

*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 9, 2025

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Allen Coyne	Jack McClary
Ken Fritzler	Joe Patterson
Bruce Gerk	Kent Pflager Zoom
Brian Kembel Zoom	Brad Stromberger
Gene Manuello Zoom	

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Dan Kendrick	Bryan Ruf
Bob Mari	Carson Smart
Cody Poitz	

**DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:**

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

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

None

The meeting was called to order by President Fritzler.

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APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 5, 2025 BOARD MINUTES:

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the August 5, 2025 Board Minutes as submitted. Director Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

STERLING URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY:

Trae Miller, Executive Director of the Sterling Urban Renewal Authority (SURA), met with the board of directors to discuss the SURA West Main renewal project and an associated Intergovernmental Agreement.

FINANCE REPORT:

*Approval of the August, 2025 bills –*

Treasurer Coyne presented the finance report for the month of August. Director Coyne then made the motion to approve payment of District checks 17648-17675 as well as Julesburg Recharge checks #1279 and 1280. Director McClary seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*2024 Audit Discussion –*

Manager Frank reported that David Kauffman would be unable to attend today's board meeting to present the 2024 Audit. The audit will be presented to the executive committee later in September with board review at the October meeting.

*2026 Draft Proposed Budget Discussion –*

The board reviewed Manager Frank's preliminary 2026 draft budget proposal.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

WATER RIGHT MONITORING: Division I Water Court Resume'

No statements of opposition will be filed from the July, 2025 Water Court Resume'.

WATER ACTIVITIES ENTERPRISE REPORT:

*Julesburg Recharge Project –*

Charles Julius is the only remaining unpaid bill from the 2024 pumping season.

After discussion, the board determined that it would be in the best interest of the Julesburg Well Users to run the Beavers augmentation well for a minimum of seven days in September.

LEGAL REPORT:

Manager Frank stated that the board will need to go into executive session to discuss the Platte

Valley Water Partnership with legal counsel, in addition to ongoing legal advice.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Included in Manager Frank’s report were the following:

*South Platte Water Alliance –*

Manager Frank reported the current status of the Water Alliance.

*WRASP/Colorado Water Congress –*

The Colorado Water Congress 2025 Summer Convention was held in Steamboat on August 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Manager Frank was able to testify during the Convention to the Agriculture and Water Resources Committee of the Colorado Legislature regarding the South Platte River Compact.

*South Platte Water Related Activities Program –*

The Operations Committee will be meeting this September primarily to discuss the interaction between the Tamarack and Peterson Diversion as well as the upcoming budget.

Blochowitz Ditching will also be doing more work at the Heyborne site.

SPWRAP will have a follow-up meeting in October with the augmentation plan groups regarding SPWRAP recharge payments.

*South Platte Basin Round Table –*

The next meeting of the Round Table will be held later today in Fairplay.

*Other Discussion Items –*

This year’s Children’s Water Festival will be held in Sterling at the Logan County Fairgrounds on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Manager Frank noted that Jackson Reservoir is presently being drained due to ongoing repair work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At approximately 12:02 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 Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

President Fritzler adjourned the executive session and reconvened the board meeting at approximately 1:01 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn. Director Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:03 p.m.

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Deanna Eskew, District Secretary