

**Southwestern Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Special Meeting via Teleconference
April 15, 2020**

Present: JR Ford (joined after 9:10am) Jenny Russell Charlie Smith
Doug Stowe Bob Wolff

Absent: Rusty Hinger Monte Naslund David Guilliams
Don Schwindt

Staff: Frank Kugel, Southwestern Water Conservation District (SWCD) Executive Director
Laura Spann, SWCD Programs Coordinator

Consultants: Beth Van Vurst, Van Vurst Law
Carrie Padgett, Harris Water Engineering

Guests: Elaine Chick, Water Information Program
Ed Millard, Southwest Basins Roundtable
Kathy Rall, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Ken Curtis, Dolores Water Conservancy District
Kris Holstrom, San Miguel County Commissioner
Marcel Gaztambide, San Juan Citizens Alliance

1.0 Call to Order

Robert Wolff called the special board meeting via teleconference to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was not initially established. A fifth director called in after about six minutes, which established a quorum.

2.0 Review and Approve Agenda

(time: 00:01:15)

There was consensus to approve the agenda as noticed.

3.0 Questions and Comments from Audience

(time: 00:02:00)

Elaine Chick, Water Information Program, updated the board on cancellation of SWCD's Annual Children's Water Festival. Roundtable video production is on hold, as the videographer cannot shoot during the stay-at-home order.

4.0 Role of SWCD's Colorado River Committee

(time: 00:04:15)

Frank Kugel recommended that Colorado River management and policy issues be address by the board as a whole and that the Colorado River Board Committee address specific tasks as assigned by the board, but not meet regularly. Because a quorum was not present at the time of this agenda topic, no guidance was provided on this item.

5.0 Comments re. Reclamation's 7d Review of the 2007 Interim Guidelines

(time: 00:06:00)

JR Ford joined the call, which established a quorum of board members. Frank Kugel plans to prepare draft SWCD comments on the scope of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's 7d Review of the 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead (2007 Interim Guidelines). Frank will provide draft comments for the SWCD board's review at the April 29th teleconference. A board member suggested that, outside of the 7d Review, it would be helpful to know what Lake Powell storage

would have been without the 2007 Interim Guidelines and recommended partnering with the River District to estimate that amount.

6.0 Rio Grande Water Conservation District's SWSP Application pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-308(5) for the 2020/2021 Water Year *(time: 00:10:00)*

Frank Kugel summarized the Substitute Water Supply Plan (SWSP) application recently filed by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. Beth Van Vurst and Frank expressed concerns regarding the application, and potential change of use of water originating from the Williams Creek-Squaw Pass and Pine River-Weminuche Pass transmountain diversions that might result in additional water being exported from Division 7 to Division 3. Staff and legal counsel will review the application in detail for further discussion at the SWCD's board's April 29th teleconference. Comments on the SWSP are due on May 7th.

7.0 Update on SWCD Draft Strategic Plan *(time: 00:12:30)*

Frank Kugel reported that the SWCD Strategic Planning Board Committee met on February 12th and April 8th to revise a draft SWCD strategic plan. There was board consensus to discuss the draft SWCD strategic plan at the next in-person meeting.

8.0 Potential Rescheduling of June SWCD Regular Board Meeting *(time: 00:15:30)*

Laura Spann summarized the proposal to reschedule the June regular SWCD board meeting to late June or early July. The board directed Laura to poll the board to arrive at a consensus date. It was suggested to hold the June 2nd or 3rd for a short board teleconference if needed.

9.0 Executive Session (if needed) *(time: 00:18:00)*

Beth Van Vurst did not recommend executive session.

10.0 Report Out of Executive Session (if needed)

Because there was no executive session held, there was no report from executive session.

11.0 Adjournment

Bob Wolff adjourned the meeting at 9:25am.

Next Meeting

April 29, 2020 9:00am Special Board Meeting via Teleconference



Robert Wolff, Board President