

**Southwestern Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting – Teleconference
March 6, 2013**

Present: John Porter* Steve Fearn* Bob Wolff
Larry Deremo* J. R. Ford* April Montgomery*

** (Participation by Phone)*

Absent: Tim Kelly Monte Naslund John Taylor
Fred Kroeger (Emeritus)

Staff: Bruce Whitehead, Executive Director
Jane Maxson, Office Manager
Barry Spear, MBSS
Steve Harris, Harris Water Engineering

Guests: Darlene Marcus

President John Porter called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

Questions/Comments from Audience

Darlene Marcus from Congressman Scott Tipton's office reported that the offices of Congressman Tipton (CO), Senators Bennet and Udall (CO), Senators Lee and Hatch (Utah) and other staffers from states that would be impacted by the potential Gunnison Sage Grouse listing met last week. The US Fish and Wildlife agreed to extend the comment period for three weeks. Darlene encouraged comments to be submitted as soon as possible. This bipartisan group is working hard to at least get the designation changed from "endangered" to "threatened" and reduce the size of the area involved. Larry Deremo added that this is a critical issue for Dolores County.

Old Business

Bruce Whitehead reported on the following:

- Our basin has the best snowpack in the state at 82%, but that other areas in the state are down quite a bit from average.
- A signed copy of the ALPWCD purchase agreement was given to Mike Brod of Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority. The Bureau of Reclamation is sending the agreement to Washington DC. A finalized agreement signed by BOR is expected soon.
- SWCD is waiting for a response from ALP OM&R Association regarding Southwest's water rights for the Animas-La Plata Project.
- The Animas and the Piedra River Protection Groups are close to completing their discussion on those rivers. When those reports are produced, the "circle back" or regional discussions will begin to talk about protection of values and water development in the region as a whole.

New Business

Legislative Update & Position on Bills

Bruce reported on the following, based on Report #8:

SB41 Protection of stored water

CWC will support draft as introduced – SWCD supports draft as introduced

Bob Wolff moved and Steve Fearn seconded that SWCD support the draft as introduced. The motion passed; April Montgomery abstained.

SB19 Promote Water Conservation

CWC will continue to discuss

SB183 Water Conservation Measures in Common Interest Communities

CWC will monitor

SB021 Pipeline Rights-of-way

CWC will monitor – may be postponed indefinitely

SB191 Pipeline Rights-of-way

CWC will continue to monitor as replacement for SB021

Consensus that SWCD monitor SB021 and SB191.

SB181 CWCB Projects Bill

CWC will support SWCD supports bill, but not Section 15 regarding expansion of spending authority for acquisition of water rights to “improve” the natural environment.

SB74 Irrigation Water Right Historical Use Acreage

CWC opposes

HB1013 Protect Water Right Ownership Rights

CWC supports

CWC took action to support reappointments of Don Carlson and Greg Fisher to the CWR&PDA board of directors. They have now been confirmed by the State Senate.

CFWE President’s Award Reception Sponsorship

Jim Isgar is being recognized by the Colorado Foundation for Water Education with their annual President’s Award at a reception in his honor being held in Denver on May 1st. Steve Fearn moved and Bob Wolff seconded that the District sponsor this event in the amount of \$3,000. The motion passed unanimously. Board members were encouraged to attend.

Bruce gave an update on the water seminar.

Steve H and Bruce attended IBCC meeting yesterday.

Executive Session - no session was necessary

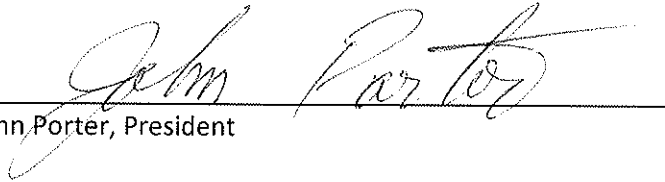
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Next Meeting

Mar. 20	9:00 am	Teleconference
Apr 4	10:00 am	Board Meeting
Apr 5	8:30 am	Spring Seminar

Adjournment

President John Porter adjourned the meeting at



John Porter, President