Work Session: Prior to today's board meeting , the directors participated in a work session to discuss and receive updates on the Platte Valley Water Partnership

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
LOWER SOUTH PLATTE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

September 8, 2026

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Allen Coyne
Ken Fritzler
Bruce Gerk
Brian Kembel Zoom
Dan Kendrick Zoom
Gene Manuello
Jack McClary
Joe Patterson
Cody Poitz
Brad Stromberger

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Bob Mari Excused
Kent Pflager Excused
Carson Smart Excused

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:

Joe Frank, General Manager
Craig Brownell, Technician
Deanna Eskew, Secretary

VISITORS PRESENT:

Nate Young, Sterling, CO

The meeting was called to order by President Fritzler.

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APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 11TH & AUGUST 31ST, 2026 BOARD MINUTES:

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the August 11th, and August 31, 2026 Board Minutes as submitted. Director Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

FINANCE REPORT:

Treasurer Coyne presented the finance report for the month of August. Director Coyne then made the motion to approve payment of District checks 17992-18019 as well as Julesburg Recharge check #1304. Director McClary seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT;

Nate Young from Sterling expressed his appreciation in attending today's board meeting.

WATER RIGHTS MONITORING:

Division I Water Court Resume':
No statements of opposition will be filed from the July Water Court Resume.'

WATER ACTIVITIES ENTERPRISE:

Julesburg Recharge Project:
Revere School District has yet to pay their billing from the 2025 pumping season. An additional $100.00 per well will now be added to their bill.

Manager Frank reported that the agreement regarding the lease of Tamarack credits has been approved and signed.

Director Stromberger made the motion to approve publication of the Request for Inclusion of Land into the District by Mason Chamberlain in the Julesburg Advocate once each week of September 16th, September 23rd, and September 30, 2026. Director Poitz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Heyborne Recharge Project:
Manager Frank reported that SPWRAP is preparing their preliminary budget and is expected to include additional funds for Heyborne Project operational improvements.

LEGAL REPORT:

Manager Frank will contact Counsel Donovan regarding questions surrounding vacancy of directors.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Fritzler noted that the following director's terms will expire December 31, 2026.

Gene Manuello
Allen Coyne
Brian Kembel
Kent Pflager
Carson Smart

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Included in the Manager's report were the following:

Legislative Matters:
WRASP/Colorado Water Congress –
Manager Frank updated the board on the Colorado Water Congress Summer Convention he attended in Steamboat Springs on August 17th-20th. The extreme drought/fire conditions throughout the State was a major topic of discussion. Manager Frank met with Jim Yahn, Joan Green, and Jack Goble, executive director of the Lower Arkansas Water Conservancy District regarding the devastating effects of buy and dry practices in addition to potential 2027 legislation.

General Matters:

2027 Preliminary Budget –
Manager Frank reviewed the preliminary 2026 assessed valuations from all four counties noting an approximate 7-8% decrease in overall valuations. The final numbers from the counties are due in December.

Manager Frank also reviewed the 2027 preliminary budget as well as the long-term projection for payoff of the Tabor refund.

South Platte Compact –
Manager Frank updated the board on the Nebraska vs. Colorado lawsuit as well as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineering 404 permitting process for the Perkins Canal.

South Platte Water Related Activities Program –
Manager Frank met with Rich Belt, executive director of SPWRAP and Ducks Unlimited, on August 14, 2026 in Fort Collins to discuss phasing and timelines for the Carlson Recharge Project .

South Platte Basin Roundtable –
Manager Frank will be attending today's meeting of the SPBRT with a focus on Low and No Regrets for Conservation and Efficiency. Manager Frank also reviewed the initial itinerary for the October 13th meeting of the Round Table that will be held in Sterling.

Platte Valley Water Partnership –
Manager Frank noted that the Partnership is moving forward on stipulations on the water court decree.

Office Expenses –
Manager Frank reported that it will take approximately six weeks per vehicle for body repair work caused by the June hailstorm.

Meetings – Discussion Items
Manager Frank noted that he has had various meetings locally to discuss potential future storage options within the region.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At approximately 12:08 p.m. Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn into executive session for the following:

Conference with the District's attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b),
For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e).

Director Poitz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

President Fritzler adjourned the executive session and reconvened the board meeting at approximately 1:28 p.m.

PLATTE VALLEY WATER PARTNERSHIP:

Director Poitz made the motion to approve stipulation in form with the Lower Logan Group. Director McClary seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Director Gerk made the motion to approve the memorandum of agreement in form with the Lower Logan Group. Director Poitz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Coyne made the motion to ratify the stipulation with Highlands Ranch and North Sterling Irrigation District. Director Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Director Poitz made the motion to adjourn. Director McClary seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately
1:30 p.m.

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Deanna Eskew, District Secretary