

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
MINUTES  
of the  
Board of Water Commissioners**

Denver Water Administration Building  
1600 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Denver, CO  
Board Room, First Floor

Video Conference: <http://zoom.us/join>, Meeting ID: 825 8326 9628, Password: 109114  
or Dial-in: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 825 8326 9628

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022**

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**Open Session**

A duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held Wednesday, February 9, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom Video Conference: <http://zoom.us/join>, Meeting ID: 825 8326 9628, Password: 109114 or via Dial-in: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 825 8326 9628. Members of the Board present during the Regular Meeting were:

**Gary M. Reiff, President**  
**Craig Jones, First Vice President**  
**Stephanie Donner, Vice President**  
**Tyrone J. Gant, Vice President**  
**Dominique Gómez, Vice President**

Board employees and others present during portions of the meeting were:

J.S. Lochhead, CEO/Manager	C. Fransen, Procurement Specialist
J.A. Anderson, Chief of Staff	P. Freeman, Business Operations Manager
A.C. Bricmont, Chief Financial Officer	V. Gonzalez, Legal Intern
J. Brody, General Counsel	D. Herrera, IT Program Manager
B.D. Good, Chief Administrative Officer	A. Hill, Government Relations Liaison
D. Gorgemans, Internal Auditor	T. Jesik, Security Specialist
R. Mahoney, Chief Engineering Officer	J. Lorton, Director Accounting
R. Marsicek, Chief Water Resource Strategy Officer	J. Martin, Project Engineer

*Denver Water aspires to be the best water utility in the nation.*

Integrity :: Vision :: Passion :: Excellence :: Respect



T.J. Roode, Chief Operations and Maintenance Officer  
 E. Abbott, IT Program Manager  
 S. Abram, Director Finance Plan & Performance  
 S. Adamkovics, Finance Sr. Analyst  
 B. Akins, Finance Analyst  
 J. Allen, Planner Sr.  
 D. Arnold, Attorney  
 R. Badger, Planning Manager  
 D. Brinker, Engineering Manager  
 A. Cavallaro, Paralegal  
 S. Chesney, Director Public Affairs  
 E. Cinchock, Division Sr. Analyst  
 J. Daly, Procurement Specialist  
 N. Elder, Planning Manager  
 C. Fikan, Finance Associate Analyst  
 J. Finehout, Planner Lead  
 K. Forbes, Director Human Resources

D. Martinelli, Finance Associate Analyst  
 K. Oligney, Director IT Infrastructure  
 C. Palmore, Division Analyst  
 J. Park, IT Application Sr. Developer  
 C. Proctor, Communications Sr. Specialist  
 L. Quintana, Administrative Sr. Assistant  
 U. Sharma, Treasurer  
 L. Southard, Business Operations Support  
 K. Taft, Sustainability Manager  
 J. Taussig, Director EMSS  
 D. Bosshart, Black & Veatch  
 G. Dusenbury, Colorado Public Utilities Commission  
 F. Garcia, Stantec  
 J. Hrycyk  
 M. Nelson  
 D. Newnam  
 G. Zamensky, Black & Veatch

## INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

Commissioner Jones called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

### **Public Comment and Communications**

Commissioner Jones issued an invitation to members of the public to comment to the Board on any matters not included in the Agenda for the meeting.

Mr. Dusenbury referenced a bipartisan bill introduced in Colorado that would expand grass turf buyouts statewide as part of a strategy to make Colorado landscapes more water efficient. He inquired if Denver Water was considering such a program since it has been a leader in other water conservation efforts. He noted that this would be a great time to incentivize Denver Water customers, who are concerned about conservation and preserving water resources, to participate in lawn conservation efforts.

Mr. Lochhead thanked Mr. Dusenbury for his commitment to conservation and responded that currently, Denver Water works on total efficiency of the landscape space with customers, encouraging them to use efficient irrigation systems and landscaping

measures. He stated that this approach has been very effective and one that Denver Water will continue to review with the advent of turf buyout programs in the western states.

Mr. Marsicek thanked Mr. Dusenbury for his interest and comments, noting that staff is monitoring legislation on the topic and continually reviewing conservation opportunities.

### **Legislative Update**

Mr. Hill reported that the General Assembly has introduced over 300 bills to date. The legislative review team has completed its review of approximately 20 wildfire and water-related bills and is currently monitoring their progress. The team is also reviewing newly introduced bills that include prohibiting employer adverse actions arising from marijuana, and reducing single occupancy commutes. The legislative review team continues to engage with external stakeholder groups concerning a variety of proposed bills, including filter requirements in schools and PFAS regulation.

Mr. Hill was available to answer questions regarding the Legislative Update Briefing Paper. The Board had no questions.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

Upon motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously carried by the Commissioners then present, unless otherwise noted, the Board acted upon the following agenda items:

**1. ITEM II-A-1: MINUTES FROM JANUARY 12, 2022**

Approved the Minutes from the January 12, 2022 Board Meeting.

**2. ITEM II-A-2: MINUTES FROM JANUARY 26, 2022**

Approved the Minutes from the January 26, 2022 Board Meeting.

**3. ITEM II-A-3: ELEVENTH AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRACT FUNDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC. – CONTRACT 500484**

Approved the Eleventh Amendment to Contract 500484 with Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc. for ESRI Enterprise Agreement GIS software for an extension of the contract period through March 9, 2025, and for an additional \$810,000, for a total amended contract amount not to exceed \$2,782,840.

**4. ITEM II-A-4: NON-POTABLE WATER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY – CONTRACT 505106**

Approved Contract 505106 with Colorado State University for the annual lease of two acre-feet of non-potable water per year for augmentation purposes.

**5. ITEM II-B-1: GROSS RESERVOIR EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES**

Mr. Martin presented the Gross Reservoir Expansion Construction Support Services update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit A. He reported that the construction schedule for this project is unique compared to other programs with an intense construction schedule commencing in April 2022 through completion in 2027. The first two years will include work on the dam foundation and the following two years will see the raising of the dam. Construction will require double-shift work, and possibly triple-shift work on some parts of the project, necessitating day and night staffing. He noted that placing concrete is a continuous effort and the quality of the project requires such a schedule.

Mr. Martin explained the key agreement objectives for the construction support services contracts focus on ensuring the right level of effort, staff flexibility and retainage, reducing direct and indirect expenses, and maintaining fair profit margins. The Engineer of Record scope of services provided by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. include confirming geotechnical design assumptions, documenting actual geological conditions, ensuring construction conformity, and addressing and evaluating field changes, with a staff of six full-time engineers. The construction management services scope of work provided by Black & Veatch includes general program management, onsite construction management, field inspection, and record material testing. A lab for materials testing will be built onsite for concrete testing and quality control.

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Martin stated that Denver Water has been working through agreements with Boulder County to obtain the necessary permits for the project. There are also many discrete permits that the team needs to obtain for various construction activities. It has been a big push to meet the April 1, 2022 target to start construction in compliance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) order. He also stated that noise studies have been conducted and funds have been set aside with contractors to employ measures to reduce construction noise as low as practicable and in compliance with the current noise model.

Approved the Sixth Amendment to Contract 501750 with Black & Veatch Corporation for construction management services, for an extension of the contract period through December 21, 2027, and for an amendment value of \$62,898,000, including \$7,623,000 for owner-directed contingency, for a total amended contract amount not to exceed \$74,537,777.

Approved the Eleventh Amendment to Contract 503074 with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., for Engineer of Record services, for an extension of the contract period through December 31, 2027, and for an amendment value of \$20,040,110, including \$3,423,671 for owner-directed contingency, for a total amended contract amount not to exceed \$38,244,565.

## **6. ITEM II-B-2: RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO PERSONNEL POLICIES**

Ms. Forbes reported that Denver Water's Personnel Policies are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they meet the current legal requirements, align with best practices, and support the business needs of Denver Water. There are currently four substantive revisions before the Board for its approval, along with other minor edits.

Ms. Forbes was available to answer any questions regarding the Personnel Policy revisions. The Board had no questions.

Adopted and approved the revisions to the Personnel Policies, effective February 10, 2022, attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit B.

## **POLICY MATTERS**

### **7. ITEM III-A: WATER SUPPLY UPDATE**

Mr. Elder presented the Board with the Water Supply Update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit C. He reported that the current snowpack in the South Platte River Collection System is 90% of normal and the Colorado River Collection System is 95% of normal. Denver Water's reservoir storage is well-positioned at 82% full, which is average for this time of year. The soil moisture percentile ranking last year was in the bottom 5%, affecting the streamflow run-off, which was only 58% of normal. This year has improved, and the soil moisture is at a better level. While it's hard to predict the model over the long-term, overall, we're in good shape with March and April as key months for building snowpack.

**8. ITEM III-B: SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND PROGRAM UPDATE**

Ms. Taft presented the Board with the Sustainability Team (Re)introduction update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit D. She reported that Denver Water has a long history of sustainability, and she defined sustainability in Denver Water operations as any effort or improvement that allows for a better and longer existence. She stated that the sustainability team is working to support Denver Water's key organizational goals for implementation by 2025, which include reducing organization-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 50% from 2015 baseline; maintaining energy neutrality while decreasing energy use 10% from baseline; and reducing Denver Water facility water use by meeting LEED fixture standards.

Ms. Taft explained that the sustainability team supports organizational improvements by creating efficiencies, reducing waste, and saving money. These improvements are accomplished through facility energy and water efficiency upgrades, waste diversion, pilot projects, and educational events. Along with active improvements, the team also participates in monitoring and reporting sustainability metrics, assisting with hydroelectric generation program planning, and monitoring and improving facility lighting and control systems. The team continually strives to reduce carbon emissions, relieve dependency on finite resources, and ensure safety for employees and the community.

In response to questions from Commissioner Gómez, Ms. Taft explained that Denver Water is working on an electrification goal while also working with Fleet Services to incorporate hybrid and electric vehicles into the fleet to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**EXECUTIVE UPDATE****9. ITEM IV-C: OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Mr. Roode reported on a leak in Conduit 18 at the Administration Building that is being investigated. Relatedly, he also noted that a rapid improvement event is currently in progress regarding best practices for work performed in confined spaces. The leak is providing a real-time opportunity to observe how confined space work is performed and identify ways to enhance safety.

## BRIEFING PAPERS & REPORTS

### 10. ITEM V-A-1: BRIEFING PAPER FOR LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY

The Board received a Briefing Paper for Legislative Strategy, a copy of which is incorporated and attached to these Minutes as Exhibit E.

### 11. ITEM V-A-2: BRIEFING PAPER FOR SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

The Board received a Briefing Paper for Sustainability Update, a copy of which is incorporated and attached to these Minutes as Exhibit F.

## ADJOURNMENT

No further business appearing, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into an Executive Session at approximately 10:04 a.m.

DocuSigned by:  
*Jim Lochhead*  
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Secretary

DocuSigned by:  
*Gary M. Reiff*  
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President