

CAC minutes for the meeting of April 15, 2021

CAC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Aldretti, Chair, Denver representative
Alyssa Quinn, Vice-Chair, Distributor representative
Andrew Ross, Secretary, Denver representative
Gary Wilkinson, West Slope representative
Alan Hassler, West Slope representative
Jim Fitzmorris, Homebuilders Representative
Mike Cowan, Suburban representative
Rich Newton, Environmental representative

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Nona Shipman, Public Interest Group representative
Emily Orbanek, Denver representative

CAC VACANCIES

None

DENVER WATER STAFF

Ashley Denault, CAC/staff liaison

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Tim Flynn

Opening Remarks

5 – 5:15 p.m.

- Approval of agenda and minutes. Mike and Gary moved, all approved. Mike and Gary moved to approve the minutes from February and March.

Round-up Proposal Discussion

5:05 – 5:45 p.m.

- Mike King discussed the role of the CAC to bring forward issues to the Board. With respect to the proposed roundup letter to the board, staff feel Denver Water can achieve the same objectives without creating the roundup program. Staff also feel such a program is inappropriate given economic conditions. In addition, the Board may ask why the roundup program is back in front of them. Mike also noted West Slope projects with environmental enhancements may be coming through CWCB/legislature.
- Jim: noted he was unaware this has been brought to the Board before.
- Rich: provided history on the program and Board response. He noted one of the Board's objections was implementation costs and that he has started to secure commitments from West Slope counties and Trout Unlimited. He also noted staff raised concerns about accounting and that he has found this is not an issue with other utilities that have implemented the program. He offered to bring an administrator to talk about it with the CAC and suggested the CAC not vote on the proposal tonight.
- Paul: asked if there was a motion to advance the proposal or to table.
- Alyssa: noted her reservations about moving forward with the proposal.
- Rich: stated Denver Water concerns around the cost and staffing of the program have been addressed.

- Paul: recognized Rich's efforts to address the Board's concerns and noted the CAC role is to look at issues with Denver Water, look to bring attention to those issues to Denver Water and the Board, and to work collaboratively on issues, but that he doesn't feel the CAC's job is to come up with policies for unidentified problems.
- Rich: said Learning By Doing funding is not adequate for the Fraser River and that he can bring someone to the CAC to discuss this issue.
- Paul: noted it is not the CAC's prerogative to bring a solution to Denver Water and the Board. Rather, it is to bring the problem and work collaboratively on a solution.
- Rich: said he is suggesting the Board could direct staff to further investigate and make a recommendation on the roundup program.
- Jim and Alyssa: noted they are not in favor of moving forward.
- Gary: stated that, while he understands Rich's concerns, the CAC needs to respect the letter from the Board the last time this came forward and that there is a need to look at other funding mechanisms. This is not fruitful for the CAC's relationship with the Board.
- Rich made a motion to table the roundup proposal and revisit it with more information. Mike seconded. Rich voted aye, all others voted nay, the motion failed.
- Alyssa made a motion to not proceed with the letter concerning the roundup proposal. Jim seconded. Rich voted nay, all others voted aye, the motion passed.
- Paul: noted that the CAC should hear the funding issues Learning By Doing faces at a future meeting.
- Mike: said the Board is not telling you to not come forward with issues/solutions, but the Board is stewards of the rate-payers money and this proposal asks them to turn over that control to third-party organizations. Denver Water is committed to the West Slope, environment and disadvantaged rate payers and would like to see substantive ideas on where we can work together.

National Western Presentation

5:45 – 6:15 p.m.

- Alfonso Gonzales, Water Quality Manager, Denver Water and Jocelyn Hittle, Vice Chancellor for the Spur Campus and Special Projects, Colorado State University, presented on the National Wester Spur campus.

CAC Business

6:15 – 6:25 p.m.

- No member updates

Public Comment (items not on the agenda)

6:25 – 6:30 p.m.

- No public comment.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.