Wyoming Water Development Commission Meeting
Water Development Office, 6920 Yellowtail Rd.
Cheyenne, Wyoming
January 9, 2020

1. Chairman Larry Suchor called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call – Recognition of Members present to establish a quorum

Commission attendance:
Larry Suchor, Chairman
Kellen Lancaster, Vice-Chairman, via-phone
Mike Purcell, Secretary
Rodney Wagner
Gerald Geis
Sheridan Little
Bill Yankee
Mark Kot
Ron Kailey
Clinton Glick – absent

Select Water Attendance:
Senator Glenn Moniz
Senator Liisa Anselmi-Dalton
Representative Dan Laursen
Representative John Eklund

Advisors in Attendance:
Andrew Kuhlmann, Attorney General's Office
Greg Kerr, University of Wyoming

3. Audience Introductions

4. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Larry Suchor requested that the minutes from the WWDC Executive Session on November 15, 2019 be excluded from the approval. Sheridan Little made a motion to approve the November 13-15, 2019 WWDC Workshop and Meeting minutes. Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

5. Closeout of Planning Project

- *Osage Water Master Plan, Level I Study*
  Keith Clarey, Project Manager, provided a brief summary of project findings.

Mike Purcell moved acceptance of the Osage Water Master Plan, Level I Study as being complete, and further, the WWDC makes the following findings relative to this project:

That the Commission recommend:

1. Proceeding to the next level of project development upon the submittal of an appropriate funding application from the sponsor.

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

6. Construction Amendments

- *Pineview Tank and Booster Pump 2017, Amendment No. 1*

  An amendment to the sponsor's agreement with Pineview Improvement and Service District was presented. The amendment serves to provide additional funding in the amount of $195,000 from Account I Sponsor's Contingency Funds.

  Gerry Geis made a motion to approve the Pineview Tank and Booster Pump 2017, Amendment No. 1. Bill Yankee seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

7. Planning Contracts

- *Fontenelle Task Order No. 2019-01*

  Tony Rutherford, Project Manager provided an overview of the Fontenelle Dam and Outworks Infrastructure Completion project (Fontenelle Riprap Project). Discussion followed. Mike Purcell made a motion to approve Task Order 2019-01 in the amount of $550,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation to provide a Risk Analysis to evaluate dam safety risks for drawing Fontenelle Reservoir down below the riprap elevation in case of extreme on-going drought. The Task order will also include design if safety risks require mitigation.

  The motion was seconded by Sheridan Little. The motion carried unanimously.

- *Instream Flow Interagency Agreement – WWDC & WGFD*

- *Upper Wind River Instream Flows 2019, Level I Study*

  Sheridan Little made a motion to approve contract documents for the Instream Flow Interagency Agreement between WWDC & WGFC, as well as the Consultant Contract for the Upper Wind River Instream Flows 2019, Level I study.

  Rodney Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Preparation for 2020 Legislature

Chairman Larry Suchor requested that Tab H Omnibus Water Bill – Construction be presented ahead of Tab G Omnibus Water Bill – Planning.

Mike Purcell reviewed changes that were made to the draft letter discussed at the January 8th Workshop. The letter is in response to a request at the November meeting from the Select Water Committee regarding the impacts of funds that have been diverted from Water Development throughout the life of the program. Discussion followed and plans were made to submit the letter to the SWC on January 10, 2020.

- Omnibus Water Bill – Construction

  Director Gebhart reviewed the items included in the draft bill. Discussion followed regarding several items.

  The bill was moved. Gerry Geis seconded the motion.

  Mike Purcell moved to amend the Construction bill as follows:

  Cloud Seeding Medicine Bow Mountains 2020-2021
  Page 7 Special conditions (vi) delete lines 11-14 and renumber accordingly. Page 9 Special conditions (vi) delete lines 7-10 and renumber accordingly.

  Gerry Geis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
  The question was called to accept the bill as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

- Omnibus Water Bill – Planning

  Director Gebhart reviewed the items included in the draft bill. It was pointed out that the $650,000 for the LaPrele Irrigation District has been included in the bill. He said that in regard to the UW Water Research Program it was necessary to decide which proposals will move forward in the bill. Greg Kerr, Director of the Office of Water Programs for the University of Wyoming said that the Committee selected the following proposals for funding:

  Proposal C – *Identifying, Predicting and Managing the Occurrence of Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms in Wyoming Reservoirs*; Collins, Fetzer, Patterson Ross and Walters and;

  Proposal D – *Robust Low-Cost Snow Depth Measurements and High – Resolution Modeling to Improve Water Supply Forecasting in Wyoming; Geerts*

  Mike Purcell moved the bill. Gerry Geis seconded the motion.

  Bill Yankee moved to amend the Planning bill to include Water Research Proposals C & D with an amended Appropriation amount of $445,683.

  Gerry Geis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
  The question was called to accept the bill as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

- Instream Flow Application Process
  Director Gebhart reviewed the draft bill. Discussion followed.

- Emergency Water Projects Account
  Director Gebhart reviewed the draft bill. Discussion followed.

- State Engineer Qualifications
  Jason Mead reviewed the draft bill. Discussion followed.

- Permit Not Required for Using a De Minimis Amount of Water
  Jason Mead reviewed the draft bill. Discussion followed.

9. Update on Level III Construction Projects

Bryan Clerkin provided an update on the following Level III Construction Projects:

- Bluff-Upper Bluff System Improvements 2017
- Dry Creek Irrigation District Rehab 2019
- Wheatland Wells 2017

10. Discussion

- No further items were brought forth for discussion.

11. Future Meetings Schedule

The next meeting will be held in Cheyenne on March 19-20, 2020.

Topics will include the election of officers, the Planning project applications received on March 1, 2020; approval of Consultant Selection Interviews and the review of 119 Small Water Program project applications received.

12. Adjourn

Gerry Geis made a motion to adjourn at 11:51 a.m., Sheridan Little seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Purcell, Secretary