

HUERFANO COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Minutes of Board Meeting April 27, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District Board of Directors was called to order by President Sandy White on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 6:02 pm.

Directors present: Lewis "Beaver" Edmundson, Michael "Sandy" White, Scott King, Al Garcia, Kent Mace.

Secretary: Carol Dunn; Attorney: Steve Monson.

Guests: Gerald Cisneros, Gail Terry; Lenna Rauber and Doug Brgoch, Water Commissioners; Jim Eccher, Walsenburg Mayor; Art Pierce, President of Cucharas Sanitation & Water District; David Rinehart, Press.

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

MINUTES – King moved and Edmundson seconded to approve the March 30, 2015 minutes with two changes: White reported on the Ark Basin Roundtable; the bill paid for a sand gate was for the William Craig ditch. Board approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – King moved and Edmundson seconded to accept the April Treasurer's reports. Board approved.

OLD BUSINESS – Garcia reported that the Red Wing Augmentation Facility project is still on hold, awaiting an agreement with the landowner of Sheep Mountain Ranch. The District is looking at moving the facility to that location because of cost.

At the Ranch, the sand gate and head gate have been installed. Edmundson reported that the V-notch replacement is working. The required berm is in place for the dryup acreage. The planned fence has been built. The recharge pond is taking in water. The sand gate is ready to be installed on the Jose Maria ditch. Lessee has irrigated a lot the last few days.

NEW BUSINESS – Doug Brgoch reported that the call on the Cucharas River is #14. Lenna Rauber reported the call is #13 on the Huerfano; the river has been unpredictable. Brgoch said he is concerned about the way the sand ditch was installed on the William Craig ditch and the potential for it washing out. Regarding well tester certification, Brgoch said it might be a big investment for equipment with little potential return. Board decided to pass on the opportunity. Cucharas River Storage Collaborative – By consensus the collaborative was formed and will seek a grant to do a study on storage needs. White is drafting a letter to ask all concerned agencies to formally join the collaborative by board action. A committee was formed to put together a grant application, which will be due the third week of May.

DIRECTOR AND GUEST COMMENTS – The Ark Basin Roundtable meeting was mostly about the Basin Implementation Plan. There was a unanimous recommendation that Colorado use its full allowance on the Colorado Compact. There was a recommendation that, when possible, water rights should stay in the basin if they are on the market.

Recess at 6:56 pm; reconvened at 7:15 pm.

BILLS – There was a motion by Edmundson, seconded by King, to pay the following bills, total \$30,116.51 plus a \$12,000 transfer to the ColoTrust account. Board approved.

Sporleder Feeds – Fence materials \$784.35

Carol Dunn – Contract, mileage, meeting expense, court records search \$1,276.87

Felt, Monson & Culichia – Legal \$10,676.89

TZA Water Engineers – Engineering \$17,244.65

Rick Dunn/La Veta Carpentry – Water analyst contract \$103.75

Desiree Rosenberg – Library meeting room \$30.00

At 7:18 pm King moved, Garcia seconded and Board approved going into executive session to discuss matters involving the regional augmentation plan, ongoing litigation, SWSP and including the purchase, acquisition or lease 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 as in CRS 24-6-402(4)(b); personnel matters as in CRS 24-6-402(4)(f); 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 8:22 pm, King moved and Garcia seconded closing the executive session and returning to regular session. Board approved. The meeting was called back to regular session at 8:22 pm.

There was a motion by King seconded by Edmundson to authorize White to sign the Grant of Easements for Reservoir and Water Transmission Pipelines with Sheep Mountain Ranch, LLC. Board approved.

There was a motion by Edmundson seconded by King to approve the quote from La Veta Carpentry to do the water analyst work for \$200 a month for up to two visits to the Ranch. Board approved.

There was a motion by Edmundson seconded by King to hire out the accounting to Century Financial Group in Trinidad effective June 1. Board approved.

There was a motion by Edmundson seconded by King to hire Dunn Write to perform the administrator duties at \$1600 per month, including having Caitlin Dunn and Rick Dunn assist Carol Dunn with those duties when needed. Board approved.

Edmundson moved and King seconded to refund \$700 to Corsair Cattle as compensation for the 10-acre dryup on the leased Ranch. Board approved.

There being no further business, Edmundson moved and King seconded to adjourn. Board approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Sandy White, President

Carol Dunn, Secretary