

**UPPER ARKANSAS WATER  
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**Water Activity Enterprise Committee**

**March 8, 2018  
1:00 P.M.**

The Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District Water Activity Enterprise committee held its regular meeting Thursday, March 8, 2018, at the District offices, 339 East Hwy 50, Salida, Colorado, commencing at 1:00 P.M., notice having been given by posting of Notice and Agenda on March 7, 2018, at the offices of the Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District, 339 East Hwy 50, Salida, Colorado.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ralph L. (Terry) Scanga	Ken Baker	Robert M. Senderhauf
Franklin J. (Jay) Moore	Timothy C. Canterbury	Tim Payne
Richard Hilderbrand	Mannie Colon	Robert B. (Bill) Donley
Tom E. French	Thomas Goodwin	Gregory W. Felt
Jeff Ollinger	John H. Sandefur	

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dennis Giese

**DISTRICT OFFICIALS/STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chelsey Nutter, Project Manager	Chris Manera, Engineer
Jord Gertson, Hydrologist	Kimberly Kerschke, Secretary
Brian Sutton, Water Commissioner	

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Joe Stone, Ark Valley Voice  
Kristie Nackord, Fremont County  
Bob Hartzman, Canon City Water Department  
Tom Flower, Custer County  
Wendy Ryan, Colorado River Engineering  
George Medaris, Round Mountain Water and Sanitation District  
Harald Kasper, Salida City Council  
April Obholz-Bergeler, The Mountain Mail  
Richard Shea, Penrose

**CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION**

Introduction of guests will be held over to the Board meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF February 8, 2018**

The minutes of the meeting of February 8, 2018, were unanimously approved upon motion by committee member Colon with second by committee member Donley.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Upon motion by committee member Goodwin with second by committee member Sandefur, the committee unanimously approved the financial report dated February 28, 2018.

**MANAGER'S REPORT – Terry Scanga**

**Augmentation Report**

Manager Scanga displayed the augmentation reports for January and February. As of the end of February total State approvals for augmentation were 517.82 acre-feet. Replacements for the month were 21.11 acre-feet including transit loss.

## RECORD OF PROCEEDING

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### **HYDROLOGIST REPORT**

#### **Reservoir Storage**

Hydrologist Gertson reported that in our Twin Lakes account, we have 11.0 acre-feet of native water, 79.3 acre-feet of Twin Lakes, Transmountain water, and 8.0 acre-feet of project carryover. Pueblo reservoir has 503.5 acre-feet of project carryover and 1,000 acre-feet of project water. Total storage is at 3443.0 acre-feet.

Director Felt asked if there has been communication and collaboration in an effort to prevent a spill at Pueblo Reservoir. Hydrologist Gertson reported that he has reached out to the Bureau of Reclamation about moving water up to Twin Lakes prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. He is waiting on approval for that request.

Engineer Manera stated that, though we are experiencing the worst of a three-year trend related to reservoir spill, there is not the exchange of conversation as in previous years. The challenge is one of storage and, compared to the rest of the state, the Arkansas Basin is at the highest percent of average for storage.

With regards to snowpack, comparisons were shown between this year and previous years. In the last few years we have failed to see a big March snow event. In 2017, January was the biggest snow month of the season. When comparing 2017 to 2018, hydrologist Gertson pointed out that December-January 2017 almost make up individually what we have received for the entire 2018 water year. To date, the Arkansas River Basin as a whole is sitting at 60% of normal, 59% of average, and 45% of 2017.

Director Felt added that, though SNOTEL sites provide good snowpack readings at higher elevations, they do not represent lower elevation realities. These sites are bias to their locations and can be susceptible to redistribution through wind events and drifts.

Director Moore added that a recent article in the Denver Post stated that average snow for the state of Colorado was 72% of normal.

Hydrologist Gertson offered a graphic representation of snowpack to the Board which included SNOTEL sites at Brumley, Fremont Peak, Porphyry Park, Hayden Pass, and St. Elmo. This graph showed the Arkansas Basin at 86% of median.

Director Felt noted that the graph was only plotting years that started out below average. Since years that started out average or above average were not included, the graph was not representative of normal.

Hydrologist Gertson offered a Basin wide update from March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, which showed the Arkansas Basin at 60% of median and 47% of median peak. The northern part of the basin is closer to average while southern sites are far below median.

After looking at comparisons with 2002 and 2012, Manager Scanga said he would like to see comparisons with 1977 and 1978. He believes these years we more typical of drought conditions and snow courses could be used to find that data.

In conclusion, hydrologist Gertson reported that the three-month outlook for temperature and precipitation showed an equal chance for above average temperature and below average precipitation. The monthly and seasonal outlooks show drought persisting for southern Colorado.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Chris Manera, Colorado River Engineering**

Deferred to next meeting

### **LEGAL REPORT - Kendall Burgemeister, Law of the Rockies**

Deferred to District Board meeting

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

RECORD OF PROCEEDING

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None


**ADJOURN**

No further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:32p.m.

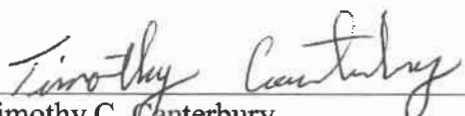
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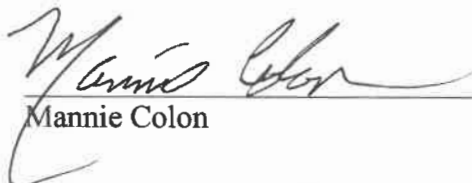
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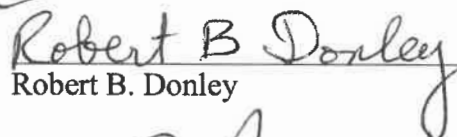
Respectfully submitted,

  
Ralph L. Scanga, Jr., General Manager

  
Ken Baker

  
Timothy C. Canterbury

  
Mannie Colon


  
Robert B. Donley

  
Gregory W. Felt

Tom E. French

**Absent- No Signature**

Dennis Giese

  
Thomas Goodwin

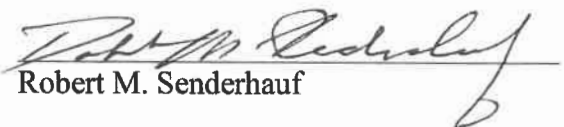
  
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