

Executive Committee Minutes September 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Fritzler at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the District office. The following Executive Committee Directors were present: President Ken Fritzler, Vice President Gene Manuello (via Zoom), Treasurer Allen Coyne, Directors Brian Kembel and Joe Patterson. Directors Terry Linker, Dan Kendrick (via Zoom) and Brad Stromberger were also in attendance. Staff members Manager Joe Frank, Rick Fleharty, Craig Brownell and Deanna Eskew were present. Guests via Zoom included David Kauffman, Liittjohann Kauffman and Pederson; Darlene Carpio, aide to Senator Cory Gardner; and, Dusty Johnson, aide to Congressman Ken Buck.

Board Minutes:

Director Patterson made the motion to approve the August 11, 2020 Board Minutes. Director Linker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of the 2019 Audit:

The 2019 financial audit report presented by David Kauffman was reviewed by the committee. The 2019 year-end fund balances for the General Fund was \$609,831.00 and \$127,622.00 for the Julesburg Recharge Project. Director Coyne made the motion to approve the audit as presented. Director Patterson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Coyne reviewed the financial report for the month of August and then made the motion to approve payment of District checks 15649 – 15680 and Julesburg Recharge checks 1106 - 1108. Director Patterson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

River Monitoring:

Division I Water Court Resume':

No Statements of opposition will be filed from the July 2020 Water Court Resume'.

Julesburg Recharge Project:

There are no outstanding pumping bills from last year as Charles Julius paid his bill along with additional late fees this past month. The committee discussed the possible need to create a stricter late fee policy.

Manager Frank also noted that Diligence on the Julesburg Recharge Project is due this November.

Manager Frank emphasized the need to review and update the Beaver's Well Agreement which is up for extension in May 2021. The Agreement states that there must be a six- month notice regarding possible changes to the Agreement. The board will need to determine how to proceed at next month's board meeting.

Heyborne Recharge Project:

Manager Frank reminded the directors that Diligence on the Heyborne Recharge Project was filed the end of April. All legal expenses will be paid by SPWRAP.

Legal Report:

Manager Frank stated that Ryan Donovan now represents the District in legal matters as Alyson Scott is no longer associated with Lawrence Jones Custer & Grasmick.

President's Report:

None

Manager's Report:

Included in Manager Frank's report were the following:

- Manager Frank reviewed the draft budget for 2021. This year, the counties have until October 13th to submit their preliminary assessed valuations. Manager Frank will use last year's valuations until updated numbers are submitted. Manager Frank highlighted the "Purchased Services" section which will include new water rights development. Director Stromberger and Manager Frank both stressed the need for long term planning. The Beaver's well agreement will need to be reviewed at when completing the Julesburg budget for 2021.
- Water Congress – Manager Frank stated that the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) has now joined Colorado Water Congress as a voting member. Manager Frank pointed out that Water Congress was formed as an organization of water entities (water users of the State) that, as Governor McNichols once said "not as a policy maker but as a voice at the table when it comes to state and federal water policies". Having the executive branch of the State government on Water Congress now gives them the political opportunity to make policy which has ruffled a lot of feathers. Manager Frank noted that there are no state legislators that are voting members of Water Congress.
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- The next meeting of the South Platte Basin Round Table will be held later today by remote access.
- SPWRAP –
 - Well rehab at the Tamarack Project is complete.
 - Bank stabilization at Tamarack will be paid by Ducks Unlimited

- Construction of the Petersen Ditch diversion structure will begin October 15th.
- NE Colorado Water Cooperative – The WaterSMART grant will continue for another year.
- Water Rights Development (19CW3253) –
 - Manager Frank reported that the draft Decree and the Preliminary Engineering reports were submitted on August 31, 2020.
 - Manager Frank will continue to work with Parker on the Project Development Agreement. The Lower/Parker Agreement with Prewitt Reservoir was submitted and is waiting for review.
 - Comments from objectors to the case are due back by October 31st.
- Manager Frank referred the directors to an opinion piece in “*The Salt Lake Tribune*” called “If you like birds and fish, hug a cow” from Pat O’Toole, Executive Director of the “*Family Farm Alliance*”. The article disputes an earlier article found in the *Guardian* on “*US Rivers and Lakes are Shrinking for a Surprising Reason: Cows*”.
- Rick Fleharty, District Technician, reported that he was able to get the new server up and running with no problems. Everything except the web site is now on the new server. Moving the web site will be more challenging.
- Manager Frank reported that there is a board vacancy from Morgan County. The board has the authority to appoint a director to fill the term ending December 2021 at which time the director will need to re-apply and be appointed by the court.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn. Director Kembel seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m.

Deanna Eskew, Secretary