



CWWUC Approved Minutes – April 8, 2020 Meeting

1. Guest speakers

a. Nicole Rowan, CDPHE –

- i. Nicole provided an overview of the CDPHE response to COVID-19
 1. Announced that there is a Division sign-up sheet for COVID-19 matters that will provide emails from CDPHE.
 2. There are web resources available for water and COVID-19, such as frequently asked questions. Divided into six major parts such as General Information, Continuity of Operations, Drinking Water, Resources, Wastewater and Stormwater - https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/COVID-19_Resources_for_Water
 3. Reminded utilities that CoWARN is available for assistance and provides opportunities for retired operators to sign-up to provide assistance. Kaitlyn Beekman of CoWARN wanted to remind everyone to make sure they are able to login and have updated contacts.
 4. Colorado has put together some information for the Colorado delegation about the importance of funding for water and wastewater utilities as it relates to potential future Federal stimulus money.
- ii. Wes asked about training opportunities and training units and what to do about pulling operators out of retirement.
 1. Nicole said that as long as there is an operator in charge, expired operators can be used.
- iii. Andra asked about the potential for state funding to assist utilities that are losing funding due to the crisis.
 1. Nicole said that the joint budget committee should be starting back soon and possibly in May they will discuss this type of item. She agreed to pass this question along to the lobbyist.
- iv. JM asked if someone who was signed up for the D operators test to take the test from home on-line.
 1. Nicole agreed to look into it and get information back information.



- v. We asked members if there are any members who are quarantining staff at the plants yet. CSU indicated that schedules have changed schedules to twelve hours on, twelve hours off to reduce staff.
- vi. Utilities reported increased rags, some issues with nitrification, increased phosphorous, increased BODs and some issues with bacterial growth in the early days of the pandemic.

2. Board Action Items

- a. Approval of invoices for payment
 - i. Corona Environmental Consulting - \$3,023.78 (approved by vote)
 - ii. Vranesh & Raisch - \$1,628.63 (approved by vote)
 - iii. Two invoices for \$1,670.98 for the Colorado Monitoring Framework for this year and last year dues (approved by vote)
- b. Approval of March minutes

3. Discussion items

- a. We asked members if there would be interest in putting together a response for Federal legislation support for a Phase 5 bill.
 - i. We suggested that many organizations are just going to support through other national organizations but not looking to hire lobbying support. Mark Thomas and Blair Corning agreed with that approach.
 - ii. Christine from Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck came on-line and said that there is a possibility that any funding that would be made available to utilities might not be administered through the states. She also suggested that future bills may also include short-term loans for utilities that are facing a loss of revenue.
 - iii. NACWA has indicated that utilities may face up to a 20% loss in revenue.
- b. Gabe asked if utilities had received and force major notifications from contractors. At least three utilities indicated that they have.
- c. Some utilities are collecting samples right now to have available for studies that may be looking into COVID-19 in wastewater.
 - i. [Biobot.io/covid19/](https://biobot.io/covid19/)
- d. Mallory Safety and Supply has some PPE supplies, such as masks, etc. www.mallory.com
- e. Shonnie provided an update on the new website.