

**Southwestern Water Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting—Teleconference  
January 23, 2019**

**Present:** Monte Naslund† Jenny Russell† Charlie Smith†  
Don Schwindt† Bob Wolff

**Absent:** JR Ford David Guilliams Rusty Hinger  
Doug Stowe

**Staff:** Bruce Whitehead, SWCD Executive Director†  
Laura Spann, SWCD Programs Coordinator

**Guests:** Orla Bannan, Western Resources Advocates†  
Floyd Cook, Dolores County Commissioner†  
Marcel Gatzambide, San Juan Citizens Alliance†  
Carrie Padgett, Harris Water Engineering†  
Travis Stills, Energy & Conservation Law†  
Mark Ragsdale, Colorado Division of Water Resources†  
Jennifer Thurston, Information Network for Responsible Mining†  
Beth Van Vurst, Fairfield and Woods†

*†Participated by phone.*

**1.0 Call to Order**

*(time: 00:00:15)*

Robert Wolff called the work session to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was established.

**2.0 Questions/Comments from Audience**

*(time: 00:01:00)*

There were no comments or questions.

**3.0 Old Business**

**3.1 Legislative Update & Position on Bills**

*(time: 00:01:44)*

The Colorado Water Congress (CWC) State Affairs Committee met on January 14 and 22 to discuss water legislation introduced thus far during the 2019 Legislative Session. Staff explained the bills and relayed CWC discussion of the bills to the board. They referenced the summary document (DRAFT Legislative Report #2019-03). The following bills were discussed:

**SB 016 – Severance Tax Operational Fund Distribution Methodology**

CWC supports this bill. Don Schwindt moved that SWCD support SB 019 (Severance Tax Operational Fund Distribution Methodology). Monte Naslund seconded. The motion passed.

**SB 037 – Wildfire Mitigation**

CWC will monitor this bill. There was SWCD board consensus to monitor this bill.

**SJM 001 – Memorial for Arkansas Valley Conduit**

CWC supports this memorial

**SJM 002 – Corps of Engineers to Dredge Lower Arkansas River**

CWC supports this memorial.

**HB 1006 – Wildfire Mitigation Wildland-urban Interface Area**

CWC postponed action on this bill, after hearing from the sponsor that an amendment may be introduced to expand the current grant program to allow HOAs to apply for funding.

**HB 1015 – Recreation of the Colorado Water Institute**

CWC supports this bill. Monte Naslund moved that SWCD support HB 1015 (Recreation of the Colorado Water Institute). Don Schwindt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 1026 – Parks & Wildlife Violations of Law**

CWC supports Section 15 of this bill, which shores up Colorado Parks and Wildlife’s jurisdiction over aquatic nuisance species transportation. Don Schwindt moved that SWCD support Section 15 of HB 1026 (Parks & Wildlife). The motion failed for lack of a second.

**HB 1029 – Republican River WCD**

CWC supports this bill, with the understanding that the RRWCD and the bill sponsor are addressing outstanding concerns.

**HB 1050 – Encourage Use of Xeriscape in Common Areas**

CWC supports this bill in concept, based on the amendment introduced. SDA is monitoring this bill.

**HB 1082 – Water Rights Easements**

CWC discussed this bill, and created a group to provide suggested revisions to the sponsor.

**HB 1096 – Colorado Right to Rest Act**

CWC discussed this bill, and a subgroup is working on proposed language to exclude water utilities and entities, including reservoirs, from “public spaces.”

**HB 1113 – Protect Water Quality Adverse Mining Impacts**


CWC discussed this bill. Bill proponents Marcel Gatzambide, Jennifer Thurston, and Travis Stills provided additional background and answered questions. Jenny Russell moved that SWCD support HB 1113 (Protect Water Quality Adverse Mining Impacts). Charlie Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**HJR 1005 – Water Projects Eligibility List**

CWC supports this bill. Monte Naslund moved that SWCD support HRJ 1005 (Water Projects Eligibility List). Charlie Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meetings**

Wednesday, February 6	9:00am	Teleconference
Tuesday, February 12	TBD	Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 13	9:00am	Regular Board Meeting




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Robert Wolff, Board President