

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 9, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 9, 2020 via video/teleconferencing at 5:30 p.m.

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

Also present:

Sonja Chavez, General Manager
Emily Halverson, Colorado Department of Law
John McClow, General Counsel
Beverly Richards, Water Resource Specialist
Jill Steele, Office Manager
Sue Uerling, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Michelle Pierce called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Bill Nesbitt moved and George Sibley seconded approval of the agenda as circulated. A roll call vote was conducted. Results of the roll call vote:

Rosemary Carroll	yes
Joellen Fonken	yes
Rebie Hazard	yes
Stacy McPhail	yes
Julie Nania	yes
Bill Nesbitt	yes
John Perusek	yes
Michelle Pierce	yes
Don Sabrowski	yes
George Sibley	yes
Andy Spann	yes

The motion carried 11-0.

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

George Sibley requested that in future Board packets the District goes back to the practice of providing copies of invoices for non-operating expenses.

George Sibley moved and Bill Nesbitt seconded approval of the consent agenda items.

A roll call vote was conducted. Results of the roll call vote:

Rosemary Carroll	yes
Joellen Fonken	yes
Rebie Hazard	yes
Stacy McPhail	yes
Julie Nania	yes
Bill Nesbitt	yes
John Perusek	yes
Michelle Pierce	yes
Don Sabrowski	yes
George Sibley	yes
Andy Spann	yes

The motion carried 11-0.

4. ADOPTION OF 2021 BUDGET AND RESOLUTIONS

Bill Nesbitt moved and Joellen Fonken seconded to approve Resolution 2020-04 to Adopt the 2021 Budget. A roll call vote was conducted. Results of the roll call vote:

Rosemary Carroll	yes
Joellen Fonken	yes
Rebie Hazard	yes
Stacy McPhail	yes
Julie Nania	yes
Bill Nesbitt	yes
John Perusek	yes
Michelle Pierce	yes
Don Sabrowski	yes
George Sibley	yes
Andy Spann	yes

The motion carried 11-0.

Bill Nesbitt moved and John Perusek seconded adoption of Resolution 2020-04 to Appropriate Sums of Money for the 2021 Budget. A roll call vote was conducted. Results of the roll call vote:

Rosemary Carroll	yes
Joellen Fonken	yes

Rebie Hazard	yes
Stacy McPhail	yes
Julie Nania	yes
Bill Nesbitt	yes
John Perusek	yes
Michelle Pierce	yes
Don Sabrowski	yes
George Sibley	yes
Andy Spann	yes

The motion carried 11-0.

Bill Nesbitt moved and Stacy McPhail seconded approval of resolution 2020 to Set Mill the Levy at 1.951 mills. A roll call vote was conducted. Results of the roll call vote:

Rosemary Carroll	yes
Joellen Fonken	yes
Rebie Hazard	yes
Stacy McPhail	yes
Julie Nania	yes
Bill Nesbitt	yes
John Perusek	yes
Michelle Pierce	yes
Don Sabrowski	yes
George Sibley	yes
Andy Spann	yes

The motion carried 11-0.

5. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Manager’s Report:

- Sonja Chavez reported that the District did accept King System’s audio/visual upgrade proposal. Their contract calls for fifty percent (50%) to be paid upon signing in 2020 and the remaining fifty percent (50%) will be payable upon completion in January 2021. King Systems plans to begin the installation in a couple of weeks. Sonja is hopeful that everything will be up and running by the January 25, 2021 Board meeting.
- Sonja reported that the District received two ag engineering proposals to its RFQ and these will be reviewed by the Watershed Management Planning Committee for final selection of the ag engineer.
- Sonja and Jesse Kruthaupt made a presentation at the Gunnison County Stockgrowers Association annual meeting yesterday about watershed health and management.
- Sonja will be doing a presentation at for the SMP Peer group tomorrow.

- Sonja asked George Sibley to give an update about his attendance at the Gunnison Conservation District (GCD) meeting. George reported that GCD was interested in learning more about the District's Ag Engineering RFQ and how the District plans to get from analysis to design. They also asked how the District would be publicizing the process. Sonja said she will oversee that information is provided to the public through our media sources.
- There was discussion that during the Stockgrowers Association meeting, it was brought up that there may be an environmental group filing a lawsuit related to the protection of sage grouse in Gunnison County. General Counsel John McClow confirmed a suit had been filed on December 7th by the Western Watershed Group and the Center for Biological Diversity. Questions were raised about how this might impact the District. Don Sabrowski recommended that Sonja visit with Steve Guerrieri as he would have more information about the monitoring process used for sage grouse counts. Don said that at this time, there had been no discussions between the Stockgrowers Association and Gunnison County about possible impacts of the lawsuit, but that now that he knew a lawsuit had officially been filed, he would get in touch with the County.
- Sonja reported that staff had updated and clarified the guidelines and policies of the District's grant program. She reminded the Grant Committee that they would meet tomorrow, December 10, to review and discuss the 2021 grant packets.
- Sonja reported that she and Julie Nania met with Paul Jones from the Wet Meadows project to discuss some concerns the District has about work being completed outside of the District. This topic will be discussed in more detail at the Executive Committee meeting on January 4, 2021.
- Don Sabrowski announced that at the Stockgrowers Association meeting on December 8, 2020, the group officially endorsed Sonja's potential appointment to the Colorado River District Board and has sent a letter to the Gunnison County Commissioners expressing their approval of Sonja to replace Bill Trampe.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

7. FUTURE MEETINGS

Sonja reviewed upcoming meetings on a power point slide. A copy of the slide is included with these minutes.

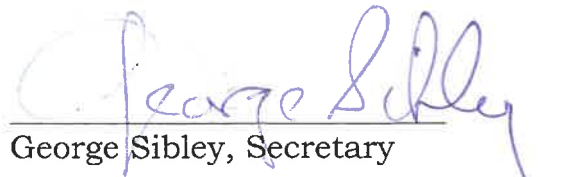
8. SUMMARY OF MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Sonja will follow up with Steve Guerrieri and others as necessary to find out more about any possible impacts for the District from the sage grouse lawsuit that has been filed.

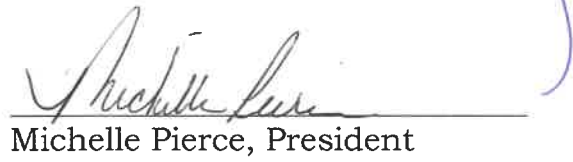
9. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Michelle Pierce adjourned the December 9, 2020 meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


George Sibley, Secretary

APPROVED:


Michelle Pierce, President