

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
September 19, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING

Attendance

A Special Meeting of San Juan Water Conservancy District was held, Monday September 19, 2022, at 1 pm in person at 46 Eaton Drive Suite 5 and on Zoom.

The following Directors were present in person: Al Pfister, Susan Nossaman, Rachel Suh, Candace Jones, and Joe Tedder. Also present was Sally High, SJWCD Executive Assistant.

Present in person was: Bill Hudson (Pagosa Daily Post).

Attending by Zoom were Terri House and Randi Pierce (Pagosa Springs Sun), Director Doug Secrist, and David Frederick.

Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) was called to order by Chairman Al Pfister at 1:00 p.m.

Revisions to Agenda

The Board considered Revisions to Agenda. The order of agenda items 7 and 8 was reversed.

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.

Update on PAWSD/Running Iron Ranch and PRS Proposals

Chairman Pfister communicated with PAWSD Director Ramsey regarding the SJWCD relationship with Running Iron Ranch and the Weber family. Director Pfister met on site with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to begin an analysis for development of a grazing plan for the property. Director Nobles was also present for part of that conversation.

Director Pfister learned from PAWSD Director Ramsey that the Webers planned to continue their gravel and grazing operations for the next year. This amended agreement was approved

by the PAWSD Board in contradiction to the previous agreement approved by both PAWSD and SJWCD. The previous contract stated that the Weber lease would end January 2023. The Webers new proposed agreement would involve an approximately \$48 thousand rent, continued grazing, weed control, and provision of gravel for the PAWSD treatment plant. The gravel will be mined from a twenty-acre parcel on the west side of Highway 160. SJWCD is responsible for the long-term management of the property and concerns were raised about PAWSD disregarding this SJWCD responsibility. SJWCD Directors also raised questions about the necessity of a county permit to move the gravel operation, the ownership of the gravel, PAWSD competitive bidding process, impact on the State Park nomination, the new gravel pit's proximity to the river, new timeframe for reclamation, and SJWCD's relationship with PAWSD. SJWCD Attorney Kane continues to confer with PAWSD's Attorney. Chairman Pfister will confer with PAWSD Board President Smith to clarify these developments.

Attorney Kane will file SJWCD's Due Diligence application for the Dry Gulch water rights. SJWCD owns the water rights and has filed independently of PAWSD in years past. Kane advised that SJWCD continue to file solo. Directors agreed. Dry Gulch Due Diligence is due October 31, 2022.

Project Resource Studio (PRS) offered two documents for consideration. Both documents were included in the Board Packet.

Consideration of Revisions to 2022 Strategic Plan

Director Jones and the SJWCD Executive Assistant met to discuss revisions of the actionable Strategic Objectives. The Strategic Objectives were broken out from the background narrative that will likely remain static. Director Jones developed a spread sheet that adds more structure to the planning process, including short, medium, and long-term objectives. The newly developed spread sheet and existing narrative are parallel, containing identical information. The ensuing wide-ranging discussion lasted approximately 3.5 hours.

The previous version of the Strategic Plan, now being revised, covered four broad objectives: Community Focus, Financial, Internal Process, and Organizational Development.

Community Focus - Objective One –necessary changes perceived by board members included:

- Meeting community needs with Headwaters Project (reservoir)
- Collecting and analyzing data to define community needs, beginning with analysis of WWG supply and demand study (Technical Memo)
- Data needed on Forest Health as variable in water conservation, storage, future needs
- All four water needs must be addressed by SJWCD (environmental, recreational, agricultural, municipal)
- Need for further data gathered by water consultants
- Population growth predictions district-wide
- Water needs of citizens not served by PAWSD
- Size of reservoir, maximize for future
- Cost estimates for reservoir

- Reconcile with PAWSD the need for a reservoir based on data
- Establishing subcommittees to move board toward consensus
- Resiliency factors including fire

Community Focus - Objectives Two and Three – suggested changes included:

- Educational subcommittee identifies strategic water partners
- Balanced Scorecard, news articles to press
- Director Suh recommended eight subcategories to move district forward (Also see Internal Processes, below.)
 1. Public Relations and Opinion
 2. Public Education
 3. Funding Diversity
 4. Technology
 5. Personnel
 6. Research and Logistics
 7. Strategic Partnerships
 8. Legal
 9. Headwaters Project
- Website
- Place Facebook onto Regular October Meeting agenda

A joint meeting with PAWSD will be scheduled through conversation between Director Pfister and Justin Ramsey and/or Jim Smith. A prioritized outcome is that agreements and areas of contention be identified. Eventual clarifications to the Three-Party Agreement may be needed.

Financial - Objective Four, Directors were encouraged to refer to CWCB funding opportunities at <https://cwc.colorado.gov/funding> and <https://cwc.colorado.gov/colorado-water-plan>. Directors voiced the following concerns to be included in the revision.

- Determine need for grant writer
- Identify other grant opportunities and develop funding calendar

Internal Process - Directors listed the following concerns to be included in the revision.

- Identify list of strategic water partner organizations, “build matrix...”
- Create project tracking system
- Conceptualize shorter-term projects that move SJWCD toward long-term goals
- Research tech tools that facilitate (internal and external) communication among directors and with strategic partners. An example is Constituent Relationship Management Software.
- Populating suggested subcommittees and increasing commitment among Directors
- Leaving each meeting with commitment to action items

Director Jones will send the Executive Assistant and Director Suh her notes and amended spreadsheet. It was agreed that Director Suh would reconcile her notes with Director Jones’ notes and include suggestions made by other Directors. Director Suh will send her reconciliation to Sally for distribution to the full Board and inclusion in the Board Packet ahead

of the Regular Meeting in October. The Board of Directors will consider finalizing the 2022 Strategic Objectives at the next Regular Meeting 10/17/22.

Discussion of 2023 Budget

Director Tedder distributed a draft 2023 Budget to Directors. After brief discussion, no revisions or adjustments were suggested. The draft 2023 budget will be posted in the Sun before October 15 and then discussed at the next meeting in October.

Discussion of Comments on Wilson Water Group Technical Memo

One comment from the public was received, sent in email to Directors, as opposed to the avenue provided on the SJWCD website. Directors briefly discussed whether or not to engage WWG to revise their technical report or respond to the one comment received. No further action by WWG is needed at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm.

The next Regular Meeting of the San Juan Water Conservancy District is scheduled for Monday, October 17, at 2 pm.

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

DISTRICT SEAL