

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 25, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 25, 2019 at the District's offices, 210 West Spencer Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado.

Board members present: Joellen Fonken, Rebie Hazard, Stacy McPhail, Julie Nania, Bill Nesbitt, John Perusek, Michelle Pierce, George Sibley, Andy Spann, and Julie Vlier.

Board member not present: Rosemary Carroll.

Others present:

Steele Bergman, Camp Gunnison
Walt Cranor, Marshall Ditch
Will Dujardin, Town of Crested Butte
Tom Horraks, Camp Gunnison
John McClow, General Counsel
Jason Peterson, Gunnison Stockgrowers
Jill Steele, Office Manager
Lincoln Zeiliman, Camp Gunnison

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Michelle Pierce called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Michelle said that the board received a revised 2020 draft budget, a revised list of non-operating expenses, and a technical analysis update.

Bill Nesbitt moved and Andy Spann seconded to approve the agenda with the additions noted. The motion carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Julie Vlier moved and John Perusek seconded approval of the consent agenda items. The motion carried. George Sibley and Rebie Hazard abstained because they were not present at the October 28, 2019 meeting.

4. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

John McClow said he had nothing to add to his November 18, 2019 memo in which he summarized bills recommended by the Interim Water Resources Committee. He said that the CWC State Affairs Committee will meet December 9 for the first, orientation meeting of the session.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

There were no questions on the manager's report.

6. DINNER BREAK

7. PUBLIC HEARING ON DRAFT 2020 BUDGET

Michelle Pierce said that the board received a revised draft of the budget. John McClow said two minor corrections were made. One was to delete a sentence from the budget message that was leftover from last year. He said that it had been assumed that the \$9,500 contribution to the Water Bank Work Group would be an ongoing contribution, but it will not be. Since the District contributed \$9,500 in 2019, that amount was removed from the 2020 draft budget.

Michelle Pierce opened the Public Hearing. No members of the public commented on the draft budget. Michelle Pierce closed the public hearing.

8. BOARD DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DRAFT 2020 BUDGET

There were no public comments on the draft budget to discuss.

9. BOARD/STAFF/COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Bill Nesbitt said he watches the markets closely, and ours is still strong. We are one of the few markets, along with Canada and Mexico, that pays interest on 100%. Bill said that he was invited to the Federal Reserve Bank's Christmas party. He said that the District is on track in its interest on investments income.

Taylor Park Reservoir: Julie Vlier said that releases from Taylor Park Reservoir are at 100 cfs and expected to hold steady through March.

Gunnison Basin Roundtable: Julie Nania said that the GBRT committee that works on basin updates are starting to go through projects list for the Basin Implementation Plan. It will be an ongoing process for the next year and a half or so.

The GBRT is still considering how to find and hire local experts. The liaison between the roundtable, stakeholders of interest, and state planning team has been hired.

Bill Nesbitt said that he talked to Bob Hurford, who has an issue with irrigation versus stock water. Bill thinks a number of water users will be concerned with that. The GBRT has set aside half an hour for this discussion in January. Rebie Hazard said that this conversation is taking place everywhere.

Drought Contingency Planning Update: John McClow said that he is encouraged by the results so far. The primary desire of the nine demand management feasibility work groups created by the CWCB is to do a literature review. The State has a request for proposals out for consultants to the work groups. The reports of their meetings are available on the CWCB's website.

The other upper basin states are making good progress. Wyoming has had a series of public meetings and have subcontracted with the University of Wyoming to do their technical work. He said that Colorado is further ahead than the other states, but all the states are working.

Harvey Economics: John McClow said that Ed Harvey has completed all the interviews with ranchers and will have a report for us soon. The final report was promised by end of year. They want to expand interviews to others in other fields who might feel the impacts of demand management, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Marshall Ditch Evaluation: Tom Horraks, of Camp Gunnison, thanked the board for funding the engineering report to look at how to repair the Marshall Ditch. Michelle Pierce said that once they have selected their preferred design, the ditch owners can consider applying for a grant through the District's grant program. The application process begins in February.

Walt Cranor said that he and John Sloan, along with another minor interest, own the Marshall Ditch. They have looked at the engineer's report extensively and concluded that they do not want to have a dam all the way across the river.

Watershed Management Planning Committee:

John McClow said that he and Bev Richards are finishing up the final Phase I Report. There is a list of questions they cannot answer, and so they have asked the consultants to respond by a deadline of December 1, 2019.

George Sibley said that the next committee meeting will take place December 16, 2019 at 1:00.

Risk Study: John McClow said there was some confusion about the billing. The CRWCD wanted the UGRWCD to work through them as an extension of a study. We have made that adjustment and Hydros is completing our report.

Update on Scientific Endeavors within the District: There was no update on scientific endeavors within the District.

10. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Michelle Pierce said that the District received a funding request from the Gunnison Middle School 7th grade. Bill Nesbitt has returned the call and has not yet heard back from them as to how much money they are requesting. George Sibley said this is an ideal request for one of the District's mini grants. This can be discussed further at an Education Committee meeting.

11. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens requested to speak.

12. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next board meeting will be on December 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. This is traditionally a very brief meeting held mainly to approve the budget.

The Watershed Management Planning Committee will meet on December 16, 2019.

The Education Committee will schedule a meeting once Sonja is on board.

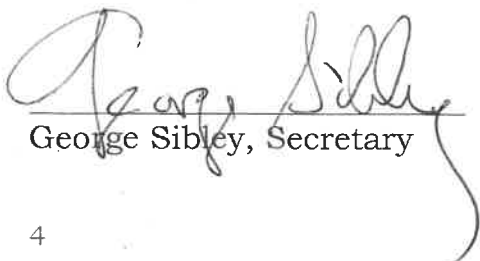
13. SUMMARY OF MEETING ACTION ITEMS

There were no meeting action items to summarize.


14. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Michelle Pierce adjourned the November 25, 2019 meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


George Sibley, Secretary

APPROVED:



Michelle Pierce, President