

Colorado WaterWise Board Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2022
Centennial Water & Sanitation
10 a.m. to noon

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

Board:

X	Alyssa Quinn	Platte Canyon W&S District	alquinn@plattecanyon.org
X	Amy Volckens	Brendle Group	avolckens@brendlegroup.com
X	Brad Brady	Yearout Energy Solutions	brad.brady@yearoutenergy.com
P	Courtney Black	Intera	CBlack@intera.com
X	Don Drew	Courageous Marketing	d.drews@couragemarketing.com
P	Eric Olson	City of Fort Collins	eolson@fcgov.com
X	Katie Helm	City of Fountain	khelm@fountaincolorado.org
P	Lance Ackerman	Colorado Springs Utilities	lackerman@csu.org
X	Laura Wing	City of Thornton	laura.wing@cityofthornton.net
	Lindsay Rogers	Western Resource Advocates	lindsay.rogers@westernresources.org
	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
X	Thomas Riggle	Centennial W&S District	triggle@highlandranch.org
	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
Karri Larese, Centennial W&SD

Call to Order

Katie called the meeting to order at 10:06 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 did not get a Spring newsletter edition out. The summer edition is in the works. We may have space for one or two more articles if you have any ideas. The theme is usually anything outdoor. The deadline if you want to write an article is May 2.

Brad asked who is on the committee. Ruth noted Melissa, Ruth, Morgan, Dylan, Don Ireland, Bridget, Tara are on the committee.

Laura asked what article we have already. Ruth noted:

- Don Ireland is writing an article on drought in the west and Water '22
- Demonstration gardens

- Native Landscape Coalition
- P-Free campaign
- Rain Garden grant from CSU

Amy wrote an article on the Conservation study. If we don't want to use it, we can also use that in the monthly email. Amy also volunteering to be on the committee.

BMP Update

Courtney noted we are on the way to getting the paperwork started for CWCB contracting. Melissa will be reaching out to a few folks to gather that paperwork. The River District grant should hear back from them tomorrow. Once the contract is finalized, Courtney will reach out to the consultant team to get started. Brad asked about the invoices for the project if we are planning for additional invoices on that. Courtney noted we would expect monthly invoices once the project gets moving.

Proposed changes to Bylaws and Handbook

Katie shared her screen with an excel document.

The edits were divided by topics below for voting.

Expectations

- Thomas motioned, Alyssa seconds. Expectations changes approved.

Pronouns

- Don motioned, Ruth seconds. Pronouns changes approved.

Election and Term

- Brad motioned, Thomas seconds. Election and Term changes approved.

Number

- Katie noted we removed the maximum board member limit. Thomas added this is a way to allow new people to join the board.
- Amy reads this as we can increase the number with resolution. Katie confirmed.
- Thomas motioned, Ruth seconds. Katie abstains. Number changes approved.

Alyssa noted that now that the updates have been approved, **Ruth and Alyssa will incorporate the updates**. They are also going to remove the calendar and a number of separate documents and become appendices since they update more frequently. We are going to also have an attorney look over the bylaws to ensure there are no issues with the wording.

New Hire Update

We received two respondents to the posting. Both are strong candidates. One is an international student, and we are digging a bit into the process for an international student. We had reached out to a handful of attorneys to get council. There will be some expense to this consultation to gather any requirements that CWW would have with hiring an international contractor.

Alyssa asked about the second posting option. Katie noted the interview committee made the decision to hold on doing a secondary post. Amy asked if the committee has the power to extend the offer. Alyssa said yes as long as the compensation does not change based on the decision.

Finance Update

Brad, Tyler and Thomas met with a financial planner at the end of 2021. We are looking at taking some money that we currently have and invest that money (which is about \$160,000 in the bank plus additional money in a credit union). Recommended that we take about \$150,000 to invest. This would leave money in the bank for operations (about 50% of the money in the budget would be kept in the bank). The group is looking at doing a poll to understand how open people are to taking risk with money. Based on that information we can have another discussion on what we do. We can make about a 10% return. **Thomas will send out the risk worksheet to the board**. Amy asked if we should be looking at this through the lens of CWW not personally. Thomas confirmed board members should fill out this worksheet with the view of CWW finances. Thomas add he usually doesn't work in amounts this small. There is a 1% fee each year. Thomas noted we would be investing in socially responsible funds. Amy asked about how liquid the money would be. Thomas noted it is liquid, likely a couple days.

Legislative Update

Thomas noted a lot of bills are sitting stagnant. Extended producer responsibility bill which puts additional fees on packaging and containers. Those fees will go to create an organization that would increase recycling throughout CO and increase the number of materials that are recyclable in CO. Goal is to create a circular economy and create a larger recyclable market in CO.

Bill to increase micro-grids in rural communities through a grant program. Turf replacement bill is sitting in appropriations for about a month which isn't a bad thing. They are waiting for the long bill to come out to better understand the finances of the bill. It will move to the floor of the House then the Senate. Thomas asked if the funds will go out this year or next year. With the Symposium, if we think the funds will go out next year if we wanted to make the request for the Governor to sign the bill at the Symposium. Amy asked if anyone knows about the Pike Peaks Regional Water authority legislative affairs person position if it was representative of other's thoughts. Brad asked when the end of the legislative session. Thomas noted around May 12.

Storage Unit Approval

Alyssa provided an update on the research for a location close to the PO Box as well as some locations in Littleton near Alyssa's office as it's convenient to Brad, Alyssa and Thomas. Ruth and Alyssa are going to take a look in person at the units. The reason we need board approval is because it would be a cost of about \$850/year. Melissa added it might be worth asking if you are meeting in person with people to ask about any sort of non-profit discount. Laura motioned. Thomas seconds. Storage unit rental approved.

Round Robin

- Alyssa noted the P-Free campaign is using the LLYLI website for the landing page. There billboard is up along I-76.
- Laura reminded Thornton is hiring their first intern.
- Thomas is also hiring intern a number of interns. They are also transitioning to a public board versus a developer board. They are also working on a number of turf replacement projects.
- Ruth provided an update on Bittersweet Park. There are two memorials there and they have gotten feedback from the public that the "weeds" are disrespectful. They did a survey and found 67% were in favor of the native grasses. The compromise will be that 5 acres around the memorials will be a salt tolerant cold season grass, and they will be mowed and maintained like bluegrass.
- Quint will have their terraces on the roof of the SPUR building. Quint will also probably join the groundwater commission.
- Don noted the information from the round robins are likely valuable to our members and we should be sharing that with additional individuals. Amy noted information could be shared in the monthly email and ask others to contribute. Ruth also noted this could be on the website.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Submitted by: Melissa Brasfield