# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS MINUTES of the Board of Water Commissioners

Denver Water Administration Building 1600 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Denver, CO Board Room, First Floor

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

### Open Session

A duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held Wednesday, February 26, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, Room 106, 1600 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Denver, Colorado. Members of the Board present during the Regular Meeting were:

H. Gregory Austin, President Gary M. Reiff, First Vice President Paula Herzmark, Vice President

Board employees and others present during portions of the meeting were:

- J.S. Lochhead, CEO/Manager
- J.A. Anderson, Chief of Staff
- D. Bennett, *Acting* Chief External Affairs Officer
- A.C. Bricmont, Chief Financial Officer
- J. Brody, General Counsel
- B.D. Good, Chief Administrative Officer
- D. Gorgemans, Chief Internal Auditor
- R. Mahoney, Chief Engineering Officer
- T.J. Roode, Chief Operations and
- Maintenance Officer
- S. Adamkovics, Finance Sr. Analyst
- J. Alexander, Environmental Lead Scientist
- R. Badger, Planning Manager
- C. Bramon, Purchasing Supervisor

- P. McCormick, Project Engineer
- L. Morales, Community Relations Sr.
- Specialist
- J. Nolte, GIS Manager
- K. Oligney, Director IT Infrastructure
- C. Piper, Government Relations
- Manager
- K. Riegle, Attorney
- V. Roberts, Director Enterprise IT
- D. Ross, Division Sr. Analyst
- S. Schreiner, Support Services
- Specialist
- J. Shaw, Community Relations Sr.
- Specialist
- A. Speirs, Records Management
- Analyst



- K. Burgess, Director Human Resources
- A. Cavallaro, Paralegal
- S. Chesney, Director Public Affairs
- E. Cinchock, Division Sr. Analyst
- J. Daly, Finance Sr. Analyst
- J. Finehout, Community Relations Sr.

Specialist

- A. Hill, Attorney
- K. Legg, Records Management Manager
- J. Light, Engineer Sr.
- D. Lopez, IT Support Specialist
- C. Mbakogu, Division Sr. Analyst
- A. Menefee, Community Relations Sr.

Specialist

- A. Turney, Director Engineering
- B. Wedll, Purchasing Specialist
- J. Wittler, Attorney
- A. Woodrow, Community Relations Sr.

Specialist

- A. Browning, Callan
- J. Crockett, Jacobs
- L. Hannah, Denver University
- C. Lane, Platte Canyon Water and

**Sanitation District** 

- T. McCune, Denver University
- S. Ravel, Independent Contractor
- G. Ritter, Jacobs
- L. Suer, Jacobs

#### **INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

Commissioner Austin called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Upon motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously carried Commissioners Jones and Lucero were found to be absent for good cause and excused.

#### **Public Comment and Communications**

Commissioner Austin issued an invitation to members of the public to comment to the Board on any matters not included in the Agenda for the meeting. There was no public comment.

#### **Legislative Update**

Mr. Piper noted that one senate and one house sponsor withdrew their sponsorship for the FAMLI bill, which would provide paid family and medical leave. This withdraw of support has put the bill in jeopardy. The current version of the bill would require most employers to participate in a state-administered paid leave program or purchase qualifying private insurance to cover employees' leave. As currently drafted, the bill would allow local governmental bodies to opt out of the proposed requirements. Some supporters of paid family and medical leave are exploring a ballot measure as an alternative to the current legislation. Mr. Piper will update the Board on further developments.

Mr. Piper was available to answer any questions regarding the Legislative Update Briefing Paper. The Board had no questions.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Upon motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously carried by the Commissioners then present, unless otherwise noted, the Board acted upon the following agenda items:

## 1. ITEM II-A-1: REAPPOINTMENT TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE

Approved the appointment of Rich Newton to a second, three-year term as the environmental representative for the Citizens Advisory Committee.

## 2. ITEM II-B-1: UPDATE TO CHAPTER 15 OF THE DENVER WATER OPERATING RULES

Mr. Finehout provided the Board with the Denver Water Operating Rules Chapter 15 Update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit A. He reported that since the February 12, 2020 Board meeting, staff has reconsidered the four suggested edits before the Board and revised section 15.02.1, taking into consideration the recommendations from the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

Approved revisions to Chapter 15 of the Denver Water Operating Rules, which provide greater flexibility in adopting water shortage responses and will go into effect March 16, 2020.

#### ITEM II-B-2: NORTHWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. McCormick presented the Board with a Northwater Treatment Plant (NTP) Update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit B. He reported there are no major adjustments to the schedule. The remaining excavation work is moving along very well, and the subgrades for rebar are being finalized.

Overall, total spending is trending below the original budget, and the project is presently showing a reduction in the estimate of completion (EAC). There are approximately three GMPs left to contract and no anticipated adjustments to construction oversight costs. The project construction is approaching 30% completion with no significant delays or concerns encountered that would impact the owner contingency, which is well distributed with \$6 million left to allocate for

the remaining GMPs. MWBE participation continues to meet construction goals.

Mr. McCormick presented two redesign amendments, which mitigate long-term water quality risks and construction safety concerns. The amendments also create continuity and flexibility for managing remaining design work. The amendment to Contract 501471 is for electrical and instrumentation design. The amendment to Contract 501682 is for civil, structural, mechanical, geotechnical, and cathodic protection design, engineering services during construction, and record drawing preparation.

In response to a question from the Board, Mr. McCormick explained that the redesign was triggered by the need to eliminate uncertainty in predicting pH levels and improve safety measures within the facility. The redesign provides the best possible opportunity for a low-cost, long-term solution.

Approved Northwater Treatment Plant Redesign and Construction Oversight Amendments, which include the seventh amendment to DP03 Contract 501471 with Carollo Engineers and the sixth amendment to DP05 Contract 501682 with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., for the contract period from February 26, 2020 to July 31, 2024, with a net total combined amount of \$633,271.

#### **POLICY MATTERS**

#### 3. ITEM III-A: LEAD REDUCTION PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. Woodrow presented the Board with an update on the Lead Reduction Program, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit C. She reported that expenditures are currently low, however, all contracts have been approved by the Board, and both work and spending will pick up as construction work proceeds in mid-March. The program is proceeding on schedule, and in some instances, ahead of schedule. The pH adjustment is scheduled to begin on March 2nd. The lead service line (LSL) replacement target is 4,477 a year, with outreach to impacted customers already underway. Filter distribution will begin the week of March 23rd with 8,000 to 10,000 filters distributed per week along with an information packet. Filter Adoption Surveys will go out and begin tracking in September.

Denver Water is working to update the public website and publish an interactive map with lead line replacement activity, both of which will be launched early next

week. The map will be adjusted as more information is gathered through testing and field work.

In response to a question from the Board, Ms. Woodrow clarified that potholing helps to more accurately locate lead service lines as opposed to examining the meter pits alone.

#### 4. ITEM III-B: IT STRATEGY UPDATE

Ms. Roberts presented the Board with an IT Strategy update, a copy of which is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes as Exhibit D.

She reported on the organizational changes within the department in 2019 and the time invested to focus and align with Denver Water's strategic plan. This year, more time will be invested on training to improve project management skills, and focusing on vendor deliverables, milestones, and performance. Staff will continue to strengthen cybersecurity performance, skillset, and knowledge assessments to meet future cybersecurity needs. A proposal is underway for the existing SCADA team for later this year.

Ms. Roberts noted that the three-year IT strategic plan involves creating standard work to regularly assess a rolling forecast of IT's initiatives for the next three years in order to provide high-level direction and spending projections. Staff will implement this plan through planned activities, major system upgrades, and improving efficiencies. The business technology transformation is still on track to begin with the upgrade of the JD financial system, and a consultant will be selected to assist with replacing it.

The Board noted its support and thanked her and the department for their efforts, commenting that it looks forward to hearing more about the process in 2020.

#### **EXECUTIVE UPDATE**

#### 5. ITEM IV-A: CEO REPORT

Mr. Lochhead reported on an onsite accident involving a contractor performing landscaping activities as part of the OCR Project. He expressed sympathy and support on behalf of Denver Water and its employees for the worker and his family, noting the establishment of a contribution fund from the Denver Water community.

#### 6. ITEM IV-B: CFO REPORT

Ms. Bricmont provided a monthly financial update, noting that an amended budget will be forthcoming in March.

#### **BRIEFING PAPERS & REPORTS**

#### 7. ITEM V-A-1: BRIEFING PAPER FOR LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Board received a Briefing Paper for Legislative Update, a copy of which is incorporated and attached to these Minutes as Exhibit E.

## 8. ITEM V-A-2 BRIEFING PAPER FOR REVISIONS TO THE OPERATING RULES

The Board received a Briefing Paper for Revisions to the Operating Rules, a copy of which is incorporated and attached to these Minutes as Exhibit F.

#### 9. ITEM V-A-3 BRIEFING PAPER FOR IT STRATEGY UPDATE

The Board received a Briefing Paper for IT Strategy update, a copy of which is incorporated and attached to these Minutes as Exhibit G.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

No further business appearing, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into a Trustee Meeting at approximately 10:08 a.m.

#### Trustee/Plan Sponsor Meeting

The Board of Water Commissioners, serving in their capacity as Trustees of the Employees' Retirement Plan Trust Fund and Plan Sponsor of the Employees' Retirement Plan, and as Sponsor of the Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan of the Board of Water Commissioners of the City and County of Denver, met on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, commencing at 10:08 a.m., in the Board Room, Room 106, 1600 West 12th Avenue, Denver, Colorado. The Minutes of the Trustee Meeting/Plan Sponsor are maintained separately. The Trustee/Plan Sponsor Meeting concluded at

10:20 a.m., at which time the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into the meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners and into Executive Session.

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President

Secretary