

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 23, 2018**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, July 23, 2018 at the District's offices, 210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite B, Gunnison, Colorado

Board members present: Rosemary Carroll, Kathleen Curry, Stacy McPhail, Julie Nania, Bill Nesbitt, John Perusek, Michelle Pierce, George Sibley, Andy Spann, and Julie Vlier.

Board member not present: Rebie Hazard.

Also present:

Will Dujardin, Town of Crested Butte  
Tom Grant, Wet Meadows Project Coordinator  
Jesse Kruthaupt, Trout Unlimited  
Frank Kugel, General Manager  
John McClow, General Counsel  
Molly McConnell, UGRWCD Intern  
Madeline Redden  
Bob Robbins  
Jill Steele, Office Manager

**1. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO § 24-6-402 (4)(B) CONFERENCE WITH THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING LEGAL ADVICE ON SPECIFIC LEGAL QUESTIONS**

John McClow recommended that the board meet in executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402 (4)(B) for receiving legal advice on specific legal questions. He also recommended that the board also discuss Taylor Park Reservoir pursuant to § 24-6-402 (4)(e)(I).

**Julie Vlier moved, and Kathleen Curry seconded to meet in executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402 (4)(B) for receiving legal advice on specific legal questions, and that the board also discuss Taylor Park Reservoir pursuant to § 24-6-402 (4)(e)(I). The motion carried.**

The board took no action as a result of the executive session.

**2. DINNER BREAK**

**3. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Michelle Pierce called the regular meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

#### **4. AGENDA APPROVAL**

Michelle said that additional items in board folders tonight include revised non-operating expenses for approval under agenda item 5, and under agenda item 9, a nomination letter for John McCloy for his appointment to the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG).

**Bill Nesbitt moved and Any Spann seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried.**

#### **5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Rosemary Carroll asked that the June 25, 2018 meeting minutes be removed from the consent agenda.

**Bill Nesbitt moved and Kathleen Curry seconded approval of the remainder of the consent agenda items. The motion carried.**

Rosemary Carroll offered three corrections on page 8 of the June 25, 2018 minutes:

The DOE has indicated it will contribute one million dollars, not a few million dollars to snow projects here.

The WRF is a climate model, it does not use a climate model.

ASO measures snow depth, and not density or chemistry.

**Andy Spann moved and Rosemary Carroll seconded approval of the June 25, 2018 minutes as corrected. The motion carried.**

Julie Vlier abstained from voting because she was not present at the June 25 meeting.

#### **6. COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT UPDATE – BILL TRAMPE**

Bill Trampe said that the River District held its third quarterly meeting last week. Items discussed included some things that new General Manager Andy Mueller wants to accomplish.

The water bank workgroup continues to be something the CRWCD struggles with.

Due to the effect of the Gallagher Amendment, the CRWCD may have to discontinue the grant program at some point in the future.

Eric Kuhn will continue to be involved with the CRWCD on a contract basis.

The CRWCD's annual policy discussion took place and both the Colorado Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the Instream Flow Water Right policies were approved.

The southern part of the state is suffering with very low flows as are parts of the mainstem.

The CRWCD board had a long and very good presentation by Dave Kanzer and Sonja Chavez on the Uncompahgre Project.

The 2017 audit was approved as presented. It was a clean audit.

Both Elkhead and Wolford reservoirs are undergoing work this summer, with Wolford undergoing a crest renovation.

September 14 is the CRWCD annual seminar in Grand Junction.

There was a retirement party for Eric Kuhn that was very successful with approximately 130 people in attendance.

## **7. 2019 BUDGET**

**Appointment of Budget Officer: George Sibley moved, and Rosemary Carroll seconded to appoint Frank Kugel as the 2019 Budget Officer. The motion carried.**

Michelle Pierce said that there is another residential tax reduction coming up due to the Gallagher amendment. Hinsdale County will be affected this next budget year.

## **8. BOARD/STAFF/COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORTS**

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Nesbitt said that one of the District's bonds will be called in September. He is watching the CD market and has seen a J.P. Morgan issue of 3.25% that he is hoping the District can participate in. The District's interest on investments year to date figure is ahead of the 2018 budget.

## **9. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

Michelle Pierce said that the board received a copy of a letter from Governor Hickenlooper, nominating John McClow for continued participation the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Workgroup.

Michelle said that the board received a report from Frank on the Taylor Local Users Group (TLUG). The board also received the Elk Home Ditch inspection.

Michelle said that Julie Vlier contacted her and Frank about resigning from the Watershed Management Planning Committee. This opens a spot for an interested board member to participate.

The board received a copy of an article in the Gunnison Country Times about the Wet Meadows Project.

Kathleen Curry said that the Gunnison Basin Roundtable met recently and heard some interesting presentations. The GBRT will look at the projects that have been

funded, constructed, or are in process. The funding for the GBRT is flat because severance taxes are almost non-existent. There is \$400,000 in the bank for the basin fund, so the funding source is not there for the water supply reserve fund. There are conversations as to how to improve funding for water planning, possibly through a bottle tax. She asked that if anyone has ideas, to please let her know.

## **10. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizens requested to speak.

## **11. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Rosemary Carroll said that the 2018 Mountain Climate Conference will take place in Gothic at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory on September 17 – 21. On the last day of the conference, there will be a session for water managers.

Rosemary said that she will be out of town during much of the next two months due to work-related travel.

George Sibley said that the Watershed Management Planning group will meet Monday August 13, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. There will be a demonstration of modeling work done by the consultants.

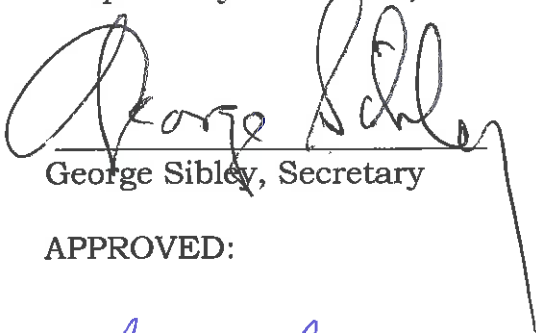
Frank Kugel said that the Colorado Water Congress conference will take place in Vail next month. Any interested board members should contact the office to sign up soon to take advantage of the discounted rate.

George Sibley said that the Education Committee should meet to discuss budgeting for 2019.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Michelle Pierce adjourned the July 23, 2018 meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



George Sibley, Secretary

APPROVED:



Michelle Pierce, President

Executive Session Certification:

As chair of the executive session, I hereby attest that the executive session held on July 23, 2018 was confined to the topic authorized for discussion in an executive session, as reflected by the minutes.



Michelle Pierce, President

**CERTIFICATION**

As attorney for the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, I hereby attest that the executive session held on July 23, 2018 was confined to the topic authorized for discussion in an executive session, as reflected by the minutes



John H. McClow, General Counsel