

**Southwestern Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting – Teleconference
January 27, 2015**

Present: John Porter, President Steve Fearn, Vice-President Bob Wolff, Secretary-Treasurer†
Preston Goetzke† Rusty Hinger† Doug Stowe†

Absent: J.R. Ford Monte Naslund Jenny Russell
John Taylor, Director Emeritus

Staff: Bruce Whitehead, SWCD Executive Director†
Laura Spann, SWCD Office Manager
Barry Spear, Maynes, Bradford, Shipps & Sheftel (MBSS)

Guests: Darlene Marcus, U.S Representative Scott Tipton’s Office†

†Participated by phone.

President John Porter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

Questions/Comments from Audience

(time: 00:01:10)

There were no comments or questions.

Old Business

Legislative Update & Position on Bills

(time: 00:01:20)

The Colorado Water Congress (CWC) State Affairs Committee met on January 20 and 26 to discuss water legislation introduced thus far during the 2015 Legislative Session, which convened on January 7. Bruce Whitehead explained the bills and relayed CWC discussion of the bills to the board. He referenced the latest summary document he prepared (Legislative Report #2015-03). The following bills were discussed:

SB 08 – Water Conservation in Land Use Planning

CWC voted to support this bill, which passed out of the Senate Ag Committee on a split vote.

SB 10 – Repeal New Augmentation Standard Dawson Aquifer

CWC voted to support this bill, which passed out of the Senate Ag Committee, and passed second and third readings.

SB 17 – Appellate Review of Ground Water Commission’s Decisions

CWC continues to monitor this bill. Amendment language has been circulated.

SB 55 – Return of Water from Tail Ditch

CWC has tabled this bill for action until Monday, February 2. There was significant discussion regarding the potential consequences. There was board consensus to oppose the bill as introduced.

SB 64 – Application of State Water Law to Federal Agencies

CWC voted to support this bill.

SB 75 – Exempt Well Irrigate Up to 1 Acre Commercial Crop

CWC voted to oppose this bill, which will likely be withdrawn by the sponsor.

SB 84 – Water Right Partial Historical Consumptive Use

CWC acted to support this bill with a close vote.

HB 1013 – South Platte Aquifer Study Recommendations

CWC voted to oppose Section 2 of the bill.

HB 1016 – Incentives for Precipitation Harvesting

CWC voted to oppose the bill, and asked that it be laid over in committee until the concerns could be addressed.

HB 1038 – Flexible Water Markets

CWC voted to oppose the bill.

HB 1057 – The Statewide Initiative Process

CWC voted to support the bill.

HB 1093 – Exceptions Efficient Plumbing Fixture Requirements

CWC voted to oppose the bill.

HB 1118 – Hydroelectric Power

CWC discussed the bill, the language of which may have changed.

HRJ 1006 – Water Projects Revolving Fund Eligibility Lists

CWC voted to support the joint resolution.

HB G – Water Efficiency Savings Instream Use Pilot

This bill has not yet been introduced, nor discussed by CWC.

Regarding proposed legislation, work continues on a bill regarding the capture and temporary retention of storm water.

Announcements

Bruce encouraged board members to take the Lower Basin tour, which is scheduled for March 4-6. Steve Fearn was reappointed to represent San Juan County on the board.

Next Meetings

Tuesday, February 10	10:00 a.m.	Special Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 25	9:00 a.m.	Teleconference
Wednesday, March 11	9:00 a.m.	Teleconference
Wednesday, March 25	9:00 a.m.	Teleconference

Adjournment

President John Porter adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.



John Porter, President