



**Draft Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 8th, 2024**

Attendees: See the table at the end of the minutes.

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Julie got the meeting going and a copy of the recording can be found [here](#). Julie welcomed everyone and went over the agenda.

Nathan Moore, CDPHE staff – Nathan reported on progress on the fee setting process and dredge and fill activities. A version of the Dredge and Fill Bill passed the legislature and is awaiting the Governor’s signature. He’s not sure of what all made it into the final bill. Gabe added in that there is an exception for water and wastewater treatment facilities.

There was a meeting on the fee setting process. The WQCD is trying to get to 75% permits current and providing more services. The first part is to identify the needs to achieve their goals. The next step will be to determine where the funds will come from. The rulemaking hearing will be in 2025 to set permit fees. There will be a rulemaking hearing on fee setting on commercial permits next week.

They have heard the CWWUC’s concerns about the need for more transparency and better time tracking. Nathan explained that they have worked hard to develop some estimates of the time and reporting that are here -

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qGGdnUO\\_o7Dx6\\_f1iPpohG2dqFmz8qG2](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qGGdnUO_o7Dx6_f1iPpohG2dqFmz8qG2)

It will take a lot more time to produce the type of hourly reporting the CWWUC is looking for. Last year the WQCD only wrote 2 permits. They will be continuing to gather more information. He asked that CWWUC provide comments on the stakeholder form on the website.

Gabe asked for a timeline for the budget setting for the WQCD by the Legislative Joint Budget Committee (JBC). He said that he didn’t have the answers but the financial team that attends the fee setting stakeholder meetings should be able to provide the information. Nathan encouraged everyone to reach out and provide feedback, especially if they aren’t able to attend all the stakeholder meetings.

Julie asked about other divisions that are funded by cash fees and their ability to time track. Nathan responded that they had special circumstances.

They are working to get the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) under contract to start a feasibility review of treatment options. There may be a request for more funding for the effort. NWRI will be forming a panel that will use national experts to conduct the review. Nathan guessed that the effort will be around \$150,000 to \$200,000. NWRI is excited about the project.

He noted that a green infrastructure bill is likely to pass the legislature. There may be some funding for the WQCD to participate in the pilot programs. Green infrastructure may provide some solutions for temperature standards in certain circumstances.

Cybersecurity – Brandon Carter from EPA did not attend.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Regulatory Updates –**

Justine reported on the fee regulation work group. CWWUC submitted party status to the WQCC rulemaking hearing on Commercial permits fee setting. Katie Koplitz will provide 5 minutes of testimony for the CWWUC. The testimony will include requests for more accountability about resources expenditures. Justine will be sending out draft testimony this afternoon.

Gabe reminded the council that they don't have a lobbyist at the legislature. The council might want to think about how to present information about the questions being raised regarding the fee bill to the legislators. Water Congress may be one way to provide input to the legislators. This is the last day of the legislature but the JBC meets quarterly and will be meeting in the summer.

Katie added that she and Julie have been working with Justine regarding the fee bill issues. She encouraged any member to reach out to Julie and Katie if they have any questions. She wants to be sure they are representing members well. Mark Thomas expressed his gratitude and support for their efforts. Meghan asked about meeting attendance and public notice for permits. Justine responded that it's being worked on.

The Feasibility Workgroup will meet next on June 20<sup>th</sup>. They are working on goals for the panel. It will take 4 to 8 weeks for the panel to complete it's review. There isn't a lot of clarity around the problem statement and who is developing it. There was a presentation on the EPA's lifecycle analysis in Santa Fe. The CWWUC needs to make sure that the problem statement addresses the CWWUC needs. Gabe noted that people could nominate themselves to be on the problem statement development committee. **Julie** will reach out to the WQCD with some questions.

Andrew asked WQCD staff about how the problem statement would be developed and if there would be interaction along the work progress. He didn't receive any answers.

There is a question about who will hold the contract for NWRI. Funding is unlikely to be an issue, but there is a question about who will hold the contract. There is confusion about how the panel will work and who will have access to the panel. The plan may be having the panel help define ways to work within the WQCD framework; which treatments are feasible. NWRI would pick the experts to be on the panel based on the problem statement. The CWWUC needs to be part of whoever is carrying the contract. CMF may be convening a group to develop a problem statement to present to the WQCD.

The questions are what role CWWUC wants to play with the contract and forming the problem statement. We'll talk about how to handle the issues at the **next meeting**.

Julie thanked Gabe for his work with the Dredge and Fill Permit.

Gabe reported on progress on Reg 22 historical infrastructure and construction flexibility. He thinks the proposal looks acceptable. Inspectors should now know how to handle undocumented historical infrastructure but people should complain if that doesn't happen.

Katie reported that Reg. 64 regarding biosolids is up for triennial review. She asked if any members had any thoughts about the triennial review. She will share Metro's comments when they're available. Hopefully she can give an update at our **next meeting**. Mark shared the concern about opening up the Regulation and being vulnerable to addition of PFAS. It may be better to just leave it alone.

Dan added that South Platte Renew may have some results to share about soil testing for PFAS they have done. **Amy** will follow up with getting a report from Dr. Pepper.

Fly – In Debrief/RMWEA Government Liaison – Julie reported that a number of entities had a water fly-in to Washington DC to lobby the Colorado congressional delegation the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>. A lot of people from Colorado attended and lobbied. Julie shared a link to pre-populated letters to send to representatives - <https://www.wef.org/water-advocates> . Exempting Water Utilities from CERCLA designations was an important topic. Affordability and Infrastructure funding were other issues. Cybersecurity was another issue but there wasn't a unified voice.

Julie asked if there was interest in having the CWWUC join the federal affairs subcommittee of the Colorado Water Congress. Julie shared what a good opportunity it could be for the CWWUC. Gabe, as a Water Congress Board member, added that there is good participation from the congressional staff. Congressional earmarks are reducing funding for infrastructure funding. It's a good opportunity to inform congressional staff about how national policy is impacting Coloradans.

Legislation on tap fees was amended to make it acceptable to water interests. The PFAS work group will start this summer.

**Chemical Evaluations** – Dan reported that there has been a little progress and now permittees should be alerted when their permit is being opened up. They have been working with Andrew and the meetings are continuing. Andrew has indicated that the WQCD is looking to expand communications around what data permittees may want to start collecting prior to permits being opened.

**CMF** – Julie reported that there would be more to come. They are going to try collaborate more efficiently on issues of interest to many entities.

**Water Quality Form Updates** - Meghan reported via the chat that the next meeting is May 20 and she encouraged folks to think about what they want on the retreat agenda and either share those ideas with Lisa Carlson or Meghan, or share at the May 20 meeting. The retreat is July 25 and 26 in Denver (CSU Spur campus, likely).

**Barbara Biggs Memorial Fund**– Amy reported that a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Greenway Foundation and CWWUC has been drafted and needs a legal review. Katie responded that she will request a legal review from Metro staff. Amy has also drafted an application to the scholarship fund.

**Participation in Youth Water Education and CO Water Plan**- There was not support for the effort.

**EPA PFAS sampling Questionnaire** - Patti Zietlow wanted to make members aware that EPA has issued a questionnaire regarding PFAS sampling. Only 3 Colorado entities will be impacted with their questionnaire request, all PTOWs will be impacted eventually by the policy based on the questionnaire. Some entities will be requested to conduct testing, including biosolids testing. Some of the samples will be stored long term by the EPA with the use of the data unknown. They are also requesting sampling suites for other things like metals. Patti offered to get comments from other CWWUC members. It was mostly an informational issue but there may be more impacts in the future. Patti will share the final comments.

**Board Action Items** – Katie moved, and Wes seconded a motion to approve the invoices as presented. The vote was unanimous to approve payment of invoices presented.

May Checks to sign		
2404 Amy Conklin	\$ 2,056.25	Apr Coord Svcs

Approval of April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, minutes. Wes moved and Roy seconded a motion to approve the minutes with a minor change from Julie. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

Open Discussion – Blair was confirmed as a water quality control commissioner. Dan will fill Blair’s role as Treasurer. Julie will miss the June meeting.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Attendance

Amy Conklin, Coordinator  
 Gabe Racz  
 Nathan Moore  
 Justine Beckstrom  
 Andrew Sayers-Fay

jurget  
 kunovicj  
 Shawn Tobin  
 mfreyre

Member	Last	First	email	
Peublo	Callaghan	Andrew		x
St. Vrain	Arnold	Alex		x
SPR	Stucky Acob	Andrea		x
	Berlman	Annie		
		Anthony		
Grand Junction	Firl	Ashley		x
Roxborough	Biggs	Barb	<a href="#">Gone but not forgotten. RIP dear friend</a>	
	Johnson	Ben		x
	Green	Bethany		
	Bernard	Brandon		x
	Zachman	Brad		
S. Platte Renew	Corning	Blair		x
	Burks	Bryan		
	A	Brianne		
Pinyon	Byus	Caroline		x
Boulder	Sigmon	Cole		
	Bieker	C		
	Lane	Cynthia		
South Platte Renew	DeLaughter	Dan		
	Richardson	Daniel		
Montrose	Bries	David		
	Louch	Dave		

Black Hawk	Trejo	Diana		
Broomfield	Cowell	Dawn		x
Mott Macdonalds	Farias	Elizabeth		x
Dominion	Bahn	Evan		x
		Heather		
Silverthorne	Kruckeberg	Jason		x
Fort Collins	Schlam	Jesse		
Black Hawk	DiToro	Jessica		x
Fountain	Heckman	Jim		
Monument	Kendrick	Jim	jfkendrick@q.com	x
Metro Water Recovery	Dorsch	Jim	jdorsch@mwr.dst.co.us	x
Gypsum	Hancock	Jim		
Loveland	Creaghe	Joe		x
	Coyle	Jon		
Longmont	Gage	John		x
	Moore	Jonathan		
	Watkins	Joshua		
	Koplitz	Katie		x
	Parker	Mark		
NFRWQPA	Thomas	Mark		
	Deminski	Mary		
Broomfeild	Monacelli	Natalie		
	Harmon	Nick		
	Morgan	Mike		
	Hoffman	Mike		x
	Mimna	Melissa		
Loveland	Creaghe	Joe		
Longmont	Gage	John		
Centennial	Tinetti	Julie		
Metro	Koplitz	Katie		
	Gustafson	M		
Northglenn	Freyer	Manuel		
ERWSD	Harris	Madeleine		x
C Springs	Christiansen	Mark		x
	Thomas	Mark		x
Colorado Springs	Paterniti	Mary		

Boulder	Wilson Outcalt	Meghan	<a href="mailto:wilsonm@bouldercolorado.gov">wilsonm@bouldercolorado.gov</a>	x
Boulder	Mimna	Melissa		x
Gypsum	Hoffman	Mike		
	Morgan	Mike		x
Aurora	Harmon	Nick		x
Broomfield	Monacelli	Natalie		
C. Springs	Zeitlow	Patti		x
Security	Jurgens	Tad		
	Heald	Roy		x
	Calkins	Sam		x
Aurora	Harcus	Scott		
	Scaggiari	Sherry		x
Northglenn	Stanley	Shelley	<a href="mailto:sstanley@northglenn.org">sstanley@northglenn.org</a>	
Westminster	Wilson	Tara		x
Fremont	Ormandy	Toby	<a href="mailto:tormandy@fsd.co">tormandy@fsd.co</a>	x
	Kraft	Tanner		
	Eldridge	Tyler		x
	Eaves	Wally		
Plum Creek	Martin	Wes		x