

**Southwestern Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Special Meeting via Teleconference
June 16, 2020**

Present: JR Ford Rusty Hinger Monte Naslund (joined at 3:00 p.m.)
 Jenny Russell Don Schwindt Charlie Smith
 Doug Stowe Robert Wolff

Absent: David Guilliams

Staff: Laura Spann, Southwestern Water Conservation District (SWCD) Programs Coordinator

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

Guests: Orla Bannan, Western Resources Advocates
Elaine Chick, Water Information Program
Ken Curtis, Dolores Water Conservancy District
Marcel Gaztambide, San Juan Citizens Alliance
Eric Hjermsstad, Western Weather Consultants
Kathy Rall, Southern Ute Indian Tribe

1.0 Call to Order

Robert Wolff called the special board meeting via teleconference to order at 2:45 p.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was established.

2.0 Review and Approve Agenda

(time: 00:01:25)

There was consensus to approve the agenda as noticed.

3.0 Questions and Comments from Audience

(time: 00:01:55)

Ken Curtis, Dolores Water Conservancy District, confirmed that SWCD intends to continue funding 50% of the cost of a new remote generator for southwest Colorado's weather modification program.

Kathy Rall, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, asked if SWCD had designated an interim executive director. Bob Wolff said that this topic would be part of the June 30th board meeting discussion.

4.0 Legislative Update

(time: 00:04:25)

Beth Van Vurst reported that the Colorado General Assembly adjourned on Monday, June 15, 2020. The draft Colorado Dredge and Fill Program bill was not introduced. The Colorado Water Congress State Affairs Committee intends to organize a stakeholder group, which may begin to meet in late August, to review this legislative concept. A final legislative report will be prepared for the board to review at their June 30th regular meeting.

5.0 SWCD Office Operations Update and Potential Action on Related Items

(time: 00:06:00)

Bob Wolff reported that several monthly expenses are processed automatically on a credit card in Frank Kugel's name, which was recently cancelled.

Doug Stowe moved to authorize Robert Wolff and Jenny Russell to manage SWCD credit card accounts at Bank of Colorado. Don Schwindt seconded. The motion passed.

Doug Stowe moved to authorize an SWCD credit card in Laura Spann’s name with a limit of \$3,000. Jenny Russell seconded. The motion passed.

Laura Spann is working from the SWCD office full-time and will have Zoom capabilities from the conference room within a few days.

Charlie Smith volunteered to oversee the Program Coordinator position, which includes reviewing and approving timesheets, work schedules and PTO requests. Jenny Russell and Bob Wolff are processing payroll via ACH.

6.0 SWCD Representation on Various Committees & Boards *(time: 00:14:00)*

Beth Van Vurst reported that a list of the various committees and board that Frank Kugel participated in on behalf of SWCD is being developed. Beth recommended that the Board walk through the list on June 30th and decide whether to address those vacancies immediately or upon hiring new staff. There were no pressing appointments that needed immediate attention prior to the board meeting. Don Schwindt expressed interest in representing SWCD on the Southwest Basin Roundtable temporarily or for the long-term.

7.0 Agenda for June 30th Regular Board Meeting *(time: 00:19:15)*


Guidance was requested on the scope of the board’s discussion for the June 30th board meeting. Essential items for board consideration include the FY2019 audit report, requests for modifications from SWCD funding recipients, the legislative update, and a recommendation to hold a two-day August board meeting rather than the remote board meeting and tour. It was suggested the board spend as much time as necessary on June 30th meeting to evaluate next steps regarding SWCD’s mission, organizational structure and staff needs. There was board consensus to discuss essential items and otherwise prioritize the following topics: review and adoption of the draft SWCD strategic plan and the evaluation of SWCD staffing needs, including interim staff or consultants, potential long-term restructuring, and potential job posting. It was recommended that the board postpone the 305(c)(3) discussion to the August board meeting in conjunction with the demand management feasibility investigation update. There was board consensus to delay the SWCD/Fort Lewis College outreach webinar until 2021.

8.0 Adjournment

Robert Wolff adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

June 30, 2020 TBD Regular Board Meeting



Robert Wolff, Board President