



COLORADO WATER UTILITY COUNCIL
Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association

MINUTES
COLORADO WATER UTILITY COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

November 4, 2011 10:00 a.m.

Denver Water -Three Stones Building

Intro/Remarks—Sean Lieske

- Sean Lieske opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.
- Sean thanked Tom and Lois for their work as officers.
- Minutes from the October meeting were approved.
- Sean spoke about the October 18th Board meeting and commented that Board members terms have been staggered for continuity, that there will roles and responsibilities established for committee and workgroup chairs, that the Board is seeking better ways to connect to members and non-members, and that there is a desire to grow the membership.
- Sean commented briefly on AWWA legislative positions adopted by the Water Utility Council on Federal legislation, which was transmitted electronically. He highlighted HB-827 with the short title of Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act pertaining to prohibiting EPA or state government from requiring permits to apply pesticide into navigable waters.
- Sean commented on CCR's, which Lois had distributed information electronically regarding proposed federal regulations allowing electronic distribution of consumer confidence reports/water quality reports.
- Sean commented on hydraulic fracturing saying it was a big issue for Aurora, specifically Aurora Reservoir and Spinney Reservoir in Park County.
- Sean spoke about WQCD's reorganization of their Engineering Section which separates staff performing design reviews from staff doing sanitary surveys and field work—all to be more responsive.

CDPHE—Ron Falco

- Transitions: Ron indicated that Rick Koplitz had retired and that Sharon Williams was now managing compliance. Sharon's previous position will be backfilled.

- Advanced Operator Training: Ron reported that 25 operators attended the September training at Foothills WTP. He indicated that the 3rd part of the training would not occur due to funding constraints. He indicated that this would be the end of Advance Operator Training. He discussed the reasons for this decision being primarily funding but also the Division not wanting to over commit to lesser future capitalization grants, which had been recently cut.
- RMSAWWA Contract for 2015 Training Strategy: Ron reported good news pertaining to a contract between CDPHE and RMSAWWA to develop a future training strategy.
- Monitoring Schedules: Ron reported that the Division is moving towards e-mail for distribution of monitoring schedules with post card reminders. He indicated that there is still a process available to receive a mailed hard copy.
- Future Presentations: Ron indicated that either Sharon or Nicole would be able to speak for 10 or 15 minutes in December on CCRs. He indicated that Jennifer Miller would be able to speak on Engineering Section changes in January or February and January was selected. He indicated that Jackie could speak on Regulation 100 at a future meeting.
- Reg 100: Scheduled for review and updating in 2012
- Policy 4 Guidance: This is targeted for completion by December 31, 2011.
- WQCD Policy Updates/Housekeeping: Ron reminded members that within the next 1 to 2 months there would be an effort to abolish 40 or so existing policies that are believed outdated or superseded. A detailed listing (now available on CDPHE's website) and justification will be issued and comments will be solicited with a 60 day comment period. Ron would prefer comments from the Council as a whole instead of individual systems. This will be a December meeting agenda item.
- Nutrient Standards: Ron reminded us that a revised Statement of Basis and Purpose would be issued by November 14th, Party Status is due December 20th, and prehearing statements shortly thereafter. Ron commented on the Nutrient Coalition's request to delay the rulemaking hearing.
- Policy 3: Ron indicated that this new and proposed policy concerning alternative filtration and GWUDI had been shared with EPA and that considerable feedback had been received. Ron announced that there would be meetings December 6th in Denver and December 7th meetings in Grand Junction. Ron indicated that screening criteria may need to be developed and that there may be a need redo the GWUDI classification.

Legislative Committee Report—Jim Miller/Sean Lieske for Chris Piper

- Jim indicated that he had requested an update from Chris but had not received one.
- Sean indicated the dates for the AWWA Washington D.C. Fly-in are March 7th and 8th, 2012.

Conservation Committee Report – Jeannine Shaw

- No report this period.

Water Quality and Policy Committee Report—Jim Miller

- Nutrients: On Mary's behalf, Jim indicated that technical information and the calendar of events and meetings dates can be obtained by contacting Mary Fabisiak, or visiting the website of the Colorado Water Quality Forum.
- Waste Impoundments: Jim reported that the Water Resources Review Committee had unanimously supported the narrow scope legislation jointly sponsored by CWUC and CDPHE. This represents a best possible outcome. A bill will now be introduced into the 2012 legislative session. Jim reported receiving 14 letters of support and that all letters received had eventually been transmitted to the committee, either electronically or by hand delivery. Jim thanked everyone for their letters and commented on the length of time it took our members to generate such letters, with some members needing their Mayors, Directors, or Boards to write/approve.

Wastewater Report—Al Baker

- Al reported that the Wastewater Utility Council had cancelled its October 12th meeting.

Open Discussion

- Hydraulic Fracturing: In response to an unanticipated DORA request for comments on a cost benefit study on this topic and a December 5th rulemaking on disclosure of chemicals used during hydraulic fracturing, Jim Miller lead a 20 to 30 minute discussion. The outcome of the discussion was a vote to seek Party Status for the rulemaking [17 votes Yes, 0 votes No, Thornton and Fort Collins Utilities abstaining]. Al Baker, Gene Goffin, Jeff Oxenford, Sean Lieske, and Jim Miller indicated their willingness to form a workgroup to develop the party status request (due Nov. 17th) and requisite prehearing statement (due Nov. 23). Due to the extremely fast timeline for filing party status and the prehearing statement, Jim indicated that he would rely on the Board for review and guidance. Jim Miller will provide testimony on December 5th.

Membership Committee Report--Greg

- Please send updates to Greg.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be from 10:00am to 12:00 on December 2 at Denver Water's Threes Stones Building.