

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting

December 11, 2020

The **budget hearing** of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District (HCWCD), which had been properly noticed and was available for public participation, was called to order by President Scott King online with GoToMeeting on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 6:02 pm.

Comments on the budget were accepted.

The budget hearing closed at 6:06 pm.

The monthly meeting of HCWCD, which had been properly noticed and was available for public participation, was called to order by President King online with GoToMeeting at 6:06 pm.

Directors participating: Lewis “Beaver” Edmundson, Michael “Sandy” White, Scott King, Kent Mace, Lonnie Brown.

Secretary: Carol Dunn; **Attorney:** Ryan Farr; **Engineer:** John Faux.

Guests identified: Justin Korkus, Rebecca Bowland, Dennis Hoyt, Jeannie Hoyt, Jared Walter, Josh Oden.

The meeting **agenda** was approved on a White/Mace motion.

MINUTES – The minutes for the November 23, 2020 board meeting were approved as presented on a White/Mace **motion**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – There was a White/Edmundson **motion** to accept the financial reports; board approved. Dunn summarized the cash flow report.

2021 Budget –

The White/Edmundson **motion** to approve Resolution 2020-12-1 “Adopt 2021 Budget” was approved.

The White/Brown **motion** to approve Resolution 2020-12-2 “Set Mill Levies” was approved.

The White/Brown **motion** to approve Resolution 2020-12-3 “Appropriate Sums of Money” was approved.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – (There were no new water cases to review.)

Fire Remediation grant projects: The CDPHE nonpoint source water quality project is in progress. Project completion is scheduled by December 31, 2020.

Sheep Mountain Augmentation Facility Phase 4 – There were two delays: repairs on an excavator and covid at the subcontractor installing the three gates. The extra work on the wet well will not increase the cost. Next task is pouring the slab for the pump station. The landowner requested a change in the fence location, which may save us money. Mace helped with the final location plan. Another electric fence may be needed around the construction site about the end of the year.

Faux announced he will be retiring before the end of December. Lamp Rynearson will transition inhouse from Faux to Jared Walter and Justin Korkus for the HCWCD monthly augmentation plan accounting. Ryan Farr agreed that Monson, Cummins & Shohet will provide recommendation(s) at the HCWCD January meeting for interviewees to replace Faux.

Phase 5 was discussed. The engineers' estimate is \$379,310, including a 15% contingency. The pump station is expected to require a 10-week lead time.

2020 Annual Report – White reported he plans to have a final draft ready for review at the January meeting.

Board meeting schedule – The tentative list was introduced, with meetings on the 4th Monday of each month except December, which will be on the 13th. Action will be taken in January.

Potential grant project – White informed the board of a forest thinning project developing for the Cuchara area on USFS land. An additional benefit to the Cucharas and Purgatoire river basins may be increased runoff from treated acreage. The grant sponsors will likely request a letter of support and match commitment from HCWCD. White will coordinate.

Guest comments: Josh Oden, Family Ranch Holdings, said he may want to be added to the January agenda to speak to the board.

John Faux – The board offered its thanks and gratitude to John Faux for his 12+ years of providing excellent services as the district's water engineer.

Salute – King saluted the members of the board for putting in the hard work to keep the district's many projects moving forward.

BILLS – White **moved**, Brown seconded, and board approved making a \$30,000 transfer from ColoTrust, approving the payables pending funding, and paying the following bills, which total \$34,028.02:

Mountain States Financial group: bookkeeping –	\$120.00
Monson, Cummins & Shohet: legal –	\$5,216.25
Dunn Write: contract, mileage, data –	\$1,719.73
Dunn Write: CDPHE nonpoint source grant admin Nov.-Dec. –	\$2,375.00
Dunn Write: Spring Creek Fire Flood Mitigation grant admin Dec. –	\$3,361.60
La Veta Carpentry: water analyst, Ranch –	\$200.00
La Veta Carpentry: website maintenance –	\$150.00
Lamp Rynearson: aug accounting and SMAF Phase 4 –	\$8,249.36
Spanish Peaks Library, December rent –	\$65.00
Scott King: Director expense and mileage –	\$2,732.35
Sandy White: Director expense and mileage –	\$2,526.56
Beaver Edmundson: Director expense and mileage –	\$2,400.58
Lonnie Brown: Director expense and mileage –	\$2,441.76
Kent Mace: Director expense and mileage –	\$2,469.83

Payable when grant or loan funds are received: ARWC (SCF Fire mitigation) \$20,582.25; Applegate Group (Collaborative Phase 5) \$9,623; Frontier Environmental (SMAF Phase 4) \$117,000; CWCB loan payment \$936,979.

King called for a break at 7:01; meeting resumed at 7:10 pm.

At 7:11 there was a **motion** by White, seconded by Mace and approved by the board, to go into executive session to discuss matters involving augmentation storage options, implementation of exchange for pond enforcement, and amending the regional augmentation plan: including the

purchase, acquisition, lease or sale of real, personal or other property interest as in CRS 24-6-402(4)(a); conference with an attorney representing the District for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b); 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 7:37 pm, White **moved**, Edmundson seconded and board approved closing the executive session and returning to open session. The meeting was called back to regular session at 7:37 pm.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Scott King, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary