

Minutes of Special Meeting of the
Republican River Water Conservation District

November 15 and 16, 2006

Aurora, Colorado

Present were:

Board Members:

Dennis Coryell, President
Kim Killin, Vice President
Tim Pautler, Secretary
Rick Seedorf, Treasurer
Eugene Bauerle
Grant Bledsoe
Kelly Burr
Jack Dowell
Raymond Enderson
Garry Kramer
Steve Kramer
Bruce Latoski
Stan Laybourn
Wayne Skold

Stan Murphy, General Manager
David Robbins and Dennis Montgomery, General Counsel, Hill & Robbins, P.C.
James E. Slattery, P.E., Helton & Williamsen, P.C.
Randy Hendrix, Helton & Williamsen, P.C.
Tim Davis, District Consultant
Ken Knox, Chief Deputy State Engineer

STATEMENT OF QUORUM

President Dennis Coryell called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. President Coryell welcomed the Board members and introduced Mr. Ken Knox from the Colorado Division of Water Resources, Mr. Tim Davis, the District's consultant on the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and Jim Slattery and Randy Hendrix, the District's engineering consultants. Secretary Tim Pautler conducted a roll call of Board members, noting that Director Raymond Enderson and Jerry Sonnenberg were absent and that a quorum of the Board was present. Director Enderson appeared later in the meeting as noted in the minutes.

AGENDA

President Coryell noted that the agenda had been provided to the Board members. A motion to approve the agenda was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1:18 p.m., a motion was made to enter into executive session to discuss interruptible water supply agreements and for determining positions and instructing negotiators, receiving legal advice on legal questions related to such agreements, and personnel matters pursuant to section 24-6-402(4), C.R.S. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. President Coryell stated that no adoption of any proposed policy, position, resolution, rule, regulation, or formal action shall occur in executive session.

At 2:00 p.m., President Coryell recessed the executive session briefly and noted that no members of the public were present for public comment. Therefore, the Board resumed the executive session.

At 2:22 p.m., Director Enderson entered the meeting.

At 3:25 p.m., the Board recessed the executive session for a short break. The executive session resumed at 3:43 p.m.

At 5:10 p.m., the Board recessed the executive session until the following day.

At 10:02 a.m. on Thursday, November 16, the Board reconvened in executive session.

At 1:50 p.m., the Board exited executive session. President Coryell stated that no formal action or decisions were taken during executive session.

CRP/CREP COUNTY ACREAGE CAPS

Mr. Tim Davis reported that removing or expanding the county CRP/CREP acreage caps will probably not happen until the new farm bill is passed at least a year in the future, stating that we need to keep pressure on our legislators to get those changes made. He noted that if a significant number of existing CRP contracts were not renewed in Washington and Lincoln counties this year, that might possibly free up enough acres to allow a minimal number of CREP contracts within those counties.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

At 2:02 p.m., subsequent to noting that no one was present to make public comment, the Board discussed the possibility of expanding the CREP program to include additional acres. In preparation for a budget committee meeting next month, President Coryell instructed Tim Davis to prepare various CREP proposals to offer incentives to shut down wells within four miles from Arikaree River and the North and South Fork tributaries of the Republican River.

At 2:30 p.m., the Board considered methods of determining the value of surface water rights. Attorney David Robbins stated that, rather than an appraiser, a water engineer is usually used to determine the value of water, based on various items such as the priority, diversion records, how secure the water source may be, etc. A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to allow up to \$15,000 for Jim Slattery and Randy Hendrix to conduct a preliminary study to determine the acre-foot value of water on the seven active ditches on the

North Fork, two ditches on the South Fork above Bonny Reservoir, and the Hale Ditch on the South Fork.

At 2:38 p.m., a motion was made and passed to allow the Executive Committee to review the CREP Annual Report being prepared by Tim Davis, and submit it to the USDA.

At 2:29 p.m., Mr. Ken Knox reported that letters from the State Engineer's Office are being sent out to all holders of large capacity well permits which mandate that a meter is required to inform them that a flow meter or acceptable water measuring device shall be installed on that well prior to the 2007 irrigation season. Mr. Knox said that before meters can be required for all large capacity wells throughout the Republican River Basin, rules and regulations must be promulgated and adopted by the State Engineer.

At 2:55 p.m., President Coryell requested that the Budget Committee hold a meeting the first part of next month to consider the impacts of expanding the CREP program. The budget meeting was then scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 15th in the large conference room of the District Office building in Wray, CO. Following that meeting, at 1:30 p.m., the Executive Committee, Grant Bledsoe, Bruce Latoski, and Stan Murphy will meet with the City of Wray council members if that can be arranged.

At 3:06 p.m., President Coryell directed legal council to prepare a press release about the recent Colorado Supreme Court decision on the Gallegos water case to make water users aware of the impact that case might have on local water issues.

At 3:13 p.m., the Board directed Mr. Murphy to contact Doug Flanders to get updates on the legislative concerns of the District.

At 3:14 p.m., no old business or new business was discussed.

At 3:15 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Secretary

Date