



St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District
Minutes of the Board Meeting
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
August 9, 2021

I. ROUTINE ITEMS

A. Call to Order – *President Smith*

The Board of Directors held its meeting via Zoom. President Smith called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM and asked that Water Resources Engineer Griebling call the roll.

B. Roll Call – *Mr. Griebling*

Board members present: President Smith, Treasurer Rademacher, Secretary Carlson, and Directors Golden, Wolford, and Yanchunas were present. Vice President Varra arrived at 1:07 PM and did not participate in the consent agenda vote.

Staff members and consultants present: Executive Director Sean Cronin and Water Resources Engineer Scott Griebling were present. Engineer Mark McLean, with Deere & Ault, Attorney Scott Holwick, with Lyons Gaddis Attorneys and Counselors, and Water Commissioner Shera Summerford were present.

C. Amendments or Additions to the Agenda – *President Smith*

President Smith asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Director Rademacher noted that he was not in attendance at the July 12th meeting and requested the July Meeting Minutes be corrected.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Motion: Approval of July 12th Board Meeting Minutes (as corrected)

B. Motion: June General Fund Finance Reports

C. Motion: June Enterprise Fund Finance Reports

D. Motion: Appointment of Budget Officer

E. Motion: Resolution 2017-007 To Declare a Board Vacancy

Director Yanchunas moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction to the July 12th minutes as stated. Director Carlson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. 7A Status Report – *Mr. Scott Griebling, Water Resources Engineer*

Vice President Varra joined the meeting. Mr. Griebling presented the two-page flier and discussed the longer report that provide updates on the status of projects, programs, and services the District is pursuing with funding from the 7A Ballot Initiative. The flier and report are for activities that occurred in 2021 and are intended to be updated annually. District staff will work with a communication specialist to finalize the design and messaging in both documents. Director Wolford recommended having the fliers readily available and sharing them with as many people and organizations as possible. Mr. Cronin explained the reports will be circulated at a number of events and will be distributed electronically via mailing lists as well as posted on the District website.

IV. REPORTS

A. **Water Commissioners Report – Ms. Shera Sumerford**

Commissioner Sumerford presented the following report:

The call on the mainstem is Sterling #1 to Lower Platte and Beaver Ditch, admin #13985, 4-15-1888. The call on the St. Vrain is the Rough and Ready, admin #8004, 11-30-1871. This will change tomorrow at 8 AM to Hagers Meadow Ditch. The St. Vrain Creek at Lyons gage reading was 97.7cfs and the basin's reservoir capacity at the end of July decreased to 81%. Ms. Sumerford is still in regular communications with Boulder County, the City of Longmont, and others regarding the Niwot Diversion structure and fish ladder. Mr. McLean asked if flows at the Lyons gage are normal for this time of year and Ms. Sumerford responded that they appear to be above average due to recent rains.

B. **Legal Report**

Mr. Holwick presented his report, stating there were no new applications to discuss.

- District Augmentation Plan amendment (Case No. 21CW3018): Mr. Holwick indicated comments from opposing parties are due on the 13th for the Augmentation Plan amendment case. The District received a request for a draft stipulation today and Mr. Holwick will report more on this during the September board meeting.
- Lake No. 4 Diligence (Case No. 21CW3033): Mr. Holwick reported that the District provided a draft submittal for the Lake 4 Diligence case to Boulder County. Once approved by the County, he will send it to the water referee and expects a final ruling sometime in the beginning of October.
- Firestone water rights application (Case No. 19CW3236): Mr. Holwick stated that the District is an opposer in this case which was referred to water court on the 4th of August and a Water Court trial is expected to be set for sometime in 2023.
- Bonus ditch change (Case No. 20CW3179): The District is still waiting for the City of Longmont to propose a draft stipulation for consideration and he plans to present the stipulation to the Board in September. Mr. Cronin clarified that Longmont provided additional information related to the application late last week and staff has not had time to review it. Ken Huson with the City of Longmont asked District Staff if it might be possible to act before the September meeting; however, President Smith recommended the Board wait until the September meeting to address the stipulation due to the lack of time to review the materials.

C. **Engineers Report – Mr. Mark McLean**

Mr. McLean stated that he and Mr. Griebing have been working on the accounting for the augmentation plan and Lake No. 4 as well as on Lake No. 4 operations. The District received word last week that remaining punch list repairs for the Lake No. 4 pipeline will be addressed by the contractor, Lobato(?), soon. One of the punch list items of note is seepage into the manholes around the pipeline entrances.

On 7/21 Mr. McLean, Mr. Griebing, and Ms. Gardella visited Copeland Lake in preparation for the scope of work Deere & Ault is preparing for the Copeland feasibility study. Ms. Gardella is a geotechnical engineer and will be supporting the feasibility study efforts. During separate investigations, Mr. McLean came across interesting historical claims for the Copeland Reservoir including various previous alignments and locations for Copeland Reservoir.

D. **Executive Director Report – Executive Director Cronin**

Executive Director Cronin presented the exciting news that the District has closed on its new office space and staff will move to the new location at 1715 Iron Horse Dr., Unit 250, Longmont, on Tuesday, August 10th. The District plans to have an in-person board meeting

in the new office in September.

Mr. Cronin highlighted the rights of nature and river personhood concepts are starting to show up in a couple of places in the County, as he mentioned to the Board in his email update.

Mr. Cronin reported the District received a number of applications for the Office Manager position and hopes to complete the interview and hiring process prior to the September board meeting.

Director Yanchunas asked about the tenants at 1715 Iron Horse Dr., and the remodel plans for the new office. The tenants are going to be paying rent to the District and although their lease lasts until the end of December, they do intend to move prior to the end of the lease but have not yet found a space. District Staff recommends waiting until after the tenants move out to begin the office remodel based on a number of factors including the logistics of a temporary move and contractor availability.

Mr. Holwick noted that the Northern Water Conservancy District Board meets on Thursday, August 12th and will be discussing the proposed transfer of the District's twelve (12) C-BT units to Central Weld County Water District. Mr. Holwick anticipates funds from this transfer will be disbursed the middle of the week of August 15th.

E. Items from the Board – President Smith

Director Yanchunas reported the official ground breaking on Chimney Hollow Reservoir occurred the previous week. Director Yanchunas also congratulated Director Carlson for being a finalist for the Director of Boulder County Open Space position. Since there was no further business to discuss, at 1:38 PM, Director Yanchunas moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Carlson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott Griebing, Water Resources Engineer



Christopher Smith, President