



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024

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

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

Nathan Moore, CDPHE staff – Nathan reported on funding for the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) funding logistics. An additional \$145,000 needs to be raised. So far, CWWUC has a commitment of \$120,000 in funds.

Sept. 19th is next meeting for Feasibility and Implementation subgroup. Suzanne will be meeting with other stakeholders. They'll also be talking about how to continue moving the effort forward.

Nathan also discussed the renewal of the fee setting discussions. There are limitations in their data collection systems. They're beginning to develop work plans and will continue reporting on their progress. The monthly meetings will continue until the fee setting hearing late next year.

Nathan shared comments from the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) retreat. Nathan talked to them about making dramatic changes to the Road Map as far as nutrients are concerned and they seemed willing to consider major changes. There's so much uncertainty about what final effluent limits will be that it's creating anxiety. Utilities need a lot of time to plan and there's concern that the standards will be unattainable. The goal is to have collaborative conversations to provide some certainty. One outcome may be effluent concentrations that would be stable for as long as 20 years and would be reasonable and feasible. There will need to be intense conversations to settle on an approach and make progress. Nathan hopes that all the disparate efforts can be streamlined and the whole process can be more efficient.

Gabe thanked the Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) for listening to concerns. It's unfortunate that the Clean Water Act process contributes to the high level of certainty. He believes the NWRI panel is a good way to spend energy. Nathan hopes that the NWRI work will inform the 2027 hearing.

Suzanne Sharkey from NWRI joined the meeting and presented information about the Feasibility panel. She talked about the scope for the work and the role of the Project Partners and the panel. The delivery product from the effort will be a summary digest of the panel recommendations. Suzanne is available to answer questions about the funding. Nathan and Tyson are available to answer other questions.

Bret asked about how invoicing will occur. Suzanne shared that funds received will be put into a restricted fund until the project starts. Anyone who wants an invoice directly from NWRI should contact Suzanne Sharkley at ssharkey@nwri-usa.org

So far, over \$120,000 has been committed to the project from CWWUC members. If members need to split payments over 2 calendar years, that won't be a problem. Just let Suzanne and her team know that the payments will be spread over more than one year. Is there a minimum amount needed to greenlight the project? Not really, but if lower amounts of money are raised, fewer hours will be available for NWRI. Is there a deadline for obtaining a full commitment of funds? Suzanne will need to think about it. Are there different levels of funding for organizations to contribute? Suzanne can share the final proposal and budget for the members to review. Even small amounts are important. Dawn noted that some utilities may be able to contribute this year and next year. They can reach out to Suzanne and note that in their request for invoice.

Nathan offered to share a request for funding letter if anyone needs one. People should contact Tyson Ingels who is working on a cover letter. **Tyson** will follow up with Julie.

Stephan requested a framework for what different size members should contribute. The amounts people are contributing is being tracked in a spreadsheet. If CWWUC is already in the system of some organizations, it might make it easier for CWWUC to invoice.

Discussion Items

Regulatory Updates –

Gabe shared that the WQCC retreat discussion pretty much replaced the Road Map discussions. Anyone upstream of a reservoir still has a lot of uncertainty. Cherry Creek Reservoir is probably the reservoir of most concern because of harmful algal blooms. Bear Creek lake may also be of concern. Using Reg. 85 2.0 will probably be the tool they use to set nutrient standards. What happens to the Voluntary Incentive Program credits is another issue. What about the statewide chlorophyll a standards? Existing Chlorophyll a standards could be used to set nutrient standards and/or effluent limits.

Gabe remembered that there was a thought to put together a summary of the progress that has been made in water quality so far in Region 8. It's a low priority at this point.

The WQCC is discussing not doing triennial reviews and replacing it with annual water quality reviews. The basins with water quality issues would have a review. The WQCC will take comment on the plan at their October meeting. Written comments deadline is October 2nd. There may be a concern with some issues just languishing without resolution with the new program, however, that happens now. People on the west slope may enjoy less frequent meetings near them with the new program. We could suggest that there be a limit to the number of years an issue has to be a low priority. **Gabe** will submit a letter generally in support of the new approach and voicing the concerns of the group.

At the Reg. 64 hearing, Julie testified that the CWWUC was supportive of the WQCD position.

Reg. 61 a rebuttal has been submitted.

Comments on the Town of Eagle temperature issue are due September 24th. If there are no more comments, Julie is authorized to sign and submit.

Senator Kirkmeyer may be attending the October meeting.

Chemical Evaluations – Dan reported that there will be a meeting tomorrow. The main topic will be a review of the Fort Collins example and leading up to adopting appropriate parts from the Minnesota protocols. The Chemical Eval effort may be combined with the Permits Renewals workgroup. Dan is in favor of keeping the efforts separate for now.

Water Quality Form Updates - The next Water Quality Forum meeting is Sept. 16, 12:30 – 2:30, and will include an overview of the Aquatic Life policy. Members might be interested in this as the Division is looking at updating the aquatic life multi-metric index 101, which could change how streams are assessed for aquatic life impairments. The agenda and meeting link should be posted by Friday at <https://colowqforum.com/cleanWater/meetings/>.

The Aquatic Life Policy update work group is kicking off Oct. 3 – folks can [sign up using this form](#) and learn more at the [Policy 10-1 engagement webpage](#).

Drinking Water Forum Updates – Cynthia reported State Revolving Fund (SRF) funding has a new process making it harder for some. Centennial had a cybersecurity audit for their drinking water protocols involving their Risk and Resiliency and Emergency Preparedness plans. EPA has primacy on Risk and Resiliency compliance. The audits included some targeted questions that caught some people off guard. She'll keep reporting on if the requirements for Risk and Resiliency plans expand to the water quality

sector. Julie Tinetti will be happy to answer any questions offline about Centennial’s experience.

CMF Liaison – Dan reported that the CMF Board is still planning for an annual meeting. Even non-members are welcome as there is an effort to include other groups that are collaborating. Reach out to Dan if you want to be included in the invitation list.

Anderw Neuhart is meeting with Andrew Sayers-Faye regarding the permits webinar to try to get better engagement and to line up some interesting topics. Please send any requests to Andrew.

Barbara Biggs Memorial Fund– Amy reported that the BBMF is ready to accept your funds. She’ll try to get sporadic updates from the Greenway Foundation on the status of the fund.

Board Officer Nominations in September and Elections in October – Julie reminded the membership that nominations for Board positions would be made next month with elections in October. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should reach out to Julie or any other Board Officer (not Amy, in this one case). **Amy** will try to include a draft ballot in next month’s agenda, along with appropriate policy documents.

Current		Proposed	
Chair	Julie Tinetti	Chair	Dan DeLaughter
Vice Chair	John Gage	Vice Chair	Wes Martin
Treasurer	Dan DeLaughter	Treasurer	Julie Tinetti
Secretary	Bret Icenogle	Secretary	Bret Icenogle
Director	Wes Martin	Director	Dawn Cowell

Board Action Items – Jesse moved, and Andrew Callaghan seconded a motion to approve the invoices as presented.

The vote was unanimous to approve payment of invoices presented.

Checks for signature in Sept. 2024		
2413 - Amy Conklin	\$ 2,312.50	August coordinating
2414 - NWRI	\$ 10,000.00	Feasibility panel
2415 - Vranesh and Raisch	\$ 1,208.50	Invoices 47374, 47373

Approval of August 14th, 2024, minutes. Cynthia moved and Jesse seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

Open Discussion – No one had any topics.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 9th at 1:00 pm

Attendance

Amy Conklin, Coordinator
 Nathan Moore
 Mark K
 Andrew Neuhart
 Gabe Racz

Suzanne Sharkey
 Tyler Ingels
 Randy Traxler

Member	Last	First	email	
Peublo	Callaghan	Andrew		
St. Vrain	Arnold	Alex		x
Mount Crested Butte	Bembenek	Adam		
SPR	Stucky Acob	Andrea		
	Berlman	Annie		
		Anthony		x
Grand Junction	Firl	Ashley		x
Longmont	Bilgin	Azra		x
	Johnson	Ben		x
	Green	Bethany		
	Bernard	Brandon		x
	Zachman	Brad		
S. Platte Renew	Corning	Blair		x
	Stanfield	Bent		
	Burks	Bryan		
	Icenogle	Bret		x
	A	Brianne		
Pinyon	Byus	Caroline		x
St. Vrain	Kampman	Chris		
Boulder	Sigmon	Cole		x
	Bieker	C		
	Lane	Cynthia		x
South Platte Renew	DeLaughter	Dan		x
	Richardson	Daniel		x
Montrose	Bries	David		
	Louch	Dave		
	Kurz	David		x
Lafayette	Jackson	David		x
	Bonsall	Desirray		

Black Hawk	Trejo	Diana		
Broomfield	Cowell	Dawn		x
Mott Macdonalds	Farias	Elizabeth		
Dominion	Bahn	Evan		x
		Heather		
Louisville	Venette	Greg		
Silverthorne	Kruckeberg	Jason		x
	Shivvers	JD		
Fort Collins	Schlam	Jesse		x
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		
Greeley	Kunovic	Joe		x
	Coyle	Jon		
Longmont	Gage	John		
	Moore	Jonathan		
	Watkins	Joshua		x
Westminster	Nims	Josh		
	Tinetti	Julie		x
	Koplitz	Katie		
	Cline	Kelly		
Eagle	Harris	Madeline		x
	Freyre	Manuel		
	Parker	Mark		
	Christiansen	Mark		x
	Volle	Mark		x
	Koch	Mark		x
NFRWQPA	Thomas	Mark		x
	Deminski	Mary		
	Paterniti	Mary		
Boulder	Wilson Outcalt	Meghan	wilsonm@boulder.colorado.gov	
Boulder	Mimna	Melissa		x
	Morgan	Mike		

	Fabbre	Mike		x
	Hoffman	Mike		
	Marcum	Mike		
Broomfeild	Monacelli	Natalie		
Aurora	Harmon	Nick		x
C. Springs	Zeitlow	Patti	sstanley@northglenn.org	x
Security	Heald	Roy		
	Calkins	Sam		x
Northglenn	Harcus	Scott		
Eagle	Stanley	Shelley		x
Westminster	Wilson	Stephan		x
	Wilson	Tara		
Fremont	Ormandy	Toby	tormandy@fsd.co	
	Kraft	Tanner		
	Eldridge	Tyler		x
	Eaves	Wally		
Plum Creek	Martin	Wes		
	Zachman	Brad		