

## Colorado WaterWise Board Meeting

Thursday, February 10, 2022

Virtual Zoom

10 a.m. to noon

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

### Board:

P	Alyssa Quinn	Platte Canyon W&S District	alquinn@plattecanyon.org
	Amy Volckens	Brendle Group	avolckens@brendlegroup.com
P	Brad Brady	Yearout Energy Solutions	brad.brady@yearoutenergy.com
P	Courtney Black	Intera	CBlack@intera.com
P	Don Drew	Courageous Marketing	d.drews@couragemarketing.com
	Eric Olson	City of Fort Collins	eolson@fcgov.com
P	Katie Helm	City of Fountain	khelm@fountaincolorado.org
P	Lance Ackerman	Colorado Springs Utilities	lackerman@csu.org
P	Laura Wing	City of Thornton	laura.wing@cityofthornton.net
P	Lindsay Rogers	Western Resource Advocates	lindsay.rogers@westernresources.org
P	Lyndsey Lucia	Northern Water Conservancy	llucia@northernwater.org
P	Quint Redmond	Agriburbia	qredmond@agriburbia.com
P	Ruth Quade	City of Greeley	ruth.quade@greeleygov.com
P	Thomas Riggle	Centennial W&S District	triggle@highlandsranch.org
P	Tim York	Aurora Water	tyork@auroragov.org
P	Tyler Kesler	Town of Erie	tkesler@erieco.gov
P	Melissa Brasfield	CWW Board Staff	admin@coloradowaterwise.org

### Guests:

Dylan King – Town of Erie

### **Call to Order**

Katie called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM

### **Board Business and Action Items**

- Introductions
- Approval of January Board Minutes. Ruth motions, Alyssa seconds. January minutes are approved.

### **Colorado Native Landscape**

Laura noted we had talked about sharing information about the CO Native Landscape on the CWW website. She wanted to discuss any approval that would be needed to share the information on the website, either CWW or LLYLI. The coalition is still working to finalize some components of the guidance document. Thomas, Ruth and Laura participate in the meetings with the coalition. Thomas asked how we would share the information, if we would have a special section on the website or what we are thinking for the format. Laura noted it's up for discussion. Laura noted CWW is not officially a part of the coalition, but it would be good to share the information and policy document on the CWW website. Katie asked if we are wanting to link to their documents or update the language on the CWW website to align with their information or a combination? Laura said we can update the Xeriscape Colorado website page with native landscape information. Ruth noted the coalition does not have a website so we can help house some information. Thomas thinks there needs to be some return to CWW for hosting the information. Ruth thinks we can work that into discussions with the coalition. Lindsay asked if we are hosting the information, should CWW be a part of the coalition? Laura noted that other organizations will also be pushing information out, so it won't

just be CWW pushing the information and materials out. Quint shared information on the Native Plants conference and that the coalition may want to share that conference information as well. Laura noted they are a part of the conference and are pushing additional information out about the coalition through that conference. **Laura will share information with Melissa and Lyndsey to get it posted to the website.**

## **BMP Manual**

Courtney noted the consultant team is working on the Colorado River District grant application which is an additional potential \$50,000 for the BMP project. The application is due February 15 and should be submitted very soon. They are including the same letters of support as the CWCB application plus a few additional support letters from the west slope. The Colorado Water Plan grant application is still moving forward, the project applications have been posted to the CWCB website and there are a number of other projects. The CWCB board should be deciding the approved projects in March. Courtney asked about the hiring of the new staff person. Katie noted the position should be posted shortly and closed by the end of February. Thomas asked about the timing for that grant. Courtney noted it would likely be approved and started by June.

## **Committee Assignments**

Alyssa noted who is on each committee

- Annual Event: Melissa, Katie, Lyndsey, Alyssa, Lindsay, Ruth, Thomas, Chris
- Data and Tools: Amy, Courtney, Eric, Kevin, Lance, Rick, Linda, Jason, Tara, Jessica, Brian, Ben
- LLYLI: Alyssa, Amanda, Don, Lyndsey, Eric, Jessica, Ruth, Tyler, Thomas, Laura, Melissa
- Educational Events: Lindsey, Brad, Victoria, Tim, Melissa, Quint, John, Jessica, Elisabeth
- Membership: Melissa, Don, Alyssa, Richard, Brad
- Newsletter: Ruth, Melissa, Zach, Bridget, Don, Tara, Morgan, Dylan
- Website: Diana, Melissa, Lyndsey

Annual Report is not considered a formal committee.

Ruth discussed the background about discussions within the Colorado Gives Day committee to start a Fundraising Committee to find other potential funding opportunities. Most of the members from CO Gives Day subcommittee would be participating in this committee. Thomas asked it would be include looking for grant money. Ruth said possibly. Quint noted that revenue for an organization needs to be structured and that income needs to be related to expenses. Ruth added that this committee would initially develop a plan for income streams into the organization from a variety of channels. **Katie suggested the committee go back to the motion provided and resolve some concerns and bring an updated motion next month.**

## **By-Laws Discussion**

Katie went through the Bylaws document with tracked changes. We will not be voting on the changes at this meeting. The changes will be voted on individually after we review all proposed changes. **Thomas will develop and send over the financial KPIs to include in the bylaws.** Katie brought up proposed changes to the bylaws about how we handle current board members who reach the end of their term and want to continue in their position. We can either let them continue without considering non-board member interests or we would consider current and non-current board members for seats coming open at the end of terms. Thomas asked if 15 is the right number of board members. Katie noted we changed it because it can be challenging to move forward. Lyndsey noted we did discuss this a few years ago and could revisit those minutes if we needed to. Ruth noted we are a working board and while 18 may seem like a lot we would have more people to fill committee seats. Alyssa doesn't think having a set number is the right approach. Melissa noted we may want to consider if we end up with even or odd number of board members. Katie is in favor of having current members and prospective board members be able to fill an open seat. Ruth and Tim are in favor. Alyssa noted that the only realistic way to get new board members on the board is to have a term limit. Tim agrees with that. **Melissa will look into the previous discussion of the board limit in past meeting minutes.**

## **Annual Report**

**For anyone that has information, photos, etc to share in the annual report, send them to Laura.**

## LLYLI Update

Alyssa noted she does not have anything to update at this time. She and Laura were not able to attend the ProGreen conference.

## Legislative Update

Thomas noted the turf bill was presented during this session. Several bills are being proposed including:

- Extended Producer Responsibility Bill which will add a fee to various packaging and junk mail. Those funds will go into recycling systems for hard to recycle materials in the state.
- Water Speculation Bill preventing people from purchasing water with the intent to profit from it.
- Several energy and recycling initiatives going on this year.
- Bill that would require retail food establishments to confirm customers want single use condiments and utensils.
- Bill that would require companies doing fracking activities to disclosure what chemicals they are using in their process. There is potential for some support from water utilities on this bill.
- Proposal to add a fee to the sale of bottled water within the state and the funds would go toward CO Water Plan grants.
- Bill that will work to address lead in water in schools which is proposing filters be installed on all kitchen sinks and install water bottle fillers. This bill is looking at funding from American Recovery Act over the next 5 years.

Lindsay recapped the ask for support of the Turf Replacement Bill. The bill sponsors are confirmed, and this bill has bipartisan support in the house and senate and are now looking for more public support. There is currently support from Conservation Colorado, Colorado River District, and Northern Water. The hearing in the House Ag committee has been pushed a few weeks. There are a few things that still need to be provided including additional information on costs and the details of the fiscal note. Lindsay suggests that the board vote be held in another week or two due to concerns that may be able to be resolved with this additional information. The fiscal analyst is putting together some financial information. There were some questions about the actual value of water savings that can be achieved through turf replacement. Lindsay noted through their review of hypothetical and actual data they anticipate a potential savings of 1 to 2 acre foot for every acre of conversion. CWCB has been involved from the beginning and reviewed various drafts of the bill. And Colorado Water Congress has heard details of the bill multiple times but has not yet voted. They are hoping for a \$2-4 million general fund appropriation to set it up in the first two years. Then hoping for \$2-4 million being granted into the program in the future. Thomas asked about if alternative funding has been identified. Lindsay said there has been research into DD funding and after discussions with CWCB additional funding was not able to be identified. Lindsay said she and others at WRA are available to discuss this bill and answer any questions. Katie mentioned that she did discuss how a vote is perceived with her city attorney. Katie noted that some individuals may need to recuse themselves. **The board will make an official vote in a few weeks when additional information is available.**

## Round Robin

Melissa discussed the upcoming webinar event on How to host a Rain Barrel Workshop. We were hoping to provide some webinar attendees with Rain Barrel kits for an upcoming workshop but funding through River Network did not pan out. **If your organization is interested in donating fund to be able to provide kits please reach out to Melissa.**

## Wrap Up and Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.  
Submitted by: Melissa Brasfield