

MINUTES
NFRWQPA
December 10, 2009

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Eric Doering at the St. Vrain Sanitation District Office. Roll was called and the following members were in attendance.

Fred – Walker – Boxelder S.D.	David Allen - Broomfield
Jon Mays – Erie	Earl Smith - Evans
Carol Webb – Fort Collins	Dennis Schump - Greeley
Coleen Young – Greeley	Steve Adams - Loveland
Larry Wyeno – Longmont	John Holdren - Severance
David Brand – Platteville	Rob Flack – St. Vrain S.D.
Eric Doering – St. Vrain S.D.	Doug Rademacher – Weld County
John Jordan – Timnath	
Mark Thomas – Weld County	

Also present Connie O’Neill, Manager for the Association, Mark Cronquist Coordinator for the Lower South Platte Watershed Plan, and Amy Woodis with Metro Wastewater.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Minutes

Minutes of the October 24, 2009 meeting were considered. Mr. Rademacher made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Wyeno seconded the motion and it was approved.

4. Financial Report

Ms. O’Neill reviewed the financial report for October and indicated the typical monthly expenses plus some expenses from the WEFTEC conference. Mr. Rademacher made a motion to approve the financial report. Mr. Mays seconded the motion and it was approved.

5. Larimer County 1041 Regulation

Ms. O’Neill stated that there was a hearing held on the Larimer County 1041 Regulation on November 2, 2009 and the item was then tabled until December 21, 2009 to allow staff to work with the providers to come up with possible changes. Several of the providers have met with Larimer County staff several times and we have made some progress. Larimer County staff has revised their recommendations. They revised the language on transmission lines on section J. They also added language for things that might justify an appeal.

Mr. Walker explained that there has been a lot of movement in the language of the regulation with honest dialog. He indicated that he preferred the easement language to what was previously proposed. The providers tried to focus the discussion on the stated goals which were land and environmental impacts. Mr. Adams explained that the application process has been developed for the 1041. It was used for CSU so we saw the appeal process and how they applied the criteria. He stated that he had a consultant look at this and he feels it is similar to NEPA and could take between eight and twelve months. The county believes it should only take 90 days. A meeting is scheduled to discuss this application process and schedule. He pointed out that Greeley has been a valuable resource. Ms. O’Neill stated that progress has been made and we are hopeful that additional progress will be made on the application concerns. The outcome will be discussed at the January meeting.

6. **Nomination Committee for 2010 Officers**

Mr. Doering explained that two board members will be stepping down next year, Mr. Andre and Mr. Adams. Ms. O'Neill explained that as per the Articles of Association, there shall be a nominating committee appointed for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, and the four representatives of the general membership. These are the people that make up the Executive Committee. The nominating committee will then make its report to the Association in January; nominations can also be accepted from the floor. We will then hold the election and the newly-elected officers will take office. Mr. Brand volunteered to serve on the nominations committee as well as Mr. Wyeno.

7. **Presentation: Lower South Platte Watershed Plan**

Ms. O'Neill explained that the department of Ag has been coordinating an effort to develop a watershed plan for the lower South Platte watershed. Ms. O'Neill explained that she has been participating in a core group of participants that has been meeting regularly over the last several months to work on the development of the plan. Ms. O'Neill has asked Mark Cronquist the Coordinator the Lower South Platte Watershed Plan to give a presentation and a little more background.

Mr. Cronquist gave background information on the plan including the project area, and reviewed information collected from the public input meetings. He explained that some of the issue items that stand out from the public input so far are storage issues, land stewardship and knowledge from new property owners, monitor needs, and conservation. He explained that the Department has filed for an extension to the grant which would allow for the inclusion of a citizen driven monitoring aspect. Mr. Cronquist would like to make sure monitoring happens where water comes in from other watersheds.

Mr. Cronquist then asked for comments or concerns from the group. Ms. O'Neill stated that she would like to see a process established to validate issues raised at the public input meetings. She also stated that some of the issues downstream in the eastern counties may be different than the issues closer to the Front Range therefore writing a plan that will be valid for all areas will be a challenge. She also added that nutrients standards are a big issue statewide and many entities are watching the development of these very closely to ensure the standards that are set are appropriate. Ms. Woodis explained that nutrients will be a huge issue. The draft criteria for lakes and reservoirs should be out soon. She added that we should expect multiple 303(d) listings as a result and indicated that Metro is trying to work through strategies if this happens. Ms. O'Neill then stated that a lot of the comments coming out of the public input meetings are issues concerning water quantity. She stated that the plan consider the work of the statewide roundtable regarding quantity issues. Ms. Webb brought up the impacts to watershed that discharge into the South Platte.

Mr. Cronquist then discussed some of these issues. Mr. Mays questioned funding for the monitoring program and Mr. Cronquist stated that additional funding will be needed. Ms. Webb suggested getting more discharges involved with the monitoring and utilizing the state policy to get in stream monitoring while reducing discharge monitoring. Mr. Allen warned that there may be a lot of finger pointing as issues for one stakeholder may not be the same as those of another. He also raised the issue of water quality impacts from conservation measures.

8. **Other Business**

a. Manager Contract

Mr. Doering announced that the Executive Committee has approved a new contract and benefits package for the Manager at their meeting earlier in the day.

b. Water Quality Control Commission

Ms. O'Neill stated that the hearing to consider nutrient standards has been postponed until June 2011. For the 2010 hearing they will consider other revisions to the Reg 31 as determined at the Issues Formulation Hearing held in December.

c. Water Quality Forum and Workgroups

Ms. O'Neill stated that the last meeting of the Forum was November 16, 2009. At the meeting the discussion was pesticides permitting issue that Water Quality is facing. This is a huge amount of work for permits which are required by April 2011. The state is meeting with EPA to work out issues and try to figure out how this will happen. She also discussed the Basic Standards Workgroup meeting in November which focused on how to use the next year to work through the nutrient standards issues. The Regulation #22 Guidance Workgroup also met earlier in December. The Division is now working on a draft of the revised Guidance which should be out in March.

d. Utility Review Committee Volunteer

Ms. O'Neill explained that we will be confirming the 2010 Utility Review Committee in January. She would like any volunteers to contact her or Mr. Fleck.

9. Adjourn