

CAC MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 2011

CAC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Ives, Don Schlup, Bruce Hutchins, Jeff Willis, David Spector, Mel Rettig, Carol Pace, Phil Lidov, Becky Long

ABSENT: Barry Hudson

GUESTS: Karen Harris, Tim Flynn, Christy Honnen

DENVER WATER STAFF: Melissa Elliott, Sally Covington, Dave Little, Joe Sloan, Ellen Cinchock

OPENING REMARKS, PUBLIC COMMENTS, AGENDA AND MINUTES

The minutes and agenda were approved without comment.

Ms. Karen Harris, a resident who purchased a lot in Denver two years ago to build a new home, contacted CAC member Jeff Willis about a variance issue that she has with Denver Water. Ms. Harris paid a civil engineer to meet with Denver Water representatives on August 5, but has not heard back from them since that last meeting. CAC Liaison Joe Sloan will research the issue, contact Ms. Harris, and update the CAC at the next meeting.

DENVER WATER UPDATE (Melissa Elliott) –

David Spector welcomed Ms. Covington to the meeting, and member introductions were made.

Mr. Spector questioned why the Denver Water Board is reviewing potential changes to retiree medical benefits. Ms. Elliott explained that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is making accounting rule changes that will require Denver Water to show unfunded liabilities such as retiree medical on its balance sheets. Mr. Spector noted the CAC reviewed Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) previously and would like to discuss it again at a future meeting.

HIGH-EFFICIENCY TOILET LEGISLATION (Melissa Elliott) –

Ms. Elliott passed out copies of the performance standards for high-efficiency toilets sold in Colorado. The drafted legislation would have required new toilets to be capped at 1.28 gallons per flush, instead of the current 1.6 gallon amount. This change could save over 5,000 acre feet of water. Ms. Elliott and Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator Chris Piper went before the Water Resources Review Committee with the draft bill, and the bill failed on a 5-5 vote. Conservation will speak to the Denver Water Board about next steps. A coalition has been formed supporting the change.

Conservation has replaced over 50,000 toilets through its rebate program – recreating this bill would save money. Jeff Willis questioned why fixtures for prisoners do not apply. Ms. Elliott said the bill does have exemptions for historical building and prisons. The prison fixtures are steel and have specifications that the 1.28 fixtures cannot meet. David Spector thanked Ms. Elliott for the update on this legislation.

COLORADO RIVER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (CRCA) AND THE WISE PROJECT (Dave Little) –

Mr. Little thanked the CAC for the invitation to the meeting. In September CRCA partners met and now the partners need to sign the agreement. Some partners will not sign the agreement until all issues have been resolved. The agreement should be signed by the end of the year, but will not go into effect until all partners have signed it. Additional information about the CRCA can be found on the link below.

<http://www.denverwater.org/SupplyPlanning/Planning/ColoradoRiverCooperativeAgreement/>

Aurora and Denver Water met with the City of Castle Rock to garner their support for the Water Infrastructure and Supply Efficiency (WISE) project. Their proposal was one of four submitted to Castle Rock to supply them with water. The WISE proposal is a permanent agreement that would supply water to the City of Castle Rock via master meter. The WISE project benefits Denver Water by having an additional source water supply. Castle Rock must make a decision by the end of November. A large amount of the water created by the project will go into distributor areas. The water will be treated by Aurora Water.

Jim Ives asked for an update on the Strontia Springs dredging. Denver Water is working with the contractor to determine next steps on the project. It is complex work with pumps, pipes and dredging equipment. More information should be available in late November and David Spector suggested Doug Raitt attend a future CAC meeting to give an update on the project.

CAC BUSINESS –

- CAC Denver Citizens Representative – Three applications were received. The committee agreed to keep the post open until 10/31/11.
- Jim Ives, Phil Lidov, and Barry Hudson advised the committee they will be seeking second terms as Public Interest, Denver Citizens, and Distributors representatives, respectively.
- 2012 Chair/Vice-Chair Elections – Committee members who wish to be considered for the 2012 CAC Chair or Vice-Chair should email David Spector before the 11/17/11 meeting.
- CAC Facebook Page – Becky Long is updating the page and asked the members for recent tour photos to post to the page.
- December meeting – There will not be a public meeting. Members will instead meet for lunch on an alternate date.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.