

# HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

## Minutes of Board Meeting November 26, 2012

### CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District was called to order by Interim President Dawson Jordan on Monday, November 26, 2012 at 6:07 pm.

### ROLL CALL

Directors present: Dawson Jordan, Kent Mace, Lewis Edmundson.

Secretary: Carol Dunn

Consultant: Ted M. Zorich, Jr.

Guests: Sandy White, Jack Buhl, Lonnie Brown, Gail Terry, Rick Loeffler, Amos Mace, David Rinehart (press).

Mace moved and Edmundson seconded to approve the agenda. Board approved.

### MINUTES

There was one correction to the October minutes: Raymond Harriman was added to attendance and Ray Ryan was removed. There was a motion by Mace, seconded by Edmundson, to approve the October 22, 2012 Minutes as corrected. Board approved.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The total of all three CDs is \$44,206.35; total in the First National Bank in Trinidad/Walsenburg checking account is \$14,003.30; for a grand total of \$58,209.65 in all accounts. Mace moved and Edmundson seconded to accept the November Treasurer's Report as presented. Board approved.

### CONSULTANT REPORT

Zorich reported on the Blouin water case. The water referee determined that, because of opposition by the District and the City of Walsenburg, Blouin will have until March 2013 to develop a plan for augmentation instead of being granted a conditional water right.

On the Libre water case, Zorich noted that both wells are on 40 acre parcels, and the applicant is trying to make them legal water rights. Mace moved, and Edmundson seconded, to take no action on this case. Board approved.

The water referee has been sending information on water cases to Harriman's address. Zorich will have the court send future notifications to himself.

### OLD BUSINESS

Two Rivers renewal on case 11CW94 – Jordan reported that the renewal will continue with the same information, despite the objections that were filed against the case. Zorich gave his opinion that, unless there is a change, there is probably nothing for the District to add to the comments. Jordan will contact the attorney and let him know that the District's complaint still stands.

Shell petition for finding of non-tributary on Freeman 3-24 well – Jordan read the letter the District provided to State Engineer Dick Wolfe (attached) and the reply from Kevin Rein, Deputy State Engineer (attached). Jordan noted that Shell has hammer-drilled a

test well on Thorne Ranch almost a mile deep and did not find water, so in his opinion the well will be determined to be non-tributary.

The Board's budget hearing and dinner meeting will be at La Plaza Inn in Walsenburg on December 11 at 6:00 pm.

Jordan reported that the SWSP renewal is in process. It is basically being renewed in the same manner as before.

The attorney provided comments for the Board to consider:

1. An analysis should be conducted on the travel time from the CO61 well to the Huerfano River.
2. If the District will be proceeding with a pond at Redwing, its feasibility should be determined.

John Faux of TZA Water Engineers provided an estimate of \$4,000 to provide an analysis of travel time for groundwater depletions to move from the Terry (CO61) well to the Huerfano River plus an evaluation of exchange potential between Martin Ditch and the proposed Malachite augmentation pit. Mace moved, and Edmundson seconded, to authorize paying TZA Water Engineers \$4,000 to do the engineering on this because it involves augmentation storage. Board approved. Mace indicated to the Board that the site will be available if it is determined by TZA to be suitable.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Water case 12CW111 – Mountain Properties Holdings – application for water storage rights in Chandler Ponds, Martin Creek and feeder springs: Pond 1=3.5 acre-feet; Pond 2=1 acre-foot; Pond 3=0.75 acre-foot; Pond 4=0.25 acre-foot. Zorich will review the details of the case so the Board has information to file an action on it.

Colorado Foundation for Water Education – Mace moved and Edmundson seconded to renew five individual memberships for the directors. Board approved.

Redwing augmentation storage plan – Amos Mace summarized the plan for the Board. The storage pond would hold up to 26 acre-feet of water filled with the water right that is currently being leased. The report is attached to the record copy of these minutes.

Mace gave the Board his qualifications to possibly manage the District and the augmentation plan development as an employee. He said he has not been a grant writer, but has studied grant writing.

Zorich said he is not qualified to design a storage structure but can help with all aspects of the process. He said he would like to see the storage plan or potential plan and the logical steps to achieve it.

There was a Mace motion, seconded by Edmundson, to invite the attorney to attend the January 28, 2013 meeting and advise the Board on operational procedures under the increased mill levy. Board approved.

#### DIRECTOR AND GUEST COMMENTS

Kent Mace will be checking on availability of the #7 water right on the Huerfano River. The Board thanked Amos Mace for the work he has done on the behalf of the District.

#### BILLS TO PAY

Jordan moved, Edmundson seconded, and Board approved payment of the following bills, total \$5,758.58:

Carol Dunn, clerical, mileage, PO box rental – \$332.86

Ted M. Zorich, Jr. – \$241.50

Division of Water Resources, satellite monitoring both rivers – \$2,400.00

The Signature Newspaper, legal ad – \$31.68  
Huerfano World Journal, legal ads – \$45.72  
Colo Foundation for Water Education, 5 memberships - \$250.00  
Felt Monson & Culichia - \$2,456.82

OTHER

The budget hearing and special meeting to approve the budget and director expenses will be held December 11 at 6:00 pm at La Plaza Inn. The next regular meeting will be January 28, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the Spanish Peaks Library, Walsenburg.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mace moved and Edmundson seconded to adjourn. Board approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

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Dawson Jordan, Interim President

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Carol Dunn, Secretary