



**WATER AND SEWER BOARD SPECIAL MEETING**  
**February 13, 2019 – 6:30 a.m.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 301 Walnut Street**  
**Windsor, CO 80550**

---

**MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Vice Chairperson Medina called the meeting to order at 6:29 a.m.

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| 1. <u>Roll Call</u> | Chairperson<br>Vice-Chairperson<br>Secretary        | Greg Bielawski (phone in)<br>Carlos Medina<br>Julie Cline<br>Darell Zimbelman (absent)<br>Milt Tokunaga<br>Milton Geiger<br>Janene Willey |
|                     | Town Board Liaison<br>Town of Severance PW Director | Ken Bennett<br>Brad Trujillo  |

Also present:	Director of Engineering Water Resources Manager Open Space and Trails Manager Administrative Services Director Utility Billing Admin Specialist Northern Water Colorado River Program Manager Northern Water General Manager Clear Water Solutions CSU Weld County Extension Agent	Dennis Wagner John Thornhill Wade Willis Jessica Humphries Erin Porter  Kyle Whitaker  Brad Wind Steve Nguyen  Amy Lentz
---------------	---	---

2. Review of Agenda by the Board and Addition of items of New Business to the Agenda for Consideration by the Board  
There were no additional items added to the agenda.
3. Public Invited to be Heard  
There was no public comment.

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the consent calendar

**C. BOARD ACTION**

1. Minutes of January 23, 2019 Regular Meeting  
**Board Member Willey moved to accept the minutes for the January 23, 2019 Meeting; Board Member Cline seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **D. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

### 1. Colorado River Matters – Northern Water Conservancy District Presentation

Brad Wind, General Manager, and Kyle Whitaker, Colorado River Program Manager, presented information relating to the current status, challenges and future of the Colorado River basin.

Mr. Whitaker first spoke about the history and background of the Colorado River Compact. The Undepleted Natural Flow at Lee Ferry when the Colorado River Compact was signed in 1922 was around 17 million acre feet (maf). The rolling 10 year average has peaks and valleys, but the long term average has settled around 14 maf of water.

The Colorado River Basin was split between the Upper Basin, comprising the states of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, and the Lower Basin comprising the states of Arizona, California, and Nevada. Roughly 7.5 maf are designated to each basin, which is split by percentage. In 2007 a Hydraulic Determination was done which estimated that there was not 7.5 maf available for the upper basin states, more like 6.01 maf, which would allocate around 3 maf to Colorado. The current usage for Colorado is around 2.6 maf.

The lower states were split up similarly, but they can order water from Lake Mead, which is above all of their current demands. They get credit for return flows, and the last structure down on the Colorado River is the treaty obligation with Mexico, which receives 1.5 maf. With all the water taken from the River system, 17 maf is estimated water use, and the basin does not provide that on average.

There is a total inflow at Lake Mead of around 9maf. Lower Basin/Mexico deliveries and losses, as well as evaporation, leaves a deficit of around 1.2 maf

The Interim Guidelines of 2007designed to address shortages in the lower basin control the levels of Lake Mead and Lake Powell, the intent of which is to keep the levels about the same. Currently of all the big reservoirs in the system, outside of Flaming Gorge, all reservoirs are at or below 50% full, with Lake Mead and Lake Powell around 40% full.

Lake Powell and Lake Mead have multiple years' worth of storage currently; however the level of Lake Powell is right now at about 82 feet above the intake. This is concerning to Northern Water because if the level drops to be even with the intake, there would be no power generation, which fund improvement programs which allow compliance with the Endangered Species Act. There are also concerns that if levels drop, there would not be enough pressure to allow for the releases of water required for the lower basin.

With the current issues that are facing the water future, there is some federal legislation in the works for Drought Contingency Plans that will allow for some flexibility in the upper basin states. This would include an emergency storage capacity of 500,000af under a new demand management program in Lake Powell and an increase in water conservation programs. All 7 states that are part of the current Colorado River Compact are part of the discussions.

### 2. Planning for Windsor Citizens' water education

#### a. Colorado Landscape Boot Camp

CSU Weld County Extension Agent Amy Lentz presented information on a program that is being run through CSU for new home owners, new gardeners and new residents of Colorado. There is a need for education for some of these residents, including basic lawn care, tree care and planting, and water wise plants. Classes are being offered for all three sections of the program.

These classes are being piloted in Berthoud, Wellington, and the Firestone/Frederick area. Ms. Lentz provided information on all three classes that have been developed, and showed examples of folders that have been created to aid in these classes. The folders cost between \$10 and \$12 to create, and each location had a different way of managing costs.

Ms. Lentz stated that she was hoping to offer classes at the Community Recreation Center (CRC), and perhaps do some cross promotion with the Water and Sewer Board. The board discussed various options on how to offer classes such as recording and offering the class online. She stated that she could design courses for other subjects as well.

Ms. Lentz said the classes could happen at any time, however for data collection they wanted to get things in by May. Ms. Humphries said she would work with the CRC to check on available dates and times for classes.

The board discussed options on how to disseminate information included in the packet, including providing information at closing, having some fliers available at the front desk and providing downloadable links to interested citizens.

b. Windsor Tree Symposium

Board Member Willey presented information about the upcoming Windsor Tree Symposium offered by the Tree Board. The cost per person is \$5.00 per person and will be from 9am-12pm at the CRC. There will be presentations by Wendy Ball, Dr. Jim Klett, Dr. Alison O'Connor and Ken Kawamura. Board Member Willey and Board Chairman Bielawski will be at the event to talk with interested participants about the water component.

c. HOAs and Metro Districts

Board Member Tokunaga stated he was asked by Board Chairman Bielawski to address this issue. Mr. Tokunaga stated his Metro District met about 4 times a year, and he wanted to offer some education options to the local Metro Districts about consumptive usage and the impact of the landscaping and watering of the common areas

## **E. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Staff

a. Cash In Lieu Update

Mr. Thornhill stated that on Friday, February 15 the cash-in-lieu cost would go up to \$49,300/acre foot, and that staff is trying to keep up with the rising costs as much as possible.

b. Water Rates Resolution

The new increase of 3.29% will be effective on the 3/1/19 bill and the additional increase of 6.29% will be on the 4/1/19 bill.

c. Windsor Drought Management Plan

Mr. Thornhill stated the Town doesn't really have much of a Drought Management Plan as of yet, but due to the information provided by Northern Water the Town needs to put one in place. He has been working with a consultant, and the cost to put together a grant application for the CWCB would be around \$5,500, and if approved, the Town's cost would be between \$10,000-\$12,000 to develop the plan.

2. Board

a. MS4 Training – March 13

Janene Hageman will come in March 13 to do training during the regular meeting

b. Sewer and Wastewater Presentation – TBD

At the present time there is no set date for this presentation.

c. Tour of Windsor Wastewater Treatment Plant – April 10

A tour of the Greeley Bellevue Treatment Plant is also in the works.

Town Board Liaison/Mayor Pro Tem Bennett presented information on a book that he had read as part of the Water Leader class called *Oil and Water: An Oilman's Quest to Save the Source of America's Most Endangered River* by Stephen Grace.

**G. ADJOURN**

**Board Member Cline moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 am; Board Members Tokunaga and Willey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted by:



Erin Porter, Utility Billing Administrative Specialist