

**Southwestern Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting – Teleconference
Meeting Summary (No Quorum)
January 28, 2014**

Present: Steve Fearn, Vice-President J.R. Ford† Monte Naslund†

Absent: April Montgomery John Porter Doug Stowe
John Taylor Bob Wolff Fred Kroeger, Emeritus

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

Guests: Darlene Marcus, Field Representative for U.S. Congressman Scott Tipton†
Cindy Dozier, Hinsdale County Commissioner†

†Participated by phone.

Vice-President Steve Fearn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was not present.

Questions/Comments from Audience

Cindy Dozier, Hinsdale County Commissioner, reported that the Board of County Commissioners will make an appointment to the SWCD board replacing John Taylor at their meeting on Wednesday, January 29.

New Business

Legislative Update & Position on Bills

The Colorado Water Congress (CWC) State Affairs Committee met on January 21 and 27 to discuss water legislation. Bruce Whitehead explained the bills and relayed CWC discussion of the bills to the board. He referenced the summary document he prepared (Legislative Report #2014-03) and gave updates from the most recent meeting. The following bills were discussed:

HB 1002 – Establishment of Grant Program to Repair Water Infrastructure Impacted by Natural Disaster

CWC will support the bill. This program would be funded by monies that had been previously set aside by the governor for a nutrient improvement program. Any remaining funds revert back to the nutrient program.

HB 1005 – Clarification of Requirements Applicable to Change of Point of Water Diversion (Due to Flooding)

CWC has not taken a position at this time. Bruce responded to questions about the bill.

HB 1008 – Authorization of Colorado Water Resources & Power Development Authority (CWR&PDA) to Make Loans to Private Entities for Forest Health

CWC will monitor this bill.

HB 1026 – Authorization of Flexible Water Markets

CWC voted to support the bill.

HB 1028 – Limitation on US' Ability to Impose Conditions on a Water Right Owner in Exchange for Permission to Use Land

CWC voted unanimously to support this bill. Darlene Marcus reported that a similar bill will also be introduced at the federal level by U.S. Congressman Scott Tipton.

HB 1030 – Establishment of Incentives for the Development of Hydroelectric Energy Systems

Sponsors have agreed to a proposed amendment to strike Sections 3-5. CWC will continue to monitor the bill.

HB 1052 – Increase in Enforcement Authority of Ground Water Management Districts

CWC will not take a position on the bill.

SB 017 – Limitation on Development that Uses Ag Dry Up to Irrigate Lawns

CWC has not taken a position at this time. Cindy Dozier, Hinsdale County Commissioner, reported that Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) voted to oppose the bill. SWCD has supported the concept of the bill as introduced.

SB 023 – Authorization of Voluntary Transfer of Water Efficiency Savings to CWCB for Instream Use Purposes

CWC has not taken a position at this time. Bruce co-chairs a sub-committee focused on the bill.

SB 072 – Treatment of Pre-flood Groundwater Depletions as Replaced

CWC has not taken a position at this time.

SB 103 – Phasing Out Sale of Low-Efficiency Plumbing Fixtures

CWC has not taken a position at this time.

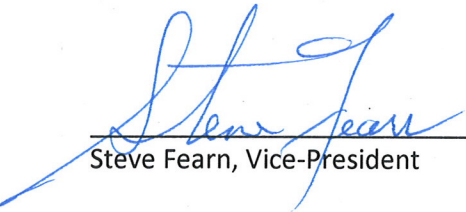
There may also be bills introduced regarding the Colorado Water Plan and South Platte groundwater issues.

Next Meetings

Wednesday, February 12	10:00am	Special Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 26	9:00am	Teleconference
Wednesday, March 12	9:00am	Teleconference

Adjournment

A quorum was not present, and the board did not take action during the meeting. Vice-President Steve Fearn adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.



Steve Fearn, Vice-President