

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING**

**Attendance**

All Board Members and attendees present participated via the District's Zoom account in accordance with the CDC and CDPHE recommendations regarding COVID – 19.

The following Directors were present: Al Pfister, Susan Nossaman, John Porco, Candice Kelly, Bill Hudson, Doug Secrist, Merlin Wheeler, and Joe Tedder.

Also present were: Steve Harris, Erin Wilson, Brenna Mefford, J.R. Ford, Justin Ramsey, Jeff Kane, Renee Lewis, Aaron Burns, Joe Crabb, and Chris Mannara.

**Call to Order**

The Special Meeting for the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) was called to order by Chairman Al Pfister at 4:09 p.m.

**Revisions to Agenda**

The Board considered Revisions to the Agenda. None were offered.

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

The Board considered Declarations of Conflicts of Interest. No conflicts were declared.

**Public Comment**

Chairman Pfister opened the meeting to public comment. No comments were offered.

**Consideration of Water Rights Presentation – Steve Harris, Harris Water Engineering, Inc.**

The Board considered Water Rights Presentation – Steve Harris, Harris Water Engineering, Inc. Steve Harris, Harris Water Engineering, Inc., presented Consideration of Water Rights Presentation – Steve Harris, Harris Water Engineering, Inc., stating a historical overview of the West Fork Reservoir and Canal water rights. Mr. Harris also answered many questions from the Board regarding the pros and cons of moving and abandoning various water rights.

**Consideration of Proposal – Consulting Services to Study Alternative Uses for West Fork Reservoir and Canal Water Rights – Wilson Water Group**

The Board considered Proposal – Consulting Services to Study Alternative Uses for West Fork Reservoir and Canal Water Rights – Wilson Water Group (copy attached). Erin Wilson, Wilson Water Group, presented Consideration of Proposal – Consulting Services to Study Alternative Uses for West Fork Reservoir and Canal Water Rights – Wilson Water Group, stating an overview of the proposal submitted in response to the District’s RFP in August. Following a lengthy discussion in which Ms. Wilson and her associate, Brenna Mefford, answered questions from the Board regarding the District’s water rights, the proposal, and the viability of a phased approach to the project, the Board agreed a phased approach would be best at this time. A motion was made by Chairman Pfister and seconded by Director Hudson to proceed with Tasks #1 – 3 of the Wilson Water Group proposal including relevant aspects of Task #4 so as to provide the Board with enough information to decide how to best proceed with managing the West Fork Reservoir and Canal water rights. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Consideration of Treasurer’s Report**

The Board considered Treasurer’s Report (copy attached). Director Kelly presented Consideration of Treasurer’s Report, stating the highlights of the deposits, expenses, and ending balances. Director Secrist raised a concern regarding a possible discrepancy in one of the expenditures. Director Kelly confirmed it was in fact a typo that she corrected prior to the meeting, but had not reissued the Treasurer’s Report. A motion was made by Chairman Pfister and seconded by Director Hudson to accept the Treasurer’s Report as revised by Director Kelly. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Consideration of 2021 Draft Budget**

The Board considered the 2021 Draft Budget (copy attached). Director Kelly presented Consideration of 2021 Draft Budget, stating the Preliminary Assessed Values that are typically provided by Archuleta County in August of each year will not be available until the end of September or later due to COVID – 19. She further stated the estimates provided in the draft were based on the 2020 Budget per Board direction during the August 17, 2020 meeting. The Board discussed possibly using Impact Fees collected on the District’s behalf by the Town of Pagosa Springs to assist in paying for Wilson Water Group to study the alternative uses of the West Fork Reservoir and Canal water rights. Jeff Kane, the District’s attorney, stated this was permissible as it would be an expense towards the possible development of new infrastructure. Renee Lewis requested authorization from the Board to have Mr. Kane draft a memo to this effect. The Board agreed and directed Mr. Kane to draft said memo. Director Secrist stated he would like the Board to consider increasing the annual contribution to the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (SJHFHP). The Board requested Director Secrist contact SJHFHP regarding a presentation on its current efforts at the October 5, 2020 meeting. Director Secrist agreed. Director Kelly stated she would make the revisions discussed and present the 2021 Draft Budget again at the October 5, 2020 meeting for the Board’s consideration.

### **Consideration of Draft Strategic Plan Comments**

The Board considered Draft Strategic Plan Comments (copy attached). Chairman Pfister presented Consideration of Draft Strategic Plan Comments, stating the comments were provided in the meeting materials and opened the item for Board discussion. Following discussion by the Board regarding said comments and the review process, a motion was made Director Hudson and seconded by Chairman Pfister to table Consideration of Draft Strategic Plan Comments until the October 5, 2020 meeting due to the potential length of the discussion in light of the lateness of the hour. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consideration of SW Basin Implementation Plan Update – Identified Projects and Processes List**

The Board considered SW Basin Implementation Plan Update – Identified Projects and Processes List (copy attached). Chairman Pfister presented SW Basin Implementation Plan Update – Identified Projects and Processes List, stating an overview of the materials provided for the meeting and proposing this item be tabled due to the potential length of the discussion in light of the lateness of the hour. A motion was made by Director Hudson and seconded by Director Secrist to table the SW Basin Implementation Plan Update – Identified Projects and Processes List agenda item until the October 5, 2020 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Lewis  
Recording Secretary  
For the Board of Directors