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, February 1, 2018, 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
Marc Catlin                  Mike Ritschard
Kathy Chandler-Henry          Karn Stiegelmeier
Tom Gray                     Alden Vanden Brink
Rebie Hazard                  Stan Whinnery
Doug Monger                   Martha Whitmore

Directors not participating:
Steve Acquafresca             John Ely
William S. Trampe

Others participating during all or part of the meeting:
Laurie DePaolo, Executive Assistant, CRWCD
Zane Kessler, Communications Director, CRWCD
Andrew A. Mueller, General Manager, CRWCD
Chris Treese, Manager, External Affairs, CRWCD
Audrey Turner, Administrative Chief, CRWCD
Jason Turner, Senior Counsel, CRWCD
Bob Simpson, Williams+Simpson
Danny Williams, Williams+Simpson
Torie Jarvis, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, Q/Q Committee

Quorum.
President Alvey found a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Approval of Agenda
Director Whinnery moved, seconded by Director Ritschard, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

President Alvey requested Chris Treese review the legislation proposed for board action.

State Affairs:
HB 18-1073 Concerning Water Districts’ Ability to Enter into Contracts Regarding Their Water-Related Assets.
Chris Treese noted that this bill affirms the authority of a water conservancy district and its enterprise, if any, to enter into contracts for water service or the “capacity in works” (reservoir space). It also specifies that water conservancy districts’ contracts can be for municipal and industrial use. Treese offered concern that the
introduced bill’s language would narrow the authorized entities with which a conservancy district can contract for water or space and that the purposes for which water or space can be contracted does not include environmental purposes or for fish or fish recovery purposes even if the storage decree includes such purposes.

Suggestion was made to amend the bill to include language such as “and other decreed purposes.” In addition, private entities should also be included as allowable contracting entities.

Director Whitmore moved, seconded by Director Hazard, to amend HB 18-1073. Motion carried unanimously.

HB 18-1093 CONCERNING THE ALLOWABLE USES OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ALLOWING RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TO BE USED FOR FOOD CROPS.

Treese reported that this bill codifies rules promulgated by the state’s Water Quality Control Commission concerning allowable uses of reclaimed domestic wastewater on food crops. He noted that this bill should facilitate reuse of reusable water, consistent with River District policy.

Director Vanden Brink moved, seconded by Director Whitmore, to support HB 18-1093. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Endorsement for Gunnison-Uncompahgre River Basin Colorado Water Conservation Board Director.

Director Whinnery moved, seconded by Director Ritschard, to endorse Martha Whitmore for Gubernatorial appointment as the Gunnison-Uncompahgre River Basin Director on the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Update:

Chris Treese reported that Governor Hickenlooper recently stated that he supports an initiative to increase to the severance tax, in part because current severance tax revenues are low, primarily because of low prices. Additionally, the Governor gave the impression that several large energy companies would not actively oppose such an initiative. Any such initiative would not provide the desired certainty for Department of Local Affairs or Department of Natural Resources revenues.

Federal Affairs:

Chris Treese noted that Senator Bennet had introduced the “Continental Divide Recreation, Wilderness, and Camp Hale Legacy Act” that is essentially the same bill as introduced by Congressman Polis last year. In addition, Senator Bennet is expected to introduce a San Juan Wilderness bill that is also essentially the same as one introduced in the last Congress. Treese and our legal staff is continuing to review the water language of each bill and will provide the Board an analysis.

General Manager’s Report.

Andy Mueller reported that the River District received a second request for correspondence under the Open Records Act regarding specifically identified communications, and that we have complied with the request.

Mueller also noted that the Colorado Water Congress’ annual meeting was beneficial for board and staff members that attended.

General Counsel’s Report.

Jason Turner noted that he and several staff met with a number of west slope parties and Denver Water and had a good discussion about the 1940’s agreement.
Jason also reported that good discussions with Aurora regarding Busk-Ivanhoe also took place recently.

**Adjourn.**
There being no other business before the Board, President Alvey adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

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**Tom Alvey, President**

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**ATTEST:**

**Andrew A. Mueller, Secretary/General Manager**