

Executive Committee Minutes May 10, 2022

President Fritzler called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the District office. The following Executive Committee Directors were present: President Ken Fritzler, Vice President Gene Manuello, Treasurer Allen Coyne, and Committee Director Brian Kembel. Directors Bob Mari and Dan Kendrick (Zoom) were also in attendance. Members of the public in attendance were Rich Mari from Sterling and Jeff Rice with the Sterling Journal Advocate (Zoom). Staff members Manager Joe Frank, Rick Fleharty, Craig Brownell, and Deanna Eskew were in attendance

Board Minutes:

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the amended April 12, 2022 Board Minutes. Director Manuello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Coyne presented the financial report for the month of April. Director Coyne made the motion to approve payment of District checks 16307 – 16336 and Julesburg Recharge checks 1167 - 1171. Director Manuello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

Rich Mari from Sterling stated that he recently purchased grazing property both above and below the North Sterling outlet canal and would like to inquire about excluding his property from the boundaries of the Lower South Platte and Northern Colorado Water Conservancy Districts. Manager Frank will talk with Northern Water prior getting back to Mr. Mari.

River Monitoring:

Division I Water Court Resume':

No Statements of opposition will be filed from the March 2022 Water Court Resume'.

Julesburg Recharge Project:

Manager Frank noted that Louise Geisert is the only well owner who has yet to pay last year's pumping bill.

Heyborne Recharge Project:

Manager Frank stated that the compact call came on yesterday. Pumping into the recharge ponds at the Heyborne site is complete for the water year.

Legal Report:

The committee will recess into executive session later to discuss legal issues.

President's Report:

None

Manager's Report:

Included in Manager Frank's report were the following:

Legislative Matters:

- Legislative session ends tomorrow. Manager Frank stated that there are no pending water bills before the legislature.
- 22 SB114 – Concerning fire suppression ponds that would allow counties to have a maximum of thirty acres of ponds in their county for fire suppression was amended.
- Manager Frank also noted that the anti-speculation bill did not pass but will be brought forward during the interim session.

General Matters:

- Manager Frank, Vice President Manuello, and Jim Yahn were interviewed by Denver CBS 4 news regarding the Perkins County Canal.
- SPWRAP –
 - Drilling on the 17th and final well will begin this fall on the Tamarack State Wildlife Area.
 - SPWRAP hired Kevin Urie as a policy/committee representative. The executive director position has yet to be filled.
- NE Colorado Water Cooperative –
 - The Cooperative's Annual Membership meeting will be held June 2nd at Lower's office in Sterling. Meeting notices will be mailed out this week along with a two-page summary of the current status and path forward for the coop.
- South Platte Basin Roundtable (SPBRT) will be meeting later today in person. The Roundtable members will be discussing the grant review process.
- The Colorado Water Congress board retreat will be held May 15th – 19th in Cortez.

- Manager Frank asked that the next board meeting be held a week earlier than usual on the 7th of June. The board agreed to reschedule the June meeting.
- Platte Valley Water Partnership –
 - The Partnership recently hired Sigler Communications, a public relations firm to represent the Partnership.
- Children's Water Festival
 - Manager Frank, Craig Brownell and Rick Fleharty updated the board on sponsorships and attendance numbers to date for the September 21st Northeast Colorado Children's Water Festival.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

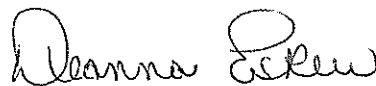
Executive Session:

At approximately 10:46 a.m. Director Coyne made the motion that the board recess into executive session for a conference call with the District's attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on a specific legal question under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b) and for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instruction negotiators under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e). Director Mari seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

President Fritzler adjourned the executive session and reconvened the board meeting at approximately 1:26 p.m.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn. Director Mari seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:28 p.m.



Deanna Eskew, District Secretary