

These written minutes represent the general discussion of the DWCD Board of Directors, DWCD staff, and participants at the DWCD board meeting, and they include a record of any and all board actions taken at the meeting. The written minutes are not intended to provide a word-for-word account of the board meetings. Nor are they a direct quote of any statements offered at board meetings. All DWCD board meetings are recorded on audio tape.

DOLORES WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

MINUTES Regular Meeting January 11, 2018

CALL TO ORDER Bruce Smart, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Bruce Smart, President
Simon Martinez, Vice-President
Don Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer
Godwin Oliver, Director
David Frederick, Director
Glen Fish, Director
Wes Wilson, Director
Mike Preston, General Manager
Ken Curtis, Engineer
Lloyd Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor
Lisa Jordan, Office Administrator
Robert Stump, Bureau of Reclamation
Adam Reeves, Attorney
Doug Pickering, Colorado Division of Water Resources

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Eric Sprague, DWCD Engineering Technician; Brandon Johnson, Manager General MVIC; Greg Black, Director MVIC; Drew Gordanier, Director MVIC; Perry Hensley, McElmo; Rica Folden, Student; Jim Mimiaga, Cortez Journal

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MINUTES

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED FOR THE DECEMBER 14, 2017 REGULAR MEETING AND DECEMBER 14, 2017 EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MOTION: GLEN FISH
SECOND: DON SCHWINDT
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER '17 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF PAYABLES AS PRESENTED.

ADMIN: AP/CHECK #11065-11074

\$80,419.27

**MOTION: WES WILSON
SECOND: SIMON MARTINEZ
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY-TREASURER

Bruce turned the meeting over to Adam. Adam stated that in the past when there haven't been vacancies of officers there have been motions to retain current Board Officers. Any Board member is welcome to make a motion to retain at any time. If not, Adam stated that he would proceed with a ballot election.

MOTION: TO RETAIN EXISTING OFFICERS BRUCE SMART AS PRESIDENT, SIMON MARTINEZ AS VICE PRESIDENT AND DON SCHWINDT AS SECRETARY-TREASURER.

**MOTION: WES WILSON
SECOND: GODWIN OLIVER
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Bruce stated that there also are other appointments of representatives that need to be fulfilled. They are the Monitoring and Recommendation Team representative, Southwest Basin Roundtable (SWBRT) representative, the MVIC Board Meeting representative and the Towaco Highline Canal Committee (THCC) representative and alternate.

Bruce stated that he would like to remain on the Monitoring and Recommendation Team representative if no one has any objections.

Bruce asked Don if he would like to remain on the SWBRT as the representative. Don stated that he would be willing to remain the representative.

Godwin asked if all of the positions were up for appointment. Bruce stated that the Board normally appoints representatives when they perform elections. Adam stated that the only other position that has an election is for the THCC. Mike stated that it is required by the THCC bylaws to appoint a representative and alternate annually.

MOTION: NOMINATION OF GODWIN OLIVER FOR DWCD REPRESENTATIVE TO THE TOWAOC HIGHLINE COMMITTEE.

**MOTION: GLEN FISH
SECOND: WES WILSON
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Bruce asked David if he would be willing to continue as alternate on the THCC he stated that he would. This was accepted by consensus of the Board.

Bruce stated that Don is willing to carry on as the SWBRT representative and asked if anyone else had an interest. After the MVIC representative discussion Glen stated that he would consider being the SWBRT representative as he had conflicts with some of the other appointments, Don stated that he is fine with that.

**MOTION: TO APPOINT GLEN FISH TO THE SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE.
MOTION: DON SCHWINDT
SECOND: SIMON MARTINEZ
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Wes and Simon are unable at this time to be the MVIC representative. Glen stated that he has a conflict as he is a Board member for another entity whose Board Meeting the same day as the MVIC meeting. Godwin agreed to be the representative if Bruce will continue to cover for him at times. Don explained that the official reason to have a representative was to keep watch on the Class B stock. Don stated that the official designee should have that in mind when attending the MVIC meetings.

**RECESS MEETING FOR ENTERPRISE MEETING AT 7:19PM
RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING 8:41PM**

AGENCY REPORTS

BOR Report

Robert stated that regarding the MOA Updates **1)** All American continues to work on a pump under warranty. **2)** The SCADA migration HMI is to ship Monday, January 15 and due to arrive on Friday, January 19. Robert stated that the contractor has been a pleasure to work with. **3)** Robert stated that he did not have an update on the fixed speed pumps.

Division of Water Resources Report

Doug reported that all of the 2017 Colorado Division of Water Resources Division 7 records are final and published and available to the public.

T/H Committee Report

Godwin reported that the THC Committee had a meeting on December 20, 2017. **1)** The Committee continues discussing the leak on Siphon 7 at the Ute Fairgrounds. The Committee is also receiving guidance from BOR regarding the concrete. **2)** The Committee paid DWCD and MVIC. **3)** The Committee discussed a repair on a leak at Check 523.

Next T/H Meeting – The Committee will meet at the DWCD, Cortez Office January 31, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cortez Office.

MVIC Report

Brandon reported that **1)** MVIC is performing routine maintenance and winter maintenance on their system. **2)** The MVIC Annual Meeting is on Saturday, January 20, 2018.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT/DECISION ITEMS

Colorado Water Congress – Workshops January 24, Water Congress January 25-26. Mike stated that anyone wanting to have DWCD make their arrangements should let Gina know. Prompt registration and reservations insure lodging at the meeting Hotel. The Workshop Agenda for January 24 was mailed to the Board, as was the Convention Program on January 25 and 26. Note the Session 9:00-10:30 entitled “Our Forests, Our Water: Critically Linked.” will be moderated by Mike. In addition to those listed on the program, there will also be a wood business slot on the panel that will be filled by Ellen Roberts.

Water Smart Grant – McPhee Wildfire Mitigation, Watershed Health, Timber Industry Capacity. The Dolores Watershed and Resilient Forests (DWRF) Collaborative came out of an effort to protect and improve the watershed into McPhee to be more resilient to the growing risk of intensive wildfire and minimize post fire impacts on McPhee and other assets in the watershed. This effort began in July, 2015.

The DWRF has made notable progress in mapping assets to be protected including water facilities, powerline corridors and residential and commercial structures. DWRF partners have also mapped areas of high risk for wildfire and areas of opportunity on National Forest, private and State land to lower wildfire risks and damage. Montezuma County has worked with the Forest Service and used their own data to produce asset maps. Wood business owners have remained active in DWRF and a timber industry sub-group has formed and is working on the wood business expansion that will be required to address the forest health challenge on any meaningful scale.

The good news is the sustained commitment that DWRF partners have made, along with significant funding sources that have opened up to address forest health, locally and statewide. The bad news is that local forest health problems continue to intensify. The Round Nosed Pine Beetle is spreading rapidly, for example pine trees in Narraguinne Canyon are being wiped out. Once the bugs are done, they will move on and continue to attack.

The bug die-off is largely a result of drought stress which exacerbates wildfire risks. 2017 was one of the worst fire seasons in history wiping out forests and even towns in California and Montana. The only reason Southwest Colorado didn't take a hit in 2017 is that the monsoons showed up in time to lower this risk. Montana and California were not as lucky. Unless we get some serious precipitation during the rest of the winter, Southwest Colorado will be vulnerable to the same fate.

How strong is DWCD's interest in this matter? A major wildfire in the McPhee watershed could load McPhee Reservoir and other irrigation facilities with sediment and debris that would be disruptive and very expensive to clean up. The increasingly poor watershed conditions also have a negative affect watershed yield to the river. Healthier forests will improve water yields over time.

If this sounds like a long-term challenge, it is, but the only way to work out of this is to start to act. The intent of the Water Smart Grant is to frame all that has been accomplished, and all the challenges that lie ahead into a strategic plan. There is currently a unique level of cooperation and funding, locally and statewide, to address this challenge. There are a wide range of committed partners contributing to the DWRF effort. We should seize this opportunity for the sake of everyone in the District. This will provide DWCD the opportunity to protect McPhee Reservoir and other community assets by tapping into the broad-based commitment that DWRF enjoys.

A related series of attachments included: Articles entitled: “The forest conundrum” and “California fires are a wake-up call for Colorado.” Also mailed to the Board was a DWRF fact sheet which includes Stakeholders involved in DWRF, the Timber Industry Working Group Matrix, a list of accomplishments since March 2017, and a publication entitled: Forest Management to Protect Colorado's Water Resources.” This publication is an addendum to the Colorado Water Plan, commissioned by the Legislature in House Bill 16-1255, June 2017, which also created a statewide Forest Health Advisory Council to which Mike was appointed by the President of the Colorado Senate.

Ken stated that there isn't a lot of detail from the Water Smart Grant to talk about at this time. This is a problem all over the West. Ken explained that FireWise is a local group that goes around to subdivisions to help mitigate the wild and urban interface prepare for fire. Ken stated that the timber industries can't bring down the small diameter waste. This is part of the reason for the grant, to get rid of the "slash" that is left in the forest. The pine beetle happens to be in this area also. The area of concern is the watershed above McPhee and will include the Glade. This does not go over to Mancos but will go to Lost Canyon as they are in our watershed. Ken stated that he asks that if the Board sees problems to let him know or if the Board does not want DWCD to be the fiscal agent they should let Ken know. He stated that his role is putting the grant together and assisting with administration. Mike's role is to help with the wood businesses plans and incentives. BOR has set a Water Smart program up supporting a strategic plan for forest health. Mike stated that this is the best opportunity he has ever seen to assist in helping to solve this problem. Mike stated that communication has made a difference. The pace of wood sales on the forest have improved. The United States Forest Service has transferred money to the State Forest Service to help in the Southwest area. Resources are becoming available due to the collaborative effort. Mike referred the Board to the Forest Management to Protect Colorado's Water Resources report. Ken stated that submittal for the Water Smart Grant is due January 31st.

Discussion: Don stated that he would like to see more detail on what the application will say. He stated that having the grant submitted by January 31st seems difficult. Don stated that he would be willing to come back to a special meeting to go over the details of the application prior to submittal. Ken asked Don to give him the pitfalls. Don stated that his discomfort is with the detail that would go into the grant. Ken stated that several of the collaborative group will assist in writing the grant application. Ken stated that he can email or mail out additional information regarding the grant process and the entities that will be involved. After submittal there may need to be a resolution passed but no approval is necessary. Ken stated that the DWRF group is well established, however the process of preparing a grant is not as crisp as when DWCD applies for canal lining. It was stated that the Board would get to see the application prior to approval. Don stated that he is supportive but it needs to be done properly. Ken stated the next time this opportunity will come around will be next January. Bruce stated that the need is there and work needs to begin regarding forest health and the grant is well timed. Ken stated that one concern is to get more work being done on National Forest land. So far there has been work performed on a private Ute Mountain Ute Tribe ranch, work around Pruitt Reservoir and around Butler Corner. Ken stated that the ultimate goal is to have on the ground action in high risk areas. Ken will communicate with the Board prior to the application. Mike stated that there are resources that are going to flow to forest health and wild fire mitigation throughout the state. Mike stated that with a good plan we can get our share of those resources to flow to McPhee. Glen asked if there was a target on where the bugs are. Mike stated that the Forest Service is interested in going into the blue stained areas to get rid of the slash. That the bugs are hitting many areas including a massive die off in Narraguinne Canyon. Mike stated that the trees need the sunlight and water to grow and the slash piles need to be cleaned up. One thing under consideration is producing power with biomass. Mike stated that the Ponderosa Pine units that were restored in the 1990's and early 2000's will not allow big crown fires. Fire would burn close to the ground. Don asked if the main goal is to get the product out of the forest how will this happen. Ken stated that the biomass study will address this. Don asked Robert if this sounds like something BOR would want to fund. Robert stated that it is in line with BOR's Water Smart Grant program.

Set 2018 Brain Storm – The Brainstorm was set for February 15, 2018 beginning at 9:00AM until 4:00PM. Mike stated that he will bring a Brainstorm agenda to the Board Meeting in February. Mike listed several ideas for discussion for the Board to consider. Bruce also stated that there are new Board members and asked them if there were any items they would like to have in depth discussion on. Don stated that there is always value on focused review on fundamentals. Don stated that history, federal law, state law and water supply are four fundamentals to discuss.

Proxy for MVIC Shareholder Meeting, January 20. The Board was asked to decide on who should carry the proxy to register and vote the 170 Class A Shares owned by DWCD.

Discussion: Don, Bruce, Glen, David, and Godwin plan to attend the meeting. Bruce asked Brandon if there were any topics that DWCD would need to vote on. Brandon stated that under New Business they have listed the Budget, McElmo, Totten Reservoir and a study they are preparing for.

As has been the practice, Mike will write a letter listing eligible DWCD Board members.

Federal Reserved Water Rights/Instream Flow Program - The Board was briefed extensively on these negotiations in December as documented in the December GM Report and Legal Report. Rio Lado which is the only ISF proposed in the Dolores Basin is delayed until 2019. The remaining concern is Himes Creek in the Pagosa Springs area, which is currently scheduled for Notice to Proceed by the CWCB Board in March of 2018. Himes Creek use of the Instream Flow Program is problematic in that it involves "all unappropriated flows." There is still a chance that Himes Creek will also be delayed to 2019, but DWCD has made it clear that we will raise concerns with the CWCB Board in March of 2018 if they keep Himes Creek on the Intent to Appropriate list.

Adam stated that CWCB is seeking all unappropriated flows in Himes Creek and this is a departure from where CWCB has been in the past and it is very concerning if they continue to proceed. If left the way they have discussed this is pushing the envelope and not good for water rights holders.

Mike stated that there will be information out to the Board next year as this is something DWCD Board will need to watch. Mike stated that there are other steps the Forest Service could use to protect step pools such as Himes Creek. Adam stated someone needs to be willing to take this use of the Instream Flow Program to court and follow it all the way through as it is a terrible precedent. Mike stated that legal action is a last resort with the CWCB Board. A policy discussion should be pursued if we can get a delay. Don stated that they are targeting this part of the State as it has the least votes. Adam stated that there are some large instream flows in an area with few votes. Mike stated that Himes Creek is near Pagosa Springs and SWCD has a stake in this, DWCD cannot undertake a legal fight alone. Don stated that we used to be geographically isolated where our water could not be move around and current laws are changing to make this area a target. Mike emphasized that our first line of action is to get CWCB to carefully evaluate this from a policy standpoint. Perhaps a workshop can be arranged with the CWCB Board in 2018 if Himes Creek is delayed.

Activities and Meetings since Last Board Meeting:

December 18: Phone Conference to Plan for Forest Health Panel at Water Congress - GM
December 20: Planning Session Water Smart Grant – Ken, GM
December 20: Towaoc-Highline Committee
December 21: DWCD Comments as Cooperating Agency on Draft EA for ACECs (Areas of Critical Concern) submitted to Tres Rios BLM.
January 3: Interview with Austin Coke, KJSD on Water Outlook for 2018 - GM
January 3: DWRF Collaborative – GM, Ken
January 4: Interview with Sarah Harvey of Water Education Colorado for 2017 Update on Southwest Basin – GM
January 9: MVIC Board Meeting, 2:00PM
January 10: Pre-Roundtable Water Project Funding Workshop, DWCD, 1:00-2:30, DWCD
January 10: Southwest Basin Roundtable, 3:00PM (2:30) Social Time, DWCD
January 11: West Slope Caucus Phone Call – GM

Upcoming Meetings and Activities:

January 18: Water Information Program Steering Committee, 9:00AM SWCD
January 22-23: CWCB Board Meeting, Denver
January 24: Water Congress Workshops, Hyatt Regency, Denver Tech Center
January 25-26: Water Congress Convention
January 31: Towaoc-Highline Committee, 2:00PM, DWCD
February 7: DWRF Collaborative, DWCD, 2:00PM
February 8: General Manager Evaluation, 5:30PM, Dinner Provided
February 13: MVIC Board Meeting, 2:00PM
February 15: 2018 Brainstorm, 9:00AM-4:00PM

Legal Report – Adam stated that **1)** the Dolores is off the 303d listing. **2)** The 505 decree has been entered. **3)** The Groundhog decree is nearly entered and the legal team is confident going into 2018. **4)** They are working with John Justus on the 87.3 cfs and feels there is a common understanding of what the goals are. **5)** Diligence on Beaver Creek, Bear Creek and Dawson Reservoir, has started. Landowners have been notified as per the new law. Staff is waiting for the opposition period to run out.

Set Time and Date for GM Evaluation – This meeting was set for February 8, 2017 at 5:30 PM.

NEXT DWCD BOARD MEETING – Thursday, February 8, 2018 - 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 10:06 P.M.

Donald W. Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer

Bruce Smart, President

DOLORES WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
January 11, 2018

CALL TO ORDER Bruce Smart, President, called the meeting to order at 7:19 PM

ROLL CALL Bruce Smart, President
Simon Martinez, Vice-President
Don Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer
Godwin Oliver, Director
David Frederick, Director
Wes Wilson, Director
Glen Fish, Director
Mike Preston, General Manager
Ken Curtis, Engineer
Lloyd Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor
Lisa Jordan, Office Administrator
Robert Stump, Bureau of Reclamation
Adam Reeves, Attorney
Doug Pickering, Colorado Division of Water Resources

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Eric Sprague, DWCD Engineering Technician; Brandon Johnson, Manager General MVIC; Greg Black, Director MVIC; Drew Gordanier, Director MVIC; Perry Hensley, McElmo; Rica Folden, Student; Jim Mimiaga, Cortez Journal

MINUTES

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Don stated that he had corrections to the minutes and that he would like to add a couple of sentences. Don's changes are as follows, shown in bold type. "Ken stated that the allocation sheet tracks the 1600 AF of fish & wildlife mitigation water. **Ken added that this was probably the environmental water raised in the McElmo water user discussion earlier in the meeting.** Don stated that he was talking about the saved water that is **described as available for environmental use** in the T/H **when he talked about the environmental water in his education outreach sessions.** Ken then said this document is the source for the 26,300 classified acres times the 4.01 AF/AC that shows up in Exhibit A."

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED FOR THE DECEMBER 14, 2017 ENTERPRISE MEETING.

MOTION: DON SCHWINDT
SECOND: GODWIN OLIVER
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bruce asked if there would be additional activity on the Budget Analysis before the end of the year. Mike stated that end of year transfers and additional revenues will be reflected on the December Budget Analysis.

David asked if the cloud seeding was doing any good. Don stated that it was reported at the Southwest Basin Roundtable meeting on Wednesday that it was finally cooling off enough to seed Wednesday afternoon. Ken stated that sometimes like the current year the contractor will seed fewer than the minimum required hours since few opportunities exist. Ken stated that the contractors had been holding off as the conditions had been too warm but finally cooled off sufficiently so they had the correct seeding conditions.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER '17 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF PAYABLES AS PRESENTED.

O&M: AP/CHECK #35592-35681 & PR/CHECK #122356-122403

\$210,926.12

MOTION: GODWIN OLIVER
SECOND: SIMON MARTINEZ
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

O&M REPORT – Lloyd reported the following:

Pump Plants – The excitation equipment at Great Cut Pump Plant is continuing. All the new cabinets and electrical components have been installed. The new wiring will be installed and terminated.

At Cahone Pump Plant, the new drive cabinets have been installed and the new wiring is being completed.

South Canal – December 19th, WAPA set the relay parameters on the new switch and re-energized the power from Pleasant View Plant to Ruin Canyon Plant. A couple of the phases were reversed, but no other problems were encountered. Power has remained on with no problems. WAPA is scheduled to test the wire in March, using their new test equipment.

Laterals – Meters at Hovenweep and Cahone have been removed and are being rebuilt. Numerous PRV's are also being rebuilt as needed. Several of the old Ames valves have been removed and replaced with Cla-valves.

Towaoc Power Plant – The new excitation equipment installation is still in progress. The sleeve valve pit is being drained for further inspection of the sleeve valve.

Towaoc Highline Canal – The sinkhole repair near check 523 has been completed. The sinkhole area was excavated and new material was placed and compacted. A one hundred foot liner was installed over the repaired area.

The nine canal check gates that were removed have been rebuilt and repainted. Reinstallation will begin as weather permits. The operating hydraulic cylinders have all been rebuilt and are being reinstalled.

David asked how often the gates were painted. Lloyd stated that this is the first time it has been done. Bruce asked how the wear and tear was. Lloyd stated that the gates were rusted and staff had to rebuild the top plates and the rails on the side were rusted and replace. The majority of the gates on Reach 3 will be repainted, this was only a portion of the gates scheduled for maintenance and the remainder will be painted in 2018.

ENGINEERING AND WATER MANAGEMENT REPORT

Water Accounting – Ken stated that **1)** there is a Colorado Ag Water Alliance workshop locally on January 30th & 31st with one of the topics will be presented by the State Engineer. Ken stated that people can sign up online or contact Gina or Lisa to register. **2)** Ken presented several 2017 yearend reports, graphs and spreadsheets: the first was precipitation showing an average water year at Great Cut. Ken stated that DWCD has been keeping seasonal precipitation records since 1986. Ken presented a pie chart showing the long-term McPhee inflow average at 82% from the Dolores due to some dry years. The river was more than normal this season at 85%. Similar charts for outflow were presented. Based on the 30 year average MVIC is at 39%, M&I 1% Fishery 9%, Spill 30% Utes 7% and Full Service 14%. Diversion charts show the average M&I diversions, UF&RE diversion, Full Service diversions and MVIC diversion. Ken noted that MVIC' amount shows all their diversions out of McPhee, but most of it is non-project water. Ken also stated that the MVIC service area has adjusted to the project and use has come down some from historic levels. Release Downstream includes spill and fishery all together. Then Ken presented separate charts for spill and fishery. Ken presented a graph for the McPhee Reservoir Ending Active Capacity & Spill. Ken noted that the last 7 years have been dry. Ken then reported the Dolores Project M&I Water Use History through WY 2017 on which the Project & Non-Project uses for the City of Cortez, UMUT and Montezuma Water Company diversions are shown. Ken presented the MVIC irrigation use from McPhee storage numbers. Ken stated that the information presented is only approximately 60-70% of what DWCD actually tracks. Ken presented the 2017 Hydrograph showing the inflow and outflow. Ken stated that this was a good water year with the reservoir settling down around 6,900 feet, which is common after a spill. **3)** Ken stated that he will bring more highlighted contracts back in the next few months and work on the supply projections through the spring. Ken stated that there is low soil moisture in the mountains at this time. Ken stated that the small storms recently have doubled the snowpack up to 40% of normal however there was not much to begin with. **4)** Ken stated that regarding allocations, staff wants to hear back from the Board. Ken stated that it is still early but it is time to begin deciding how to send messages out if necessary. Ken stated that January 1st the active storage was 134KAF. The current forecast gives a Full Supply for 2018 but leaves the reservoir low going into 2019. The reservoir is currently 286KAF full, meaning 96KAF are required to fill, with 134KAF of that being active capacity. According

to the CBRFC's "most probable" (50% Exceedance) Forecast, McPhee will receive 144KAF of runoff between now and July 31st. Ken stated that we are always conservative in projections. Ken stated that Vern Harrell, with BOR, will run his own plan and they will compare the forecasts. Ken stated that 70% would still not cause a shortage but 90% would start into a shortage. If we go to a "minimum" there would be a deeper shortage.

Discussion: Don asked if the exceedance probability were the numbers they were used to seeing. Ken stated that they are the same as in the past. Ken stated that 50% is also called the most probable and 70% is more conservative than 50%. Ken stated that historically in this area weather patterns don't hold on over long periods so we hope to see a change in patterns. There will be press releases and the Board should let Ken and Eric S. know if they have ideas on how to pass information on to interested parties.

Oroville Dam Spillway Incident - Ken presented a four page summary regarding the Oroville Dam Incident. Ken stated that we will be hearing about this incident for many years ahead as the dam safety community revises practices. However this document is a very good summary of what happened at Oroville.

Letter to BOR – Ken presented a copy of a letter to Robert Stump, BOR, regarding the ramp down criteria to more appropriately reflect natural hydrology. Ken stated that DWCD went slightly over 6,924 feet in 2017 so the leeway will be bumped down so there is no storing water above 6924. Don stated that he appreciates Ken starting this discussion. Ken stated that he will keep the Board informed.

2nd Annual Agriculture Outlook – Everyone is invited to attend this event. Board members can call to sign up if they would like.

ANS Update – Ken stated that the legislative bill for State ANS funding was introduced this week.

Drought Contingency Plan – Ken stated that the Board received a mailout of the Drought Contingency Plan. Ken stated that there are two additional comments. Ken stated that Harris Water Engineering has written a new memo regarding changes and there was a meeting to begin discussions on the BOR comments and questions. Ken stated that the questions were answered in the plan in red. Ken asked for comments regarding the red changes. Ken stated that the tables in the Plan have been prioritized in the back of the document. Don stated that he interpreted that there were numbers assigned to the priorities. Ken stated that this is true, but there could be some change of action on the priorities, particularly if something costs a significant amount, then there may be a need to perform other functions first. Ken stated that staff feels like they got everyone's priorities correct and if they want to rearrange them they could. Ken stated that we received an email from Perry Hensley where he found a typo regarding senior and junior water rights. This has been corrected. Ken stated that Drew Gordanier asked a question regarding the fish pool hydrology. Ken stated that Carrie and Steve have written a memo including this discussion which was added into the Plan. Specifically, it was added in as a concern under section 4.1.4.3 of the Plan.

Ken handed out a highlighted copy of suggestions regarding how to fix the comments from the BOR and also regarding the "Drew/Brandon/MVIC" fish pool changes. Ken also addressed the narrative regarding the Biology Committee.

Bruce stated that whatever might be put forth, it is hard to put a carve-out on it as nowhere else is any other water user tied to a cut-back. Bruce stated that in many places we have to save water as carryover but there is no timeframe as to when it has to happen. Ken stated that this has the same flexibility. Drew stated that he knows the fishery is under contract, but there could be contribution from them to the carryover. It was stated that this topic was initiated at the Board to Board but was not an action item. Ken recommends number 2) Take the concept and describe it as a Mitigation Action Prior to a Drought under Storage Actions by inserting after the Plateau Creek Project as a new section 5.2.8: "5.2.8 Base Flow Pool Carryover Storage – The biology committee that advises Reclamation about management of the fish pool should consider leaving the base flow pool water increase that is available during spill years because of the "clock stoppage" provision described in the 1996 EA in McPhee Reservoir for carryover storage." Ken recommends number 3) Table 19. Potential Mitigation Priorities Continued, insert under Non-Prioritized Actions as the top (first) priority above 5.1.4.1 New Plateau Reservoir: "The new section 5.2.8 Base Flow Pool Carryover Storage". And the Ken recommends the paragraph written as follows: "The primary function of the Biology Committee is to manage the fish pool to best support the trout fishery downstream of the McPhee dam to the Bradfield Bridge. The Biology Committee makes recommendations to Reclamation and DWCD about fish pool base flow releases. During a spill year, none of the allocated Project water used for the fishery is released during the spill. This action is known as turning the "fish clock" off, by not diverting fish releases below McPhee during a spill. The water accounting reflects that the fish pool allocation is not charged during a spill. Thus, the fish pool allocation is used over a shorter period increasing downstream summer & winter base flows with water coming from McPhee storage. Therefore downstream flows are higher in a spill year than a non-spill year. These agreed actions come from the 1996 EA and subsequent 2000 Operating Agreement between DWCD and Reclamation. In years this occurs, increased downstream flows due to a spill year, the Biology Committee should consider the benefits of contributing to carryover storage. This would be done by not releasing all or a part of the additional amount of water that was held back during the spill period. This contribution could be accomplished by the Biology Committee making a recommendation to Reclamation and DWCD to maintain base

flow releases that result in contributions to carryover storage similar to other Project water users in large spill years.”

Discussion: Bruce stated that he thinks the last paragraph is good. Don stated that when he read the BOR information he was leery, but his sense after his review was that DWCD is still ok with this and even though he is not as comfortable as he would like to be, the changes have been positive. Don believes this is an improvement and believes the Plan is a better product and that it will move forward. Glen stated that he has been impressed with the work the authors of the Plan have done and was impressed with the process.

Ken will bring a resolution if necessary to the February Board Meeting.

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN WITH CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY STAFF.

**MOTION: GLEN FISH
SECON: WES WILSON
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Projects Update – Ken stated that he did not have any additional projects to report on.

Other

ADJOURNMENT Dolores Water Conservancy District Water Activity Enterprise Board meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM

Donald W. Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer

Bruce Smart, President