

MINUTES
NFRWQPA
October 27, 2011

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Eric Doering at the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District office. Roll was called and the following members were in attendance:

Ed Burke – Brighton

Michael McCrary - Loveland

Jon Mays – Erie

Amy Woodis – Metro Wastewater Rec. Dist.

James Duell – Estes Park S.D.

Judy Billica -NCWCD

Earl Smith – Evans

Ray Reling - Northglenn

Carol Webb – Ft. Collins

John Holdren - Severance

Dennis Schump – Greeley

Eric Doering – St. Vrain S.D.

Larry Wyeno - Longmont

Rob Fleck – St. Vrain S.D.

Also present was Connie O’Neill, Manager for NFRWQPA; and Warren Mesloh with TEC.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holdren made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. McCrary seconded the motion and it was approved.

3. Minutes

Minutes from the September 22, 2011 meeting were considered. Mr. Holdren made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McCrary seconded the motion and they were approved.

4. Financial Report

The financial report for September was presented for review and consideration. Mr. Mays made a motion to approve the September financial report. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and it was approved.

5. South Fort Collins Sanitation District Utility Plan Update

Ms. O’Neill explained that the South Fort Collins Sanitation District has submitted a Utility Plan Update for review and consideration. The Utility Plan Review Committee evaluated the plan and met with representatives from the District. Mr. Mesloh gave a brief overview on the plan. He stated that the plan was last updated in 2001. He also explained that the plan adjusted previous growth rates and included additional improvements to the plant. The ultimate build out of the plant at 9 mgd remained the same. Mr. Mesloh stated that they are recommending a replacement of the existing headworks and an expansion of the sludge/dewatering system. He also stated that it will cost around \$8 million for the whole project. Mr. Fleck reviewed the comments of the Utility Plan Committee. Mr. Mays made a motion to approve the South Fort Collins Sanitation District Utility Plan Update. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and it was approved.

6. South Fort Collins Sanitation District Site Application Amendment

Ms. O’Neill explained that the South Fort Collins Sanitation District has submitted a Site Application Amendment for changes to the existing treatment facility. Ms. O’Neill stated that the Amendment includes the replacement of the existing headworks and pumping station as well as the installation of a second biosolids dewatering centrifuge. She explained that she reviewed the application for consistency with the Utility Plan and 208 Plan and that she has no concerns. Ms. O’Neill stated that as per the Site Application Policy she recommends approval of the application. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the South Fort Collins Sanitation District Site Application Amendment. Mr. Mays seconded the motion and it was approved.

7. Nutrient Standards

Ms. O’Neill provided an update on new drafts of Regulations #31 and 85. She also provided an update on the work of the Colorado Nutrient Coalition (CNC). She explained that she has consistently voiced to CNC that NFRWQPA does not support a delay in the hearing and that we think opposing total nitrogen values is not a winnable battle. She also stated that Ft. Collins and Metro have dropped out of the CNC and that Colorado Springs sent a follow up letter to the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) and Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) saying they do not believe a delay is necessary. She also reviewed the hearing schedule.

Ms. O'Neill asked the membership about sending a follow up letter similar to Colorado Springs and the members did not feel it was necessary. There will be a discussion in December about NFRWQPA's position on the noticed proposals.

Mr. Doering stated that he would like to know why some members have dropped out. Ms. Webb stated that the conversations became unproductive and the City didn't agree with some of the decision. She also added that Ft. Collins didn't want to be associated with a negative approach. Ms. Billica stated that NCWCD had also dropped out due to similar concerns. Ms. Woodis stated that she agreed and that the CNC letter was the tipping point for Metro as they will be supporting the WQCD's proposal. She added that Barbara Biggs met with Ephram King (EPA) at WEFTEC regarding the Colorado approach. She stated that they have had productive conversations but he still questions the Colorado proposal. Ms. Woodis has sent a letter to him to fully explain the approach. She stated that there seems to also be progress on the direct use water supply reservoirs and storm water issues but she is not sure the CNC voice is really seen as credible anymore. Mr. Doering asked if the Association should send the \$5,000 previously agreed on for the CNC. Ms. Webb asked if the Association has committed. Ms. O'Neill stated that she did notify CNC that the Association had approved the contribution. Ms. Woodis suggested that once the notice version comes out, members should review the proposals and determine what issues we can agree on and comment on those. Mr. Doering stated that given the schedule we would have time at the December meeting to make these decisions. Ms. O'Neill asked Ms. Woodis if she knew the schedule for the presentation of the cost/benefit study to the interim commit. Ms. Woodis stated that she was not sure but that it may be at the start of the session.

8. Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund

Ms. O'Neill stated that at the Associations' last meeting it was determined that NFRWQPA would submit comments to the state on the proposed changes. Ms. O'Neill reviewed the comments and the states responses. Ms. Woodis stated that the WQCD did hear some of the concerns and adjusted the points awarded. Mr. Doering suggested that Ms. O'Neill continue to monitor & provide updates on this issue.

9. Other Business:

a. Water Quality Control Commission:

Ms. O'Neill stated that the main item on the Commission's October agenda was a tour of the Chatfield Watershed.

b. Water Quality Forum & Workgroups:

Regulation #62 Workgroup:

Ms. O'Neill stated that the first meeting of this group was last week. The WQCD only has two minor proposed changes to the regulation. The first is to clarify that the TSS % removal doesn't apply to the industrial permits. The second would be a language change to allow numbers in the regulation to apply even if ELGs have been promulgated. Ms. O'Neill stated that the WQCD will circulate a red line version of the regulation in November with a hearing scheduled for June. She asked if there were other issues from the membership and none were identified.

Regulation #84 Workgroup:

Ms. O'Neill stated that the last meeting was on October 13th. She explained that she has been participating for several months and has not seen much progress, although there seems to be good participation and discussions at the meetings. She explained that there has been a lot of discussion about uses. There has also be discussion about what information should be in regulation versus guidance and how to structure the regulation to allow the WQCD to approve new uses in the future within a general framework outlined by the Commission. Ms. O'Neill stated that there was also some discussion about treater/user responsibilities and how much can be the responsibility of the user. She added that there was only a short discussion about impoundments at the last meeting even though this was one of the driving forces for establishing the workgroup. Ms. O'Neill stated that there is a subgroup working on

this issue. Ms. Webb stated there has been a similar type of conversation going on with drinking water facilities and solid waste impoundments.

Policy 96-1 Workgroup:

Ms. O'Neill stated that there is no update since the last meeting.

ISDS Workgroup:

Ms. O'Neill stated that there are subcommittees working on proposed language to revise the guidelines with a draft anticipated before the end of the year. She stated that a hearing to consider the changes is scheduled for June. In addition, there may be grey water legislation proposed. Ms. Woodis added that this legislation was not sponsored by committee and that she has concerns with industrial facilities use of grey water.

Permits Issues Workgroup:

Ms. O'Neill stated that the last meeting was cancelled so there is no update.

c. WEFTE Update

Ms. O'Neill stated that she attended the WEFTEC conference last week in California. She mostly attended policy presentations and sessions on nutrients. The presentations from EPA focused mainly on greening elements and job creation and seemed more like political speeches than technical presentations. Ms. O'Neill stated that Jim Hanlon with EPA did talk about the need to be more strategic and stated that we would be seeing a memo from Nancy Stoner to the regional EPA offices regarding the need for utilities to address their most environmentally sensitive issues first. It was emphasized that this was not changing requirements, just prioritizing. He also mentioned that they are working on a sustainability handbook and that they plan to issue the pesticide permit at the end of this month so we should see something from the state shortly after that. Ms. Woodis stated that the pesticide permit may be delayed.

d. Other

Ms. Webb announced that the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, funded through the Governor's office is now targeting larger WWTFs for audits and assessments. Ms. Webb will provide contact information to Ms. O'Neill and Ms. O'Neill will send it out to the members. Mr. McCrary stated that Loveland is working with consultants on a similar project but have not received funding yet. Mr. Doering stated that the Executive Committee will meet on November 21st at 1:30. There will be no regular NFRWQPA meeting in November. The next NFRWQPA meeting will be on December 8th. The 208 Plan will be considered by the WQCC on November 14th.

13. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.