

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE PROJECT 7 WATER AUTHORITY

February 27, 2025
4:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Project 7 Water Authority was held February 27, 2025 in the conference room of the Project 7 Treatment Plant site, Montrose, Colorado.

Directors Present:

Jake Foreman
David Bries
Randy Meaker
Vicki Ripp
John McCollum
Kevin Carlson

Others Present:

Adam Turner	Callie Nottingham
Sagrado Sparks	Solomon Abel
Tessa Scharf	Rick Huggins
Miles Graham	Fred Waldman
Greg Swartz	Kathy Calkins
Wayne Schieldt	Brian White
Doug Glaspell	Gail Marvel
Janet Chapman	David White
Jerry Young	
James Silvestro (remotely)	
Jessica Johnson (remotely)	
John McMillan (remotely)	
Jake Northrup (remotely)	

Chairman Jake Foreman called the regular meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

Chairman Foreman asked if there was any Public Comment. There was none.

January Minutes

Following review of the minutes, Mr. John McCollum moved to accept the January 23, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Randy Meaker and carried unanimously.

Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Resiliency Update

Mr. Miles Graham updated the Board on funding strategy, cost allocation, and financial models. He gave a debriefing on Title XVI scoring and the criteria that was used in the selection process and how the resiliency project had been evaluated. For the grant funding update Mr. Graham covered Congressionally Directed Spending for 2025, the DOLA presentation for March 5, 2025, CWRPDA and USDA funding targets.

Mr. Greg Swartz reported on the Cost Allocation study and its assignments, responsibilities, and due dates. Mr. Swartz said by the March 27, 2025 Board Meeting that the RFQ would be reviewed, circulated and requested responses would have been submitted in time for recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Rick Huggins went over the updated 2025 Peer Rate Study, saying that the existing water rates are lower than average compared to our peer communities. He said to improve projections for each Member Agency average residential rates, we need total number of taps/connections to the water system, total number of RESIDENTAL taps/connections to the water system and the sum of annual revenue from residential users.

Mr. Miles Graham said the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment was submitted to CDPHE and federal cooperating agencies BOR and BLM in December. Reviews and approval tentatively planned to be completed in March, 2025. Mr. Graham said Member coordination and Outreach meetings were still ongoing covering common ground values.

Ms. Callie Nottingham, Solomon Abel and Sagrado Sparks gave the update from McCarty going over process on the GMP Update and Overview, Amendment for Critical Design Continuation and asking for a Limited Notice to Proceed.

Consumption Report

Consumption Reports for January 2025 were reviewed. No action was taken.

Cash Flow Report

The Manager discussed the cash flow report for January 2025.

Process Control Report

The Process Control Report for January 2025 was reviewed.

Updates

Manager's Report/Update handout: see attached.

Chairman Foreman directed that the minutes reflect acceptance of the Manager's Reports.

Legal Update

Mr. James Silvestro said he would be checking in on Project 7 Board meetings and, and occasionally be here in person. Mr. Silvestro said he had sat in on the meeting with Jeff Hurd, and would be active in community outreach.

Old Business

Item A. Discuss and consider motion for Manager Turner to move forward with San Miguel Power Transformer Procurement. Mrs. Vicki Ripp made a motion moved to proceed to have the Transformer ordered and installed. Mr. Randy Meaker seconded. Motion passed 4 to 2.

Executive Session

Mrs. Vicki Ripp moved to adjourn to Executive session at 6:10pm, for conference with Project 7 management and consultant team for the purpose of discussion negotiating strategy related to a potential contract with the design-builder McCarthy/CDM Smith JV pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e). Mrs. Vicki Ripp seconded. Motion passed.

At 7:10 pm, Mrs. Vicki Ripp made a motion to go out of Executive Session and back to Regular Session, Mr. Kevin Carlson seconded. Motion passed. Chairman Jake Foreman reconvened the Regular Meeting and directed the minutes to show that the Board did not stray from the announced topic for the executive session. He also directed the minutes reflect those present were Jake Foreman, John McCollum, Kathy Calkins, David Bries, Doug Glaspell, Vicki Ripp, Wayne Schieldt, Randy Meaker, Kevin Carlson, Rick Huggins, Greg Swartz, Miles Graham, Adam Turner, Tessa Scharf, and James Silvestro and Jessica Johnson (remotely).

The Board at this time discussed the next steps going forward, and to have Rick and Adam look into different options for proceeding with the joint venture.

There being no further business Mr. Kevin Carlson moved to adjourn, Mrs. Vicki Ripp seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Chairman

Secretary