

Colorado WaterWise Board Meeting

Thursday, April 13, 2023
Northern Water
10 a.m. to noon

P: Called-in via phone
X: Attended in-person

Board:

P	Abbye Neel	Brendle Group	aneel@brendlegroup.com
P	Alyssa Quinn	Platte Canyon W&S District	alquinn@plattecanyon.org
P	Brad Brady	Yearout Energy Solutions	brad.brady@yearoutenergy.com
P	Courtney Black	Intera	CBlack@intera.com
P	Diane Block	Colorado Springs Utilities	dblock@csu.org
	Dylan King	Town of Erie	dking@erieco.gov
X	Elisabeth Bowman	Resource Central	ebowman@resourcecentral.org
P	Eric Olson	City of Fort Collins	eolson@fcgov.com
X	Jessica Thrasher	Colorado Stormwater Center	Jessica.Thrasher@colostate.edu
P	Katie Duke	City of Golden	KSchwaab@cityofgolden.net
X	Katie Helm	City of Fountain	khelm@fountaincolorado.org
X	Laura Wing	City of Thornton	laura.wing@cityofthornton.net
P	Lindsay Rogers	Western Resource Advocates	lindsay.rogers@westernresources.org
X	Lyndsey Lucia	Northern Water Conservancy	llucia@northernwater.org
X	Quint Redmond	Agriburbia	qredmond@agriburbia.com
X	Ruth Quade	City of Greeley	ruth.quade@greeleygov.com
P	Tim York	Aurora Water	tyork@auroragov.org
P	Victoria Arling	WaterNow Alliance	va@waternow.org
P	Melissa Brasfield	CWW Board Contractor	admin@coloradowaterwise.org
P	Diellza Muriqi	CWW Board Contractor	associate@coloradowaterwise.org

Note: Quorum 60%: 11/18 board members

Guests:

Call to Order

Alyssa called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM

Board Business and Action Items

- Introductions
- Approval of March Board Minutes. Laura motions, Ruth seconds. March minutes are approved.

Committee Update – Newsletter

The committee met last week and planned out the summer edition of articles. If anyone has ideas for articles, please let us know. Articles are due in early May and the newsletter will be published in June. Ruth reminded board members they have a commitment to write, or get someone to write, at least one article each year.

Pikes Peak Children's Water Festival Funding Request

Katie H. is requesting funding for the City of Fountain who partners with Colorado Springs, D-8, D-10 and D-11 schools to put on the Pikes Peak Children's Water Festival. About 600 4th and 5th grade students are participating and the funding will go toward banners, signage and food. There are other sponsors but the group has about \$700 deficit. The committee is requesting \$500 in sponsorship from CWW. Lindsay asked if we have \$500 in the budget to support this. Tim noted we have a line item, 5460, for stuff like this. However, we have \$1470 in the budget for LLYLI but nothing in the general Management section. Alyssa noted the management team did talk a bit about this request as this is the first request like this and were not exactly sure how to handle it. For the board, is this something that aligns with our mission and since we don't have this in the current budget, is this something we want to fund? Abbye noted since we do not have budget then we should not support this. Abbye also noted it could open the doors to other requests. Lindsay agrees. Elisabeth agrees and creating a more thoughtful plan would be a better approach. Lyndsey asked if this is posted on the website. Katie H. says it is, but she isn't sure how many people have completed that form. Brad noted it would be good to have a discussion about putting this into the budget since we do have the form available. Melissa noted if the form is on the website, but we don't have the funds, should the form be on the website right now without funds to support it. Alyssa thinks that's a great point. Quint noted this request should also be tied to our mission. Melissa noted the form that is currently available could probably use some updates to ensure we are collecting information and details on how the request connects to the work we do and the organization's mission. **Denial for the funding request due to lack of funds available. Ruth motions. Elisabeth seconds. Denial carries.**

LLYLI Update

Alyssa recapped the webinar that took place about a week ago. There were about 30 participants attending. We talked about what LLYLI is, what is in the toolkit, and received some feedback from participants. There is a LLYLI meeting planned for next week to discuss the outcomes of that webinar and continue planning new material development. New turf replacement materials are now available in the Dropbox. Melissa added we will do some additional tracking to see if anyone who attended the webinar signs up for CWW membership. We did also record the webinar and have a shortened version of the webinar that we can use in the future for information sharing and promoting LLYLI. Victoria noted it was really great but did have some technical issues with the Poll Everywhere. Melissa noted it could have been limitations with our free subscription that we can look into for future use.

Open Treasurer position

Alyssa noted that Thomas is no longer on the board, so his treasurer position is open. Brad and Alyssa have been taking on some of the treasurer roles along with Tim in the interim. However, we need a more permanent replacement to assist Tim with co-treasurer duties. Alyssa noted that Tim does all the payables for the organization. The other role has been the one to do receivables for the organization. Brad added it is pretty basic bookkeeping on a spreadsheet, but it really is a two-person job and we are happy to train someone. Tim noted he would welcome Brad to come back as a co-treasurer. Brad noted he has thought about that. Katie H. would like to volunteer but the treasurer role is not something that she would be super passionate about it. If Brad wanted to move back to co-treasurer, she could step back into the co-chair position. Brad said that he would be open if there is interest in that transition process. Elisabeth noted that she would be interested in the role, but she is too new to really know. Katie D. also expressed interest in the position. Ruth noted that you have to be on the management team for a year before being a co-chair. Katie H. noted it is a big decision and there may be interest but may need some additional thought and discussions. Alyssa said we will let the board think about it through April and we will vote in May. Tim asked if we have to go through the same nomination process as we do with new positions. **Alyssa asked if someone is interested in expressing interest to the management team. The management team will keep the board updated prior to the next board meeting to account for any nomination process that is required.**

BMP Project Update

Diellza noted we have had two stakeholder meetings since our last board meeting and have two additional meetings scheduled. Courtney noted that after this last stakeholder meeting, we will have two more topical specific. Katie H asked how many organizations have attended the meetings. Diellza did not have those details, but the attendance has been from a diverse group of individuals. There has been more front range participation so far, but we still have the in-person west slope meeting.

Agenda Items

Ruth reminded people the management team meets two weeks before the board meeting. There are usually no submissions for board items until after the agenda goes out. It would be best to submit those ideas before the management team so the group can discuss them. Ruth noted there should be a calendar reminder as well for sending agenda items. Elisabeth noted she isn't even sure what topics she should add to the agenda. Ruth said that if there are requests for the board or things that the board should be aware of and have a discussion on, they can be shared for consideration. Katie H. added if you are seeking a letter of support, those are great to bring up then. Katie H. noted it might be a good idea at the next board meeting to walk through the strawman proposal to make sure everyone is aware of that process.

DEI Committee first reading

Jessica has an announcement that she has left the Colorado Stormwater Center and is now at the Colorado Water Center leading the Equity and Diversity programs. She has been in her new role for three weeks. The purpose of the new CWW DEI committee will be to provide guidance, support, resources and recommendations to Colorado WaterWise staff, board and committees on including Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, Anti-racism practices into Colorado WaterWise events, initiatives, educational materials, etc. **Jessica will share the details with the board.** She would like to propose bringing in some speakers to the board on the topic of DEIJA practices. Alyssa says this committee would be a great addition to CWW and has no issues approving it today. Lyndsey asked to confirm there would not be a budget request until possibly next year. There is no additional fund request for this committee at this time. But the committee could discuss additional funding needs for future initiatives. There was discussion about the approval process and first then second reading prior to voting and approval. Victoria asked if there will be representatives from each of the committees on that DEI committee. Jessica has had some interest from board members to participate on the DEI committee and would be taking a look to see how that representation overlaps all the committees. Laura asked if visual accessibility is a part of this. Jessica confirmed it is. Ruth noted there are a lot of things that could be brought back to our own jobs. Abbye asked when a new committee is created, what materials are needed such as a charter, etc. Melissa noted there is not a formal list of what is needed but it would be good to have a goal statement as well as any actions that would work into an action plan. **Alyssa asked Ruth to have this on the May agenda for a vote.**

Round Robin

- Brad looked at the bylaws and it says we are able to backfill that position through a vote of the board of directors.
- Courtney and Quint will be presenting at the Colorado Groundwater Association presentation on the BP Guidebook update.
- Victoria has a new program manager to assist with Colorado projects, Becky Anderson. She has a lot of water management projects experience. Victoria would love to get her involved with CWW committees.
- Elisabeth noted they are hiring an outreach and communications intern to document all the lawn replacement projects through Resource Central.
- Tim is hiring a development and review position. They are almost done with their seasonal hires.
- Laura is also hiring a water resources analyst.
- Courtney is wrapping up a Drought Monitoring and Internal Communications Plan with Aurora Water. Also wrapping up Dominions Water & Sanitations District Water Supply Demand Management Plan soon.
- Abbye is supporting Adams County in Water Supply Baseline Assessment. Step one in moving towards comprehensive water element part of their comprehensive plan. Also working with City of Loveland with a Water Conservation Implementation Plan which is a conversion of their Water Efficiency Plan.
- Brad discussed their Taos Ski project and are moving forward to obtain climate initiatives from Brendle Group.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted by: Melissa Brasfield