

**Minutes of the Board meeting of the  
Board of Directors of the Republican River Water Conservation District  
June 20, 2025**

***Offered virtually and in person at 410 Main Street, Suite 8, Wray CO 80758***

- A. The board of Directors of the Republican River Water Conservation District convened their board meeting, June 20, 2025 pursuant to notice required by statute and the District's by-laws. President Rod Lenz opened the meeting at 8:01 AM.
- a. Lenz led the group in prayer.
  - b. Secretary Kristen Schneider conducted a roll call of Directors. Board members present for the roll call were:
    - i. Rod Lenz, president
    - ii. Steve Kramer, vice president
    - iii. Aaron Sprague, treasurer
    - iv. Kristen Schneider, secretary
    - v. Don Brown, excused
    - vi. Brooke Campbell, excused
    - vii. Tim Fetzer
    - viii. James Harlow, late for roll call
    - ix. Greg Larson, late for role call
    - x. Josh Lechman
    - xi. Trent Leoffler
    - xii. Robin Liming
    - xiii. Steven Meakins
    - xiv. Kevin Penny, excused
    - xv. Tim Pautler
    - xvi. Roger Seedorf
    - xvii. Dennis Wieser
    - xviii. A quorum of the board was declared with Kevin Penny, Brooke Campbell, and Don Brown excused, while James Harlow and Greg Larson were late for roll call. *Harlow joined the meeting at approximately 8:04 AM and Larson joined the meeting at 8:11 AM.*
    - xix. Staff/consultants present: Deb Daniel, Reon McBride, Payton Liming, David Robbins, Pete Ampe, and Randy Hendrix.
  - a. Introduction of guests, there were no guests present.
  - b. **There was a motion to approve the agenda. There was a second, and the vote was unanimous.**

**B. 8:05 AM- PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. **There was no public comment. Public comment closed at 8:06 AM.**

*Greg Larson joined the meeting at 8:11 AM*

**C. Discuss and vote on changes to the RRWCD By-laws**

- a. Amendments/updates to RRWCD By-laws-Kristen Schneider, Board Secretary
  - i. Schneider asked if there were any questions related to the suggested amendments brought before the board.
    1. Daniel stated board members have asked why the compensation for in-person meetings is more expensive than the virtual meetings. Robbins and Ampe stated the compensation is less for virtual meetings because they are expected to last only one or two hours per the current by-laws.

2. There was discussion on the compensation to executive members and how that rate is set by state statute and cannot be increased.
- i. **There was a motion to amend the current compensation for all meetings to \$100. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**
- ii. **There was a motion to approve the by-laws with the change to compensation. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**

#### **D. Recommendation from Executive Committee**

- a. Responses for Sandhills GWMD Retained Jurisdictional Authority Hearing - Steve Kramer, Vice President
  - i. Rod Lenz recused himself from all discussions related to the Sandhills GWMD discussion. Vice President Kramer conducted this portion of the meeting.
  - ii. Daniel announced the previously scheduled Retained Jurisdictional Authority Hearing has been postponed because the Sandhills Groundwater Management District will not have a quorum available for June 24, 2025.
  - iii. There was extensive discussion about board concerns regarding establishing a cost to export water.
  - iv. **There was a motion to approve the drafted letter response to the Sandhills District. There was a second and Wieser requested a roll call vote. All voted to approve the motion except for Fetzer, Leoffler, and Wieser.**

#### **E. Recommendation from Fee Evaluation Committee**

- a. Proposed RRWCD Fee change procedure - Kevin Penny, FEC Chairman
  - i. Penny was excused for the meeting. Sprague discussed meeting with Rio Grande Water Conservation District Deputy General Manager Amber Pacheco. Pacheco suggested leaving collection of the billing with the county assessors and to only use the states pumping records. Sprague discussed using the public meetings to inform the public about the options to change the fee, to also practice transparency throughout the basin and to also inform the public about the financial needs of the district.
  - ii. Robbins discussed the importance of board members making the time to meet with the public to inform the public about the challenges the district is facing.
  - iii. **There was a motion to approve the building of a presentation for informing the public of the Fee Evaluation options to be approved at the August meeting. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
  - iv. **There was a motion to approve the board schedule hosting at least 6 public meetings to inform the public of the three potential fee evaluation changes: no change, the 46 percent surcharge option, and the 50/50 acres/pumping option, between the August and November meetings. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**

#### **F. Recommendation from Pipeline Technical Advisory Committee**

- a. Proposed public notice for engineering design companies - Tim Pautler, PTAC Chairman
  - i. Pautler discussed the process of procurement for the design of the Phase II expansion. The request is an informal request and practices transparency for the District. The bids will be received at the Wray State Bank and the formal bid opening will take place at Wray State Bank.
  - ii. **There was a motion to post the proposed public notice for engineering design companies. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**
    1. Pautler discussed the upcoming PTAC committee meeting Wednesday, June 25, 2025. Pautler invited all board members to attend if they would like to.

#### **G. Old Business**

- a. Daniel stated that the District just received notice that Sandhills will have to give 60 days notice for the hearing, so the meeting will be scheduled at the end of August, early September at the earliest.

b. Robbins will be sending a letter noted as confidential communication to the board members.

**H. New Business**

a. There was no new business

**I. Executive Session**, if required, to receive legal advice on legal questions and litigation concerning South Fork water rights; to discuss and determine positions, develop strategies, and instruct negotiators concerning the purchase or lease of water rights; determine positions and instruct negotiators concerning water supply acquisition, receive legal advice on legal questions related to such agreements, contracts and easements, discuss program applications; Compact Compliance and discussions with Kansas (to the extent subject to privilege), and the Compact Compliance Pipeline and Bonny Reservoir, and to discuss personnel matters

a. There was no Executive Session held.

**J. Adjourn Meeting**

a. **At 9:07 AM there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**

Rustyn M Schmedis  
Secretary

8/18/25  
Date