

RECORD OF PROCEEDING

**SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER
ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE
MINUTES**

February 18, 2021

A virtual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Activity Enterprise (Enterprise) was held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 10:25 a.m., via ZOOM.

President Bill Long welcomed all in attendance to the virtual meeting. Mr. Long established that a quorum was present.

DIRECTORS CONNECTED:

Alan Hamel	Curtis Mitchell	Mark Pifher
Andrew Colosimo	Dallas May	Pat Edelmann
Ann Nichols	Greg Felt	Patrick Garcia
Bill Long	Howard “Bub” Miller	Seth Clayton
Carl McClure	Kevin Karney	Tom Goodwin

DIRECTOR(S) ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

None

ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS CONNECTED:

Executive Director James Broderick; General Counsel Lee Miller; Principal Engineer Kevin Meador; Senior Policy and Issues Manager Chris Woodka; Water Resource Engineer Garrett Markus; Administrative Manager Toni Gonzales; Finance Manager Leann Noga; Administrative Support Specialist Margie Medina; Accounting Specialist, Stephanie Shipley; Accounting Specialist Support, Lynette Holt; and Patty Rivas Administrative Support Associate.

VISITORS CONNECTED:

Bill Tyner, Division Engineers Office; Cathy Garcia, Congress Woman Lauren Boebert’s office; Curtis Thompson, AECOM; Jason Meyers, GMS Consulting; Jeffery Deherrera, Pueblo West Metro District; Jenny Bishop, Colorado Springs Utilities; Jerry Pena, Kennedy Jenks; Kevin Bergschneider, HDR Engineering; Kevin Salter and Rachel Duran, Kansas Department of Agriculture; Krystal Brown, USGS; Mark Scott, Providence Infrastructure; Mike Holmberg, USBR; and Rick Kienitz, Aurora Water.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Long said the minutes of the January 21, 2021 Board meeting were posted to the Board website for review and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Mr. Felt advised his name was not on the Enterprise minutes. Mr. Broderick advised it would be corrected and re-posted. Mr. Karney moved, seconded by Mr. Colosimo, to approve the minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

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TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer Nichols reported the financial statements for January 2021, were posted to the Board website for review. Ms. Nichols moved, seconded by Mr. Clayton, for acceptance of the January 2021 financial statements and payment of the February 2021 bills. Motion unanimously carried.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

FEDERAL LEGISLATION UPDATE

Ms. Arbogast was unable to attend the Board meeting as she was attending a previously scheduled meeting with the Senate offices on 117th priorities. Ms. Arbogast written report is as follows:

We are still waiting for the Administration's budget request to be released, so do not yet know what the line item amount for the Arkansas Valley Conduit will be.

Since our last meeting, the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have announced that they will reinstate the opportunity for congressional directed spending. The directed spending will be subject to several limitations, including how much of each of the 12 appropriations bills can be earmarked; transparency about the request; and will be limited to benefitting state and local governments or certain entities that function like a government entity.

In addition, since our last meeting, Senator Hickenlooper has been appointed to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Congresswoman Boebert has been appointed to the House Natural Resource Committee, each of which have jurisdiction over Western water issues.

Secretary of the Interior nominee Congresswoman Deb Haaland will have her confirmation hearing in front of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on February 23. Her confirmation is expected to have some bumps, primarily from energy producing states whose Senators are concerned about the new Administration's proposed shift from fossil to renewable energy.

Congressman Neguse has joined with Congressman Curtis of Utah to establish the Bipartisan Wildfire Caucus, which will focus on wildfire and forest health legislation.

The House Natural Resources Committee announced that it will be putting forth a large public lands bill with the intent of moving it through the House by mid to late April. This bill will include Congresswoman DeGette's wilderness bill as well as the CORE Act, sponsored by Neguse in the House and by the two Senators.

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ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE AND GMS, INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Mr. Meador presented an action item recommending the Enterprise Board approve the contract for professional services between the Southeastern Water Activity Enterprise and GMS, Inc. Consulting Engineers.

Reclamation is in the final design phase for the first reach of the Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) between Pueblo and Boone. As the final design and upcoming construction of AVC continues, the Participants will need to review their water system needs and prepare for delivery of AVC water. To facilitate determining the Participant needs and how the AVC will connect to each of the Participants, the Enterprise desires to contract with GMS, Inc. Consulting to work with the Participants to:

- 1) determine water system needs (water quality and quantity) to accept delivery of AVC water and
- 2) to coordinate the design of the AVC connection with the Enterprise and the Participants.

For this Contract, GMS will focus on the first 15 Participants to receive AVC water between Pueblo and Rocky Ford. GMS will then continue analysis for Participants to the east of Rocky Ford. Water system needs and capital costs will be estimated for the Participants along with guidance for potential funding options. System improvement costs downstream of the AVC connection will still be each Participant's responsibility. The scope of services also includes gathering of Participant financial data to assist the Enterprise with CWCB funding planning for the spur and delivery lines.

GMS was selected for this project because of their past and current working experience with many of the AVC Participants, knowledge of water issues in the Lower Valley, and knowledge of funding mechanisms for small communities.

On February 4, the AVC Committee recommended approval of the Contract to the Enterprise Board.

Mr. May moved, seconded by Mr. Karney that the Southeastern Colorado Activity Enterprise Board approve a Contract for Professional Services Between the Southeastern Colorado Water Activity Enterprise and GMS, Inc. Consulting Engineers. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

The Board was provided written material on the following topics, which was posted to the Board website:

- AVC Update
- JWBHP Update
- Excess Capacity Master Contract Update

Mr. Long asked if there were any other business matters to come before the Enterprise Board, hearing none, Mr. Long adjourned the meeting at 10:42 am.

SECWAE
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Respectfully submitted,

Patty Rivas
Administrative Support Associate

Secretary
