

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

**November 12, 2019**

## **DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Allen Coyne  
Ken Fritzler  
Bart Ginther  
Brian Kembel  
Terry Linker  
Gene Manuello

Joe Patterson  
Bryan Ruf  
Carson Smart  
Don Schneider  
Brad Stromberger

## **DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Pete Bolinger  
Dan Kendrick

Bob Mari  
Jack McClary

## **DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:**

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

## **VISITORS PRESENT:**

Jeff Rice, Sterling Journal Advocate  
Darlene Carpio, Aide to U.S. Senator Cory Gardner

The meeting was called to order by President Fritzler.

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## **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020 BUDGET:**

President Fritzler recessed the board meeting at approximately 9:05 a.m. for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the Proposed 2020 Budget. The legal notices were published in three newspapers of general circulation according to budget law. A copy of the Budget was available at the District office. President Fritzler asked if there were any persons who had wished to speak concerning the Budget either in person or by mail. No comments were offered. The hearing was adjourned, and the regular board meeting was reconvened at approximately 9:08 a.m.

## **APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2019 BOARD MINUTES:**

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the October 8, 2019 Board Minutes as submitted. Director Linker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **FINANCE REPORT:**

Director Coyne presented the finance report for the month of October. Director Coyne made the motion to approve payment of District check 15292 – 15327 as well as Julesburg Recharge checks 1064 – 1065. Director Kembel seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET:**

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the 2020 Budget. Director Manuello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **RIVER MONITORING:**

*Division I, Water Court Resume':*

No statement of opposition will be filed from the September 2019 Water Court Resume'.

*Julesburg Recharge Project:*

Canfield Drilling has finished the repair work on the pump at the Heyborne site. The site was able to start recharging the first of November.

The Julesburg Irrigation District stockholders voted to approve replacement of the Peterson Ditch diversion structure.

## **LEGAL REPORT:**

Manager Frank noted that a meeting between the Board of Directors and the District's attorneys has yet to be scheduled.

Manager Frank also reported that an agreement has been finalized between South Platte well owners and the Republican River Water Conservation District (RRWCD). The agreement is for well owners who are both in South Platte augmentation plans (including Lower's augmentation plan) and who are now also considered in the Republican River basin boundary. The agreement in part states that such well owners will not owe current or future assessments to the RRWCD. Those same well owners, however, who are in Lower's Augmentation plan still run the risk of being curtailed along with the other well owners in the Republican Basin.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Fritzler reported that there are no directors up for reappointment in 2020.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jeff Rice from the Sterling Journal Advocate congratulated Manager Frank on his Friend of the South Platte award given to him at the South Platte Forum on October 23, 2019 in Westminster.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Included in Manager Frank's report were the following:

- Manager Frank was able to attend the Interim Water Resources Review Committee and give testimony regarding the workings of the South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The next meeting of WRASP (Water Related Activities of the South Platte) will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Manager Frank reviewed the narrowly approved sports-betting tax (Proposition DD) whose proceeds will help fund water projects in the state.
- District Technician, Rick Fleharty, attended the annual meeting of SPWRAP which was held on October 24 immediately following the close of the South Platte Forum.
- The next meeting of the NE Colorado Water Cooperative will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> at Morgan County Quality Water in Fort Morgan. The Bureau of Reclamation approved the analysis of both LSPWCD and NECWC as potential partnership organizations within the current Water Marketing Strategies study.
- Colorado Ag Water Alliance will be holding an "Ag Water Summit Phase 2: Implementing the Colorado Water Plan" on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Manager Frank is scheduled to give a presentation on "Securing Storage for the Future" on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- Director Stromberger made the motion that the District help sponsor the Ag Water Summit at the Silver level (\$500.00). Director Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- District Technician, Rick Fleharty, reported that to date in 2019 he has tested 191 meters.
- The next meeting of the Advisory Committee for SPROWG (South Platte Regional Opportunities Water Group) will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District will be holding a retirement reception for Brian Werner after their Fall Water Users Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

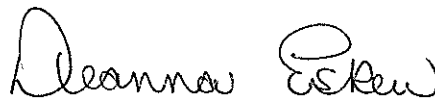
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Director Coyne made the motion that the board recess into executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)e regarding legal matters. Director Stromberger seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The board meeting was recessed at approximately 10:18 a.m. President Fritzler adjourned the executive session and reconvened the board meeting at approximately 12:35 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn. Director Patterson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:36 p.m.



Deanna Eskew, Secretary