

CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING MINUTES

Name of Board / Commission: Water Resources Advisory Board	
Date of Meeting: 17 October 2016	
Contact Information of Person Preparing Minutes: Rene Lopez 303-413-7149	
Board Members Present: Lesley Smith, Kirk Vincent, Mark Squillace, Kate Ryan, Dan Johnson Board Members Absent: None	
Staff Present: Jeff Arthur, Director of Public Works for Utilities Ken Baird, Utilities Financial Manager Eric Ameigh, Project Coordinator for Public Works Christin Shepherd, Civil Engineer Annie Noble, Principle Engineer Russ Sands, Water Sustainability and Outreach Rene Lopez, Board Secretary	
Consultants Present: Jeff Brislawn, Amec Foster Wheeler	
Meeting Type: Regular	
Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order	[6:30 p.m.]
Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the 19 September 2016 Meeting Minutes	[6:30 p.m.]
Motion to approve minutes from 19 September 2016 as written. Moved by: Squillace Seconded by: Vincent Vote: 5:0	
Agenda Item 3– Public Participation and Comment	[6:31 p.m.]
Public Comment: None	
Agenda Item 4– Public Hearing and Consideration of a Recommendation to City Council Regarding the Bear Canyon Creek Flood Mitigation Study	[6:32 p.m.]
Executive Summary from the Packet Materials: The purpose of this memorandum is to present the final Bear Canyon Creek Flood Mitigation Plan (Attachment A) for the WRAB’s consideration, input and recommendation to City Council. In 2014, the city retained Amec Foster Wheeler to evaluate potential improvements along Bear Canyon Creek. Over time, flood improvements have been made at various locations along the drainageway, but the September 2013 flood highlighted areas of hydraulic limitation that prompted the public to request additional flood mitigation. Recommendations were developed, analyzed and presented to the public and the WRAB throughout this study. Feedback and comments were collected and incorporated into the final flood mitigation plan where feasible. The final recommended plan includes a combination of maintenance and capital improvements that yield the greatest reduction in flood risk. In general, the recommended improvements include increased capacity in 13 culverts, channel grading and widening, channel maintenance including sediment and debris removal, and reconfiguring three stormwater outfalls. The recommended improvements are detailed in the table in the Analysis section of this memo and shown on maps in Appendix G of Attachment A. A Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) was also performed on the recommended improvements and a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of 0.02 was calculated. Although the BCR was low, the recommended improvements result in other benefits including: decreased property damage, increased emergency access during major storm events, and improved safety for multi-use path users.	
WRAB Discussion Included:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions regarding the FEMA Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) methodology and grant funding • Discussions around a BCR analysis for just maintenance work as an alternative • Comments requesting more information to proceed in recommending the motion • Comments around how well written the plan was 	

Public Comment:

Carl Norby – One problem with the study, funding. Wastewater backups during the flood are impacts that are not discussed in the plan, but the plan will still provide benefit to residents. If the creek does not flow into the sanitary sewer, then the sanitary sewer would not be as much of an issue, please put things in the proper order.

Ned Williams – The driveway culverts at St. Andrew Church are a pinch point.. In support of increasing channel capacity, so long as mature trees are protected. Asphalt scouring during the flood, no sewage backups.

Jane Brooks – Urge City to follow the recommendation. Boulder is an incredible place to live, think of the human element involved with this plan not the BCR. Let the whole public process play out on the individual pieces of the project after its been recommended to council.

Motion: The Water Resources Advisory Board recommends a motion to recommend the Bear Canyon Creek Flood Mitigation Plan be recommended to City Council for acceptance with the understanding that further refinement and alternative analysis may be warranted through the CEAP process to address the low Benefit Cost Ratio (0.02).

Moved by: Smith **Seconded by:** Ryan

Vote: 5:0

Agenda Item 5 – Information Item – Update on Rate Study Next Step [7:52 p.m.]

Ken Baird and Eric Ameigh presented this item.

Executive Summary from the Packet Materials:

The purpose of this item is to follow up on the August and September 2016 WRAB discussions related to the Utility Rate Study Phase 1 analysis and confirm support for the proposed water rate structure alternatives to be studied in Phase 2.

Through the August and September discussions, WRAB provided feedback related to Phase 1 findings. This included generally affirming the key findings related to each of the three utility rate structures. Areas of discussion included Commercial, Industrial, Institutional (CII) water budgets, the residential indoor water budget allocation, the fixed-service charge in the wastewater fee, and alternative calculations for the stormwater/flood management fee.

In September, WRAB expressed support for studying rate structure alternatives in the wastewater and stormwater/flood management utilities. Staff also sought and received additional feedback related to issues in the water rate structure which assisted in the development of alternatives for study. Those water rate structure alternatives are described in this memo.

WRAB Discussion Included:

- Comments regarding the Historical Monthly Users (HMU)
- Discussions around the Commercial, Industrial, Institutional (CII) budgets being broken into several classes to suit their diversity
- Discussions regarding Behavioral Economics professors coming to a future board meeting
- Comments regarding staff recommendations moving forward

Agenda Item 7 - Matters from Board: [8:29 p.m.]

- Smith – CU South meeting
- Johnson - BVCP meeting

Agenda Item 8 – Matters from Staff: [8:35 p.m.]

- Sullivan – Betasso Construction Update
- Budget to Council
- Water Efficiency Plan Information Item
- Civic Area Project

Agenda Item 9 – Future Schedule [8:46 p.m.]

- Retreat
- November & December Meetings – Holiday Schedules

- January & February Meetings – move to fourth Monday of the month
- Skunk/Bluebell/Kings Gulch for November
- Agriculture Leasing program update
- Flood studies

Adjournment

[8:41p.m.]

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, by motion regularly adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by: Squillace Seconded by: Smith

Motion Passes 4:0

Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:

The next WRAB meeting will be **Monday, November 21th 2016 at 6:00 p.m.**, at the **City's Municipal Services Center, 5050 East 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>