

**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: 834 3150 7460, Password: 001149  
or Dial-in: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 834 3150 7460

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**

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**Open Session**

A duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held Wednesday, April 13, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference: <http://zoom.us/join>, Meeting ID: 834 3150 7460, Password: 001149 or via Dial-in: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 834 3150 7460. 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:

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| J.S. Lochhead, CEO/Manager                            | V. Gonzalez, Legal Intern              |
| J.A. Anderson, Chief of Staff                         | L. Harris, Engineer Sr.                |
| J. Brody, General Counsel                             | D. Herrera, IT Applications Manager    |
| B.D. Good, Chief Administrative Officer               | A. Hill, Government Relations Liaison  |
| D. Gorgemans, Internal Auditor                        | D. Lopez, IT Support Specialist        |
| J. Lorton, <i>Acting</i> Chief Financial Officer      | C. Mbakago, Division Sr. Analyst       |
| R. Mahoney, Chief Engineering Officer                 | S. McAndrews, Watershed Scientist      |
| R. Marsicek, Chief Water Resource<br>Strategy Officer | M. McDonald, Scientist Sr.             |
|   | K. Oligney, Director IT Infrastructure |

*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. Adamkovics, Finance Sr. Analyst  
J. Allen, Planner Sr.  
J. Bandy, Planning Manager  
K. Bates, Attorney  
J. Bogner, Finance Sr. Analyst  
C. Brady, Engineer Sr.  
C. Burri, Scientist Lead  
A. Cavallaro, Paralegal  
A. Cerchiaro, Strategic Sourcing Specialist  
S. Chesney, Director Public Affairs  
M. Day, IT Support Manager  
N. Elder, Planning Manager  
P. Freeman, Business Operations Manager

S. Overby, Business Operations Support  
J. Park, IT Application Sr. Developer  
N. Poncelet, Director Water Quality - Treatment  
C. Proctor, Communications Sr. Specialist  
L. Quintana, Administrative Sr. Assistant  
A. Rettig, Finance Supervisor  
U. Sharma, Treasurer  
L. Southard, Business Operations Support  
P. Williams, Executive Assistant  
A. Witheridge, Scientist Lead  
J. Wittler, Attorney  
L. Albanese, Financial Investment News  
C. Lane, Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District  
M. Nelson  
D. Newnam

## INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

Commissioner Reiff called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

### **Public Comment and Communications**

Commissioner Reiff issued an invitation to members of the public to comment to the Board on any matters not included in the Agenda for the meeting. There was no public comment.

### **Legislative Update**

Mr. Hill reported that the Legislative Update Briefing Paper has been prepared for the Board's review. He stated that the legislature has been fairly busy, noting that House Bill 22-1358 passed out of committee last night.

## 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 MARCH 9, 2022**

Approved the Minutes from the March 9, 2022 Board Meeting.

**2. ITEM II-A-2: MINUTES FROM MARCH 23, 2022**

Approved the Minutes from the March 23, 2022 Board Meeting.

**3. ITEM II-A-3: THIRD AMENDMENT WITH CONSTRUCTNET INTERNATIONAL – CONTRACT 504524**

Approved the Third Amendment to Contract 504524 with ConstructNet International for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) consulting and training services for an extension of the contract period through December 31, 2023, and an additional \$148,320, for a total amended contract amount not to exceed \$373,320.

**4. ITEM II-B-1 STRATEGIC PLAN ADOPTION**

Mr. Lochhead presented the Board with the 2022 Strategic Plan, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit A. He explained that over the past 10 years, Denver Water has used the strategic planning process to set long-range priorities that advance the organization's vision and goals. The last update was in 2017, and during that time, significant progress has been made. Of particular note, the Operations Complex Redevelopment has been completed; construction at the Northwater Treatment Plant and the Hydro building at National Western are underway; and construction on the Gross Reservoir Expansion Project has commenced.

He explained that given the current changing social, political, and economic environment, the Board of Water Commissioners, the executive team, and a diverse group of employees from across the organization have provided a refreshed outlook for Denver Water's vision, mission, guiding principles, and goals and objectives. These revisions reflect Denver Water's enhanced values, expanded focus on sustainability, and commitment to the community.

Mr. Lochhead discussed the new vision statement, “To sustain vibrant communities that value water for future generations,” which is supported by Denver Water’s new mission statement, “To service our customers by being a national leader in delivering clean water, operating and maintaining a reliable and resilient system and protecting the water resources of the West.” The guiding principles will be used to evaluate decisions and move toward the organization’s vision: remaining customer-centric; being industry leaders; taking the long-term view; and embracing inclusivity. The Strategic Plan also contains four goal-oriented, strategic perspectives centered around customer service and sustaining our communities: excellent operations; inspired people; trusted leader; and strong financials.

Mr. Lochhead emphasized that it is Denver Water’s role to continue to steward water resources in Denver and the mountain communities, bringing health and well-being to those communities and maintaining water supplies as a legacy for the future. He stated that Denver Water’s refreshed Strategic Plan will be implemented over the next few years and will be used to inform the 2023 Annual Business Plan and two-year look ahead, which will be brought before the Board in July.

Adopted Denver Water’s 2022 Strategic Plan to be executed over the course of the next five to seven years.

#### **5. ITEM II-B-2 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS WITH WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION – CONTRACTS 505245 AND 505246**

Mr. Elder presented the Board with the Western Area Power Administration Contracts, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit B. He explained that under the terms of the Blue River Decree, Denver Water may divert water at Dillion, upstream of Green Mountain Reservoir which is owned by the U.S. Government, provided Denver Water replaces the government’s lost power by either providing replacement power or reimbursing the lost power revenue.

He stated that the Power Interference Agreement allows Denver Water to purchase electrical power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) at a low, fixed cost. The Interchange Arrangements Agreement allows Denver Water to provide power to WAPA to offset the lost power caused by Dillion’s diversions. These agreements help secure 30% of Denver Water’s water supply in the Blue River Basin.

Approved Contracts 505245 and 505246 with Western Area Power Administration for the purchase and banking of power needed for power interference owned by Denver Water under the Blue River Decree, for the contract period from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2054.

Authorized the CEO/Manager to approve and pay Denver Water's annual obligations incurred pursuant to Contracts 505245 and 505246.

## **POLICY MATTERS**

### **6. 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 for this point in the year, the current snowpack in the South Platte River Collection System is 74% of normal and the Colorado River Collection System is 88% of normal. We are approaching the typical peak snowpack for the year. Additional precipitation is forecast in the mountains this week and a slight increase in these numbers is expected.

He indicated there are a few storms on the horizon in April, but the impact on snowpack remains uncertain. In comparison to last year, there has been good soil moisture and better streamflow runoff is expected. The short-term future weather for the next two weeks shows stronger chances of above-normal temperatures within the collection system and service area, and slightly better chances for above-normal precipitation. The next water supply update will be provided in May.

### **7. ITEM III-B: WATERSHED BRIEFING**

Ms. Burri and Ms. Witheridge presented the Board with the Watershed Planning Program and From Forests to Faucets Partnership Updates, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit D.

Ms. Witheridge provided an overview of the watershed planning program and an update on the holistic watershed planning project, highlighting 2021 program accomplishments and 2022 program goals. She explained that the long-term strategy for watershed health involves investing in drinking water treatability, infrastructure protection, and community & environmental stewardship. The holistic watershed planning framework for the North and South Collection Systems includes assessing, prioritizing, and planning for collection system risks.

In 2021, the South System action plan projects included the Strontia Springs Watershed Sediment Management Plan, the North Fork Abandoned Mine Lands White Paper, and the South Collection System Water Quality Assessment Reporting, in addition to work accomplished on the Williams Fork Post-Fire Recovery. Projects for 2022 include completing the watershed planning framework and Strontia Watershed Sediment projects.

Ms. Burri discussed the From Forests to Faucets Partnership (Partnership), reporting that since 2010, the Partnership has been a successful collaborative among Denver Water, the U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Colorado State Forest Service, and Colorado Forest Restoration Institute. Since its inception, \$66 million has been invested, \$33 million of which has been committed by Denver Water. The goal of the Partnership is to improve the resiliency of the forests and reduce wildfire risk in watersheds that are critical for Denver Water's water supply. She highlighted a few success stories attributable to the Partnership, touching on the importance of continued collaborative efforts into the future and lessons learned during the Partnership's history.

Ms. Burri expressed her gratitude to the Board and executive team for supporting the From Forests to Faucets Partnership.

Mr. Lochhead emphasized that the From Forests to Faucets Partnership is a national model for watershed investment and has been a tremendous success.

## **8. ITEM III-C: NATIONAL WESTERN CENTER UPDATE**

Ms. Poncelet presented the Board with the National Western Update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit E. She provided a brief update on the site's construction progress, budget, and SPUR program, reporting that construction is rapidly coming to a close with many of the buildings erected since the last site update. The Vida building had its grand opening in early January 2022. The Hydro building's exterior is starting to take shape with substantial completion anticipated at the end of October 2022, and grand opening in January 2023.

Ms. Poncelet reported that the project cost to Denver Water is estimated at \$24 million and that overall, the project is well within budget with approximately \$19.2 million in committed funds and \$5 million in uncommitted funds. In addition, the SPUR Program is starting to pick up, and Denver Water's education team is on site, engaging schools and offering educational programs for all ages.

## EXECUTIVE UPDATE

### 9. ITEM IV-A: CEO UPDATE

Mr. Lochhead provided a brief report on the Colorado River, stating that current projections show current flows to Lake Powell to be about 64% of average. Given this outlook, he noted that there are concerns about the structural integrity of the Glen Canyon Dam, the loss of power generation, and the potential for damage to the area water supply. The total water demands in the Lower Basin states remain high, despite approaching a potential crises situation.

### 10. ITEM IV-C: OPERATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Mahoney reported that construction of the Gross Reservoir Expansion Project has commenced, and he highlighted photos of construction activities currently in progress.

## BRIEFING PAPERS & REPORTS

### 11. 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 F.

## ADJOURNMENT

No further business appearing, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into a Trustee Meeting at approximately 9:58 a.m.

### Trustee/Plan Sponsor Meeting

The Board of Water Commissioners, serving in their capacity as Trustees of the Employees' Retirement Plan Trust Fund and Plan Sponsor of the Employees' Retirement Plan, and as Sponsor of the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan of the Board of Water Commissioners of the City and County of Denver, met on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, commencing at 9:59 a.m., in the Board Room, Room 106, 1600 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Denver, Colorado and via Zoom Video Conference. The Minutes of the Trustee/Plan Sponsor Meeting are maintained separately.

The Trustee/Plan Sponsor Meeting concluded at 10:15 a.m., at which time the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners.

DocuSigned by:  
*Jim Lochhead*  
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Secretary

DocuSigned by:  
*Gary M. Reiff*  
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President