

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**  
**October 17, 2022 REGULAR MEETING**

**Attendance**

A Regular Meeting of San Juan Water Conservancy District was held on Monday October 17, 2022, at 2 pm in person at 46 Eaton Drive Suite 5 and on Zoom.

The following Directors were present in person: Candace Jones, Joe Tedder, Doug Secrist, Bill Nobles, Susan Nossaman. Also present was Sally High, SJWCD Executive Assistant.

Attending by Zoom were the Pagosa Springs Sun, Director Al Pfister, Water Commissioner Joe Crabb, and Attorney Jeff Kane.

**Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) was called to order by Chairman Al Pfister at 2:06 p.m.

**Revisions to Agenda**

The Board considered Revisions to Agenda. The Attorney will precede Approval of Records.

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

The Board considered Declarations of Conflict of Interest. No Conflicts of Interest were identified.

**Public Comment**

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

**Discussion of Attorney's Comments re: Treasure Pass Ditch Proposed Decrees**

Attorney Kane described concerns about the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) failure to consider National Environmental Policy Act's (NEPA) requirements and assessment of environmental impacts on the west side of the Continental Divide. Other objectors were mentioned, but it is not known whether those objectors were aware of or had included concerns about the BLM's lack of a complete NEPA process when opposing the requested decrees.

Directors expressed concerns about the Endangered Species Act, NEPA, Colorado Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Forest Service issues. Attorney Kane clarified the differences between BLM's

applications for water use and water right changes in Colorado Division 7 versus Division 3. The attorney stated that issues had been raised by other objectors, but other objectors had not been consulted about specific issues. Directors discussed the affordability of SJWCD's taking the lead in using these newly discovered issues to oppose BLM's applications. Directors agreed that other objectors should be consulted.

Director Jones moved to direct the Attorney to reach out to other opposers and assess their position on these issues. Director Nobles seconded. Attorney Kane anticipates that this process will take only a few weeks. Unanimous approval.

### **Consideration of Approval of August Regular Meeting Record of Proceedings and September Special Meeting Record of Proceedings**

Minor amendments to both records were described. Director Pfister moved to approve the August Regular Meeting Record of Proceedings. Director Tedder seconded. Unanimous approval.

Director Jones moved to approve the September Special Meeting Record of Proceedings. Director Pfister seconded. Unanimous approval.

### **Consideration of 2023 Draft Budget**

Director Tedder, Treasurer, began the discussion of 2023 Budget. Directors considered a number of line items in detail: legal expenses; engineering studies; reservoir sizing and cost estimates; matching funds; support services; potential increases in requests from Strategic Partners; travel expenses and training. Directors agree that a full board of nine directors may result in more money needed for training.

Annual revenues and the Colorado Trust Fund balance were described. Directors agreed that transparency in budget adjustments was desirable and would continue.

### **Consideration of Treasurer's Report**

Directors considered the September Year-to-Date Budget and the Forecast versus Actual expenditures. The District was under budget in total expenditures. Legal expenses were the most concerning deficit. Money will be moved from Contingency to Legal and other line items when needed and always in the transparency of a public meeting.

### **Consideration of Discontinuing Facebook Page**

Director Jones moved to disable Facebook page. Director Nobles seconded. Unanimous approval.

### **Consideration of Posting Background Narrative of 2022 Strategic Plan**

The Strategic Objectives and Current Projects were removed from the Background Narrative. Director Nobles moved to post the Background Narrative of the 2022 Strategic Plan on the SJWCD website. Director Nossaman seconded. Further consideration of revisions was deferred to 2023. Unanimous approval.

**Discussion of Draft Revisions to Strategic Objectives of 2022 Strategic Plan**

Directors discussed reconciling the two spread sheets that outline changes to the Strategic Objectives, one submitted by Director Jones and one submitted by Director Suh. Concern was expressed about increasing the number of subcategories, any expansion of the Strategic Objectives document, and prioritizing the actions that can be achieved next year. Director Pfister agreed to contact Director Suh and ask that changes be highlighted to help directors with clarifications. Discussion will continue and resolution of questions will be pursued at next Monday's Special Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.

A Special Meeting of the San Juan Water Conservancy District is scheduled for Monday, October 24, at 2 pm.

SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
By /s/ Sally High  
Executive Assistant for Board of Directors

DISTRICT SEAL