

**CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING MINUTES**

Name of Board / Commission: Water Resources Advisory Board	
Date of Meeting: 15 December 2014	
Contact Information of Person Preparing Minutes: Andrea Flanagan 303.413.7372	
Board Members Present: Vicki Scharnhorst, Mark Squillace, Lesley Smith, Ed Clancy Board Members Absent: Dan Johnson	
Staff Present: Jeff Arthur, Director of Public Works for Utilities Bob Harberg, Principal Engineer, Utilities Tom Settle, Water Treatment Manager Steve Buckbee, Engineering Project Manager Joe Taddeucci, Water Resources Manager Steve Folle, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Jake Gesner, Hydroelectric Program Manager Bret Linenfelser, Water Quality and Environmental Services Manager Andrea Flanagan, Board Secretary	
Cooperating Agencies Present: Gary Fuller, Project Manager, HDR Engineering Brian Daw, Project Engineer, HDR Engineering	
Meeting Type: Regular	
Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order	[6:00 p.m.]
Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the 17 November 2014 Meeting Minutes: [6:01 p.m.] Motion to approve minutes as amended from November 17 as presented. Moved by: Squillace Vote: 4:0 (Dan Johnson absent)	
Agenda Item 3 – Public Participation and Comment	[6:05 p.m.]
Public Comment: None Board follow up: None	
Agenda Item 4 –	[6:07p.m.]
Matters From the Board: WRAB Response to City Council Retreat Questions Motion to approve this letter as amended. Moved by: Squillace Seconded by: Clancy Vote: 4:0 (Dan Johnson absent)	
Board Member Clancy brought up the below matter(s):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed CIP with regard to major changes with funding for storm drain upgrades and improvements. • Suggested more lobbying to tell people that flood mapping is the first step towards mitigation, which there seems to be a lot of effort and funding towards. There is a distance between when the maps and mitigation actually start. Suggests using caution due to the fact that these decisions will continue to have a substantial impact to high risk neighborhoods. • Cautions against saying that mitigation is coming soon, which is not necessarily the case. • States that there seems to be a rush to do mapping, and questions what the urgency is to get more people inside areas with higher insurance rates? • Suggests tailoring mapping with mitigation instead of spending more money on mapping. • Provided handouts and discussed report on phosphorous removal in wastewater treatment process. Discussed the potential of using retrofitting in the trickling filter process to manage phosphorous, which would result in a huge cost savings • Questions right-hand turn at 7th and Iris in mapping study. 	
Board member Squillace brought up the below matter(s):	

- Suggest using caution when using the word “resilience” as it can be a slippery slope for water management and suggests using care when using this language.
- Questioned what it would take to study existing trickling filtration process for phosphorous removal?
- Asked for clarification on deadline for residents to submit their surveys to the city for consideration in study before sending to FEMA.
- Expressed concerns about areas that flooded during the 2013 event that did not show up on the recent flood mapping studies, as well as areas that did not flood, but are now classified as being in the floodplain.

Board Member Johnson brought up the below matter(s):

- Provided written comments and edits regarding letter to Council.

Board member Scharnhorst brought up the below matter(s):

- Questions if alum or ferric chloride are being used in trickling filter process to reduce phosphorus.
- Suggests adding topic of using trickling filters as a future agenda information item.

Board Member Smith brought up the below matter(s):

- Discussed recent training with Association of State Floodplain Management, which addressed FEMA’s underwriting of flood insurance.
- Discussed a study on headwaters at South Platte showing record levels of drugs and genetic fragments. Questioned if this was also the case at city of boulder wastewater facility, post-flood.
- Asked for further clarification on whether spiny waterfleas are primarily a nuisance for people fishing in Boulder Reservoir and how that affects cross-contamination?

Matters From Staff:

[6:48p.m.]

- Jeff Arthur noted that an updated FAQ on the city’s website, which will provide answers to many complicated questions about Two-mile Canyon.
- Noted information item memo on aquatic nuisance species.
- Noted that an item will be presented to City Council on December 16 regarding imminent domain for Wonderland Creek Project.

Agenda Item 5 – Future Schedule

[7:06 p.m.]

January:

- Rate Study Overview
- Council retreat update
- Review of 2014 operations across Utilities
- Possible Action Item – Stormwater & Flood Management Monthly Fee

Agenda Item 6 –

[7:09 p.m.]

Information Item –

Betasso Preliminary Capital Improvement Project Design Alternatives

Tom Settle and Steve Buckbee presented the item to the board, which included a PowerPoint presentation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This agenda item is intended to provide updated Betasso Water Treatment Facility, (BWTF), assessment, design and design alternative information ahead of the preliminary design and design alternative selection by providing:

- ❖ Background information
- ❖ Equipment and process assessment
- ❖ Listing of alternatives
- ❖ Schedule of key milestones

No formal action by the WRAB is requested at this time. Staff is seeking general feedback from WRAB on the project direction, the evaluation criteria and the list of alternatives being considered.

A tour of the facility will be provided following the meeting. Staff will return to the April 20, 2015 meeting with a preliminary design and an updated cost estimate.

WRAB Discussion Included:

- Question whether residuals are sold to farmers or being landfilled?
- Question about redundancy around plant and alternative ways to get power if the grid goes down? How does a backup generator serve as be a viable solution?
- Question about sustainability of plant in the future?
- Question about where the pay-back is with some of the ideas for improvement found in the alternative analysis.
- Board member states that she is very impressed that staff has done their due diligence, considering every component possible and feels that \$20,000,000.00 is not an extreme figure considering the age of the existing infrastructure.

Adjournment

[8:10 p.m.]

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, by motion regularly adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by: Squillace; **Seconded by:** Clancy

Motion Passes 4:0

Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:

The next WRAB meeting will be **Monday, 26 January 2015** at **7:00 p.m.**, at the **City's Municipal Services Center, 5050 Pearl St., Boulder, CO 80301**

APPROVED BY:

ATTESTED BY:

Board Chair

Board Secretary

Date

Date

An audio recording of the full meeting for which these minutes are a summary, is available on the Water Resources Advisory Board web page.

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/boards-commissions/water-resources-advisory-board-next-meeting-agenda-and-packet>