THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY TO SET CERTAIN CHARGES ASSESSED ON PEOPLE ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES REGULATED BY THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, SETTING CERTAIN HUNTING, FISHING, PARKS, AND RECREATION FEES AND FINES, CREATING AN AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES STICKER AND ASSOCIATED FEE STRUCTURE, AND REQUIRING REPORTING BY THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE ON FEE AMOUNTS AND THE USE OF DIVISION-MANAGED LANDS BY NON-CONSUMPTIVE USERS.

Chris Treese reported that the provisions of this bill provide a variety of new and increased revenue sources to Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Of particular interest to the River District are new and increased boat fees and the consolidation of two existing ANS funds into one fund. Expressed concerns included assurance that the revenues will be used only for the ANS program; a desire for an inquiry about the financial savings attained from consolidating the Parks and Wildlife Divisions; and, clarification of the Commission's authority to unilaterally increase fees up to 50% for "facilities and programs." Mr. Treese will research the concerns and provide responses.

Director Stiegelmeier moved, seconded by Director Monger, to **support the provisions of HB 17-1321 related to fee increases that are dedicated for the ANS inspection and prevention program.** Directors voting in favor of the motion: Acquafresca, Alvey, Ely, Hazard, Merritt, Monger, Ritschard, Stiegelmeier, Trampe and Whitmore. Directors voting against the motion: Gray and Vanden Brink. Motion carried.

HB 17-1291 Alternate Storage not Change if Already Quantified

CONCERNING THE ABILITY TO STORE WATER AT AN ALTERNATE PLACE OF STORAGE IF THE HISTORICAL CONSUMPTIVE USE OF THE WATER RIGHT HAS ALREADY BEEN QUANTIFIED IN A PREVIOUS CHANGE OF THE WATER RIGHT.

Chris Treese reported that this bill allows storage in any reservoir of a water right that the historical consumptive use has been quantified, without a change of water right if the water will be diverted from the existing decreed point of diversion and notice is given. It is a narrow bill with limited application. Mr. Treese noted that the bill's sponsors have agreed to address our primary requests: establish a right of appeal and that these alternate storage uses will not apply to water imported from another water division.

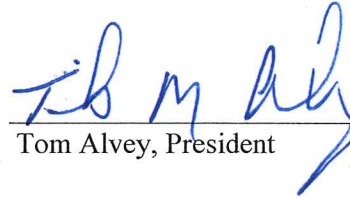
Director Whitmore moved, seconded by Director Acquafresca, to **amend HB 17-1291.** Motion carried unanimously.

Federal Affairs:

Chris Treese reported that over the past two days he and Dave Kanzer have attended "listening sessions" on provisions of the Farm Bill with staff from Senator Bennet's office. Several of the topics shared by Mr. Treese included improvements in the Regional Conservation Partnership Program and the budgetary practice of the US Forest Service diverting funds from forest health and fire prevention program to fund annual wildfire fighting needs.


Adjourn.

There being no other business before the Board, President Alvey adjourned the meeting at 12:47 p.m.



Tom Alvey, President

ATTEST:



R. Eric Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager