



**Douglas County Board of  
County Commissioners**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Rural Water Authority  
of Douglas County**

**Wednesday, November 4, 2009**

---

The Rural Water Authority met in the Philip S. Miller Building, 100 Third Street, Castle Rock, Colorado.

**Present**

Steven A. Boand, Commissioner  
Barry Gager  
Michael Owisany  
Anita Littlewolf  
Jack McCormick  
Charlotte Mirabella  
Priscilla Queen  
Geoff Withers

**Guests**

Mark Trivisonno, Water Commissioner, Water District 8  
Mark Shively, Douglas County Water Resource Authority  
Britta Strother, South Metro Water Authority

**Staff**

Tim Murrell, Water Resource Planner  
Donna Coffin, Business Resource Technician

**Call to Order**

Tim Murrell called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Approval of minutes**

**District 8 Water Commissioner Presentation**

Mark Trivisonno presented on the history of Colorado Water Commissioners as well as his duties as a commissioner. He noted that there has been a Commissioner since 1879 in the state of Colorado. There are seven water divisions within the state and we are in Division one, District eight. His district covers 1350 sq miles of terrain that included the: South Platt, Cherry Creek, Plum Creek, and Trout Creek. Mark's district includes seven counties, including Douglas County. The Denver Basin Aquifer is the largest water feature in Mark's district.

Mark mentioned a number of web tools from the state engineers website, one being Aquamap.

One major project going on in Mark's district is the well inventory project. Work has been done with some of Douglas Counties Open Space wells.

**Citizen Comment:**

**Douglas County Domestic Well Inventory Report**

Tim Murrell presented on the County's Domestic Well Inventory Report. The data utilized consisted of single family housing units located outside water provider boundaries (not served by a water utility). Some other sources used were County GIS, Assessors, and Building information.

**Citizen Comment:**

**Rural Water Supply Act Presentation and IGA Approval**

Mark Shively, presented on the Rural Water Supply Act and what the Act could do for Douglas County. There are two things: first is potential for regional planning assistance; second is potential for federal loan guarantees for construction. This is about building and connecting infrastructure not water rights.

Mark stated everyone in this region except Centennial W & S would qualify for this Act. Who participates would depend on how you answered certain questions and only if you chose to.

Commissioner Board stated the Board will be moving forward on the Rural Water Supply Act IGA. He asked to Authority of come up with final draft for the IGA.

The Authority reviewed the past concern for the potential for duplication of representation. Discussion continued on inserting the correct language. The recommended language change was "no one water provider shall have no more than one member on this board". A motion was made to approve the IGA, with one revision made by the Authority. There was one abstention.

Commissioner Board will propose on Monday that the Board of County Commissioner consider this at the Business Meeting on November 24.

**Citizen Comment:**

**Grange Water Rights Impact Analysis**

Tim Murrell presented briefly on the Grange water Sale. The Grange property is open space that Douglas County acquired back in March of 2003. The County acquired the

surface estate for Open Space and kept 36acre-feet of the total 972 acre-feet to stay with the property of Open Space.

In 2007 the County released an RFP to sell 936 ac-ft. With preference to those that kept it with in Douglas County. The offer was made by the Cherry Creek Project Water Authority for the full 936 ac-ft in all four aquifers.

Lytle Water Solutions, LLC was hired to provide the County with an assessment of the potential impact it may have on adjoining wells within a 2 mile radius.

The Cherry Creek Water Authority original offered a purchase price for 936 ac-ft of \$1,490,652. It was suggested to consider dropping the Dawson aquifer out of this sale. The Authority came back with an offer without Dawson aquifer for \$745,326. This constitutes a difference of \$745, 326 and a reduction of 195 ac-ft. The Board of County Commissioners approved the sale of 741 ac-ft of water associated with the Grange water rights. This does not include the 195 ac-ft of lower Dawson aquifer water that stays with the property. Commissioner Board added this is the first time the county has done an impact study on a water transfer. The county wanted to make sure that it wasn't harming existing users.

#### **Citizen Comment:**

#### **By Law Discussion / Approval**

The Authority discussed the recent updates made to the draft bylaws.

Commissioner Board noted there were a few technical corrections to be made. The Authority continued further discussion of changes to Article 3 Section 2, Elections. Commissioner Board suggested the Clerk and Recorder for the County come in to instruct the Authority on how elections work. The Authority discussed deletion of F & G of Article 3 Section 2.

The Authority reviewed Article 5 Section 2 on when the Board of Directors will decide the time and place to hold the monthly meeting.

The Authority voted unanimously to adopt the bylaws pending technical corrections.

#### **Citizen Comment:**

#### **2010 Budget and Associated Resolution Needs**

Commissioner Board reviewed the proposed budget for 2010 – 2011. There will be no funding for a group who doesn't have a water conservation plan in place in by the end of 2010.

The Authority reviewed legal, membership to DCWRA, contract staffing and well monitoring program amounts.

The Authority voted to approve the proposed budget with final amount of \$85,000.00. Adding \$9,000.00 to Contract Staffing and \$2,000.00 to Legal.

Commission Board reviewed the budget notice. Notices will be posted at Douglas County, Clerk and Recorder public front office and Grand View Estates. A copy budget will be available at Douglas County front desk with Christie.

The budget will be heard at the business meeting on November 24, 2009.

**Citizen Comment:**

Citizen comments were not made.

**Calendar Update**

Calendar updates were not reviewed.

**Other Items**

Commissioner Board noted that the Board of County Commissioner is moving forward on water project investigations. Projects being looked at are Prospect Valley/Lost Creek, United Water, Quisenberry Project, Wise Project, Palmer Divide and Flaming Gorge.

The County will be diverting one million dollars for each year for water, with the possibility of up \$10-\$20 million dollars per year in 2012.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05