

RECORD OF PROCEEDING

**SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO
WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT MINUTES
July 20, 2023**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) was held on Thursday, July 20, 2023, 9:30 a.m., at the District office, 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado. The ZOOM platform was also made available for Board members and visitors.

President Long asked Patty Rivas for a roll call of those connected via ZOOM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Alan Hamel	Kevin Karney	Patrick Garcia
Andy Colosimo	Mark Pifher	Seth Clayton
Ann Nichols	Matt Heimerich	Tom Goodwin
Bill Long	Pat Edelmann	
Howard "Bub Miller (remote @ 9:33)		

DIRECTOR(S) ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Curtis Mitchell, Dallas May, and Greg Felt

President Long established that a Quorum was present.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:

President Long asked all present to introduce themselves and welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

DISTRICT OFFICIALS:

Executive Director James Broderick; General Counsel Lee Miller; Staff Attorney Peter Levish; Senior Policy and Issues Manager Chris Woodka; Water Resources Principal Engineer Garrett Markus; Principal Engineer's, Kevin Meador and Mark Scott; Administrator of Administration and Finance Leann Noga; Administrative Support Specialist Patty Rivas; Finance Manager Stephanie Shipley; H2O Consultant Roy Vaughan; and Kleinfelder Gordon Dillon.

VISITORS PRESENT:

Abba Ahmed, and Rick Kienitz; Aurora Water; Bobby Bandham, Jim Blasing, and Nick Madero, Pueblo West Metro District; Scott Lorenz, Colorado Springs Utilities; and Mike Holmberg, USBR.

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VISITORS CONNECTED VIA ZOOM:

Cathy Garcia, Congresswoman Boeberts Office (@ 9:42); Curtis Thompson, AECOM; Lucas Hale, Colorado Water Resources and Development; Luke Mecklenburg, Asst Attny general Water Unit (@ 9:33); Mitch Frischmeyer, Wilson Water Group; Travis White, JHL Construction; and Roy Heald, Security Water and Sanitation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Long said the minutes from the June 15, 2023, District Board meeting were posted to OnBoard and the website for review and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Mr. Garcia moved, seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

TREASURER REPORT:

Ms. Nichols reported the financial statements for June 2023, were posted to OnBoard and the website for review. Ms. Nichols moved, seconded by Mr. Clayton for acceptance of the June 2023 financial statements and payment of the July 2023 bills. Motion unanimously carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

CONTRACT FOR RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION SERVICE

Mr. Broderick presented an action item recommending that the District Board approve the *Contract for Professional Services between SECWCD and Jeanette O'Quinn, IPMA*.

The cost is based on 100 hours of service at approximately \$5,000, plus mileage. A budget amendment will not be necessary if action is approved.

The purpose is to provide professional recruitment and selection services to fill the position of Executive Director for the SECWCD. Based on the information provided, the SECWCD is seeking the services of a human resources professional to review the current job description to determine if changes are necessary, and to complete the recruitment and selection process based on an agreed upon timeline in order for the Board of Directors to fill an anticipated future vacancy.

A copy of the contract and Proposal were provided to the Board.

Mr. Hamel moved, seconded by Mr. Goodwin, that the District Board of Directors approve the *Contract for Professional Services between SECWCD and Jeanette O'Quinn, IPMA*.

Motion unanimously carried.

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MONTHLY/QUARTERLY REPORTS:

COLORADO RIVER ISSUES

Mr. Lee Miller updated the Board that the Department of the Interior announced on June 15, 2023, that it is initiating the formal process to develop future operating guidelines and strategies to protect the stability and sustainability of the Colorado River. The new guidelines will replace the 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, which are set to expire at the end of 2026.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement asks the public to consider the past 15 years of operating experience since adoption of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, as well as how the best-available science should inform future operational guidelines and strategies that can be sufficiently robust and adaptive to withstand a broad range of hydrological conditions. The NOI also asks the public to consider how and whether the purpose and elements of the 2007 Interim Guidelines should be retained, modified, or eliminated to provide greater stability to water users and the public throughout the Colorado River Basin. The NOI will be available for public comment until August 15, 2023. The District is coordinating with other Colorado water users on comments to the NOI.

The Bureau of Reclamation will host three virtual public meetings where Reclamation will provide summary information and receive oral comments on the NOI. The meetings are:

- Monday, July 17, 2023, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. (MDT)
- Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (MDT)
- Monday, July 24, 2023, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. (MDT)

Questions were asked of Mr. Miller.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

The Board was provided written material on the following topics, which were posted to OnBoard and the Board website:

- Water Court Resume
- NWRA Western Water Seminar August 2-4, Medora, ND
- Colorado Water Congress Summer Conference August 22-24, Steamboat

President Long asked if there were any other matters to come before the District Board. Hearing no other matters to come before the Board, Mr. Long adjourned the District Meeting at 9:44 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Patty Rivas
Administrative Support Specialist

Seth Clayton – Secretary

Bill Long – President

Howard “Bub” Miller

Curtis Mitchell – Vice President

Kevin Karney

Ann Nichols – Treasurer

Mark Pifher

Alan Hamel

Matt Heimerich

Andy Colosimo

Pat Edelmann

Dallas May

Patrick Garcia

Greg Felt

Tom Goodwin