

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting January 23, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District Board of Directors was called to order by President Sandy White on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 6:02 pm at the Spanish Peaks Library, 415 Walsen Ave, Walsenburg.

Directors present: Lewis “Beaver” Edmundson, Michael “Sandy” White, John Vallejos, Scott King, Kent Mace; Secretary/Treasurer: Carol Dunn
Guests: Doug Brgoch, Keith Bouchard, Scott and Lise Hunt, Gerald Cisneros, Jeff Proper, Rick Fleck, Rebecca Hoehne; Bill Knowles and David Rinehart, Press.

The agenda was approved.

MINUTES – King moved and Vallejos seconded to approve the December 12, 2016 minutes. Board approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT – King moved and Mace seconded to accept the financial reports. Board approved. Edmundson moved and Vallejos seconded to schedule an audit of the 2016 HCWCD finances. Board approved.

OLD BUSINESS – Edmundson reported that Owen Shroust submitted the high bid and will lease the District’s Ranch for \$15,750. The annual lease begins February 2, 2017. Shroust is planning to live in the house and requested the District pay for paint to paint the interior. On Edmundson’s recommendation, the board authorized this. Shroust may want to improve the fields if he stays longer than a year, and Edmundson suggested he develop a plan.

NEW BUSINESS – The date for the next meeting was changed from February 27 to March 6, 2017.

Water case 2016CW3046: The amended application has an SWSP and additional use of Ojo Spring #1. Division of Water Resources will be meeting to determine the issues with the case and Brgoch commented it is “thin on documentation.” White will contact Steve Monson and John Faux on aspects that might require HCWCD to file a statement of opposition by the end of February.

Rivers: Brgoch reported that significant snowfall is increasing the flow in the Cucharas River, and the call is currently going to Maria Lake. On the Huerfano, the call for the Welton Ditch is just about being met. Flows for both rivers are close to normal on the long-term average.

Collaborative Storage Study – Rick Parsons has requested a meeting date change to March 2, 2017. The Board agreed to this.

Attorney Monson will have draft rules and regulations for the new Regional Augmentation Plan at the March 6 meeting.

DIRECTOR COMMITTEE REPORTS— King reported that he is waiting on Monson to draft a Memo of Understanding with Huerfano County on the Sheep Mountain gravel pit. HCWCD can’t apply for a mining permit until the SMR lease is signed, and we are waiting on SMR manager Grady Grissom to finalize this.

Ark Basin Roundtable: King reported that Jay Winner was presented with a plaque of recognition. New co-chairs have been named to the Needs Assessment Committee.

District officer election: King was nominated by an Edmundson/Vallejos motion and elected President of the board by acclamation. Mace was nominated by a Vallejos/Edmundson motion

and elected Vice-president by acclamation. The terms take effect at the conclusion of this board meeting.

DIRECTOR AND GUEST COMMENTS – Edmundson thanked outgoing President White for the substantial effort he has put into District achievements, particularly in securing grants. All board members expressed their appreciation to White. White in turn thanked them for being a working board, getting involved and being supportive of the efforts to undertake grant-funded projects. White announced an upcoming Colorado Watershed Assembly workshop on February 21, 2017, “Water Quality in the Lower Arkansas Basin: Impacting Your Bottom Line.” Jeff Proper and Rick Fleck told the board they would be interested in a private lease for hunting on the District’s Ranch. They said they would sign a liability release if the District’s attorney recommends it. They were asked to attend the March 6 meeting.

White called a recess at 6:55 pm. Meeting reconvened at 7:09 pm.

BILLS – There was a motion by King, seconded by Edmundson, to pay the following bills, total \$54,959.82 and transfer \$32,000.00 to the ColoTrust savings account. Board approved.

Mountain States Financial Group – January bookkeeping \$120.00
Special District Assn of Colorado – 2017 membership dues \$702.90
Dunn Write – Contract, mileage, water, postage \$1,643.24
Dunn Write – RWAf grant work, December 2016 to January 2017 \$585.00
Dunn Write – Infrastructure Improvements grant admin \$90.00
Dunn Write – Invasive Phreatophyte Control grant fiscal agent \$269.82
Dunn Write – Cucharas Storage Collaborative grant admin \$405.00
Dunn Write – BIP Coordinator grant admin \$240.00
Monson, Cummins & Shoheit – SWSP, Aug plan, new applicants, Perrino case \$7,980.00
La Veta Carpentry – Water Analyst, January \$200.00
TZA Water Engineers – Castle comments, Sheep Mtn, SWSP, PAHA \$5,895.50
TZA Water Engineers – Re-issue lost check #2021 (November) \$7,414.12
ParsonsWater Consulting – Cucharas Storage Collaborative study, Nov-Dec \$24,571.50
CenturyLink – Phone service, December \$47.00
Garald Barber – BIP Coordinator, Dec 2016 \$4,697.70
The Signature – Legal notice for budget hearing \$7.04
Postmaster – La Veta PO Box fee, 6 months \$26.00
Spanish Peaks Library – Rent \$65.00

At 7:14 pm, King moved, Mace seconded and Board approved going into executive session to discuss matters involving the regional augmentation plan, ongoing litigation and SWSP, including the purchase, acquisition, lease or sale of real, personal or other property interest as in CRS 24-6-402(4)(a); and determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(e).

At 7:55 pm, King moved and Vallejos seconded closing the executive session and returning to regular session. Board approved. The meeting was called back to regular session at 7:55 pm.

King moved and Edmundson seconded that, effective January 1, 2017, the District will apply a 5% administrative fee (subject to further review) to the cost of providing new applicants with augmentation water by augmentation leases and augmentation certificates. After discussion, the board approved. There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Sandy White, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary