

**Fountain Creek Watershed District Board**  
**Technical Advisory Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2009

The meeting was held at:  
City of Fountain, City Hall  
116 S. Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Fountain, CO 80817

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Ken Sampley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

There were seven out of the fourteen TAC members present. The meeting proceeded based on the understanding that seven out of the fourteen members would constitute a quorum. (Note: Based upon the current membership of fourteen it was later determined that eight members were necessary for a quorum.)

In attendance were the following designated members of the Fountain Creek Watershed Technical Advisory Committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Rich Muzzy	PPACG
Carol Baker	Colorado Springs Utilities
Duane Greenwood	City of Fountain
Jim Houk	Thomas and Thomas
Dennis Maroney	City of Pueblo
Kim Headley	Pueblo County
Ken Sampley	Colorado Springs

*Also in attendance were:* Cole Emmons, Keith Riley, Mark Shea, Allison Mosser, Janet Rummel, John Fredell, Lisa Sigler, Mark Glidden, Bruce Spiller, Craig Dossey, Ross Vincent, Tad Foster

**2. Approve Agenda of October 7, 2009**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the agenda for the December 2, 2009 meeting was approved.

**3. Approve Minutes of October 7, 2009 TAC Meeting**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes for the October 7, 2009 TAC meeting were approved.

- 4. Colorado Springs Utilities first presentation on Southern Delivery System (SDS). Presentation will be background and project basics including, but not limited to, purpose, timing, impacts and planned mitigation. This presentation is in preparation for the submittal of the permit application (week of Dec 14) and the final TAC review of the SDS project planned for the January TAC meeting.**

Ken Sampley disclosed that he does work for the City of Colorado Springs but based on his knowledge of the project there does not appear to be a conflict of interest and he does not need to recuse himself. Carol Baker also disclosed that she works for Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) and does not see a conflict of interest and does not need to recuse herself from the meeting.

Keith Riley of CSU gave a Power Point presentation on the Southern Delivery System (SDS) Project and Project Binders were presented to all the TAC members which provided background information on the project. The following information was presented:

- Overview - SDS is a regional water project that will provide water to City of Colorado Springs, Fountain, Security and Pueblo West.
- Timeline for the District TAC and Board to review and make a recommendation regarding the project – The TAC and CAG will make a recommendation to the District Board at their respecting meetings in early January and the District Board will make a recommendation at their late January meeting to the El Paso County Planning Commission.
- Components of the SDS project- The project includes 62 miles of buried raw treated water pipeline, 3 pump stations along the pipeline route, 1 water treatment plant and 2 reservoirs in El Paso County.
- Implementation Schedule of the project –Construction will begin the later part of 2013 and early 2014 and will start with connection to the dam. The project is scheduled to bring water delivery by spring 2016. The raw water pipeline will cross Fountain Creek once in unincorporated El Paso County. The pipeline will cross underground below the creek so there will be no disturbance to the creek.

The two reservoirs will be completed in Phase II which will occur in 2020 to 2025. Upper Williams Creek Reservoir will be used as terminal storage and lower Williams Creek Reservoir to manage return flows. Phase II will expand the capacity of SDS to 78 million gallons per day (MGD) from the initial capacity of

- 50 MGD. The pipeline leading to the Williams Creek Reservoir will also go through the 100 year floodplain.
- Intersections of the project with the FEMA 100 year floodplain – The raw water pipeline will intersect the 100 year floodplain in two locations 1) Boring will occur under the Highway, Railroad and Fountain Creek in later part of 2013 to first part of 2014; and 2) Exchange Reservoir pipe (since this section of the project is so far out CSU will be coming back for approval for this section in the future) going to Upper Williams Creek Reservoir..
  - Agencies that have regulatory overview and oversight of SDS. A summary was included in the binder of the commitments that has been made to the Bureau of reclamation regarding the record of decision (ROD) that was issued spring 2009.
  - Status of Permits and Approvals. Five location approval applications have been filed with El Paso County. The 401 and 404 permits have been filed with respective agencies and are currently under review.
  - Environmental Mitigation work that is being conducted for Flow Management, Fisheries, Aquatic, Wetlands/Riparian, Recreation, Vegetation, Wildlife, Geomorphic mitigation/monitoring. All the mitigation strategies will be included with the Bureau of Reclamation as conditions within the contract. Details regarding the Recommended Terms and Conditions and mitigation of project impacts are included in the binder.
  - Construction Mitigation; Public Outreach; and Monetary Mitigation.
  - The ability of the SDS project to meet the goals and strategies contained in the Fountain Creek Watershed Plan was discussed. This includes: a) Water Quality and Sedimentation; b) Flooding and Stormwater Management – although the Stormwater Enterprise will be terminated, Stormwater issues and concerns will still be addressed. This includes addressing peak flows, stormwater detention structures, and updates to stormwater criteria. SDS project will be required to implement a monitoring requirement, including water quality baseline information and an Adoptive Management Plan will be used to adjust mitigation if necessary based on the monitoring data that is collected. c) Municipal Water Supplies and Return Flows; d) Related Infrastructure Enhancements; and Land Use and Agriculture.
  - Army Corps Study Recommendations. Improvements that will be made at Clear Springs Ranch and at the Pueblo Levee are consistent with improvements recommended through the Crops Study.

The following Questions (Q) were asked regarding the project and Responses (R):

From Dennis Maroney:

**Q:** New regulations were just issued by EPA regarding construction sites. One of the changes is monitoring required for turbidity at construction sites that exceed 20 acres? Is CSU prepared to address this requirement?

**R:** CSU will follow all EPA monitoring requirements. Some of the monitoring and mitigation is under development with Division of Wildlife so there is still time to modify the programs to make certain federal, state and local requirements are being addressed.

**Q:** Will the project be addressing volume of flows and peak flows as stated in the 1041 permit?

**R:** The project will meet all the conditions in the 1041 permit although the Stormwater Enterprise will be phasing out. CSU is supportive of the work and continuation of the work being conducted by the City of Colorado Springs regarding the update of the Stormwater Criteria and Manual regarding source controls and Low Impact Development.

**Q:** Will the dredging of the channel that will be taking place in the City of Pueblo Levee be followed by controls to mitigate future sediment transport into the area that was dredged?

**R:** Dredging will occur in 2010 followed by sediment removal devices. An open and competitive process will be used to determine the sediment removal devices that are used.

From Kim Headley:

**Q:** Has there been concern expressed regarding the location of Upper and Lower William Creek Reservoir that is associated with potential of seepage from Squirrel Creek Landfill?

**R:** The condition of the landfill, compliance with groundwater monitoring requirements and permits was evaluated when the property was first acquired and it was determined that the landfill will not be impacting the reservoir.

**Q:** Will Lower Williams Creek Reservoir be used as a recreational amenity or will it strictly be used to exchange return flows?

**R:** There may be an opportunity for non-contact recreational opportunity such as bird watching and hiking trails. The amount of water will fluctuate considerably in the summer months so there are potential safety concerns.

From Duane Greenwood:

**Q:** Have you looked at groundwater dewatering issues from the crossing of Fountain Creek?

**R:** Groundwater geotechnical borings have been conducted to evaluate issues such as depth to groundwater and soil type. Dewatering will be done during the micro tunneling and monitoring will be done of discharge to the creek. A scour analysis will be done to determine the best depth for the creek crossing.

**Q:** Return flows from Williams Creek to Fountain Creek looks like they will go near the new Fountain Sanitation District – Did you look at other options to discharging to Creek?

**R:** The discharge will be south of the new treatment plant. Other options were considered but ruled out because of wetlands and aquatic habitat concerns. Energy dissipation structures will be used to minimize the force of the water coming out of the pipe.

From Dennis Maroney

**Q:** Will grade control structures be used at all arroyos and crossings?

**R:** Grade control structures will not be used at all drainages that are crossed. An evaluation was conducted to determine if it was best to go deep below the scour area or install grade control structures.

**Q:** Wherever SDS water will be utilized will the stormwater requirements still apply for all developments that is served with this water.

**R:** The 1041 permit requirements will apply to all new developments served by the SDS project. More information is found in Condition 23, Stormwater Management.

From Kim Headley:

**Q:** If the Stormwater Enterprise goes away will there be a problem with addressing any of the conditions?

**R:** The regulations regarding the stormwater enterprise will not go away.

Keith said the schedule is to submit the application the week of December 14 which will be available for review at the City of Colorado Springs and at the SDS website ([www.sdswater.org](http://www.sdswater.org)). The application information will be submitted to the City of Colorado Springs where TAC members can review it. In the summary packet, responses to each of the goals will be submitted. The District Board is scheduled to make a recommendation on the item at the January 22 meeting.

Craig Dossey reviewed the El Paso County Planning Commission and Board schedule. Tentatively a work session has been scheduled with the County Commissioners at the end of January and a planning commission meeting first part of February.

Tad Foster, attorney in the Colorado Springs Region:

**Q:** Where is the location of the diversion off of Fountain creek and into Lower Williams Creek Reservoir relative to the Security WWTP discharge point? Has there been an analysis of phosphorous or nitrogen loading to the reservoir?

**R:** The headgate for the Chilcott Ditch is upstream of the point. The only other dischargers upstream from that point are CSU. There have been no issues or concerns regarding nutrients from the discharge of the reservoir.

Cole Emmons arrived when the meeting was already in progress and stated that based on a membership of fourteen members, a quorum is a simple majority which is 8 members. Cole stated that there will be further discussions before the next meeting with the CSU and City of Colorado Springs legal council regarding conflict of interest issues.

#### **5. Report on status of the Colorado Springs Stormwater Enterprise**

Ken reported that the Colorado Springs City Council decided to phase out the Stormwater Enterprise over the next two years (*Note: subsequent to this meeting, Colorado Springs City Council decided to terminate the stormwater enterprise immediately, effective December 31, 2009*). The two year phase out is consistent with the recommendation by the Stormwater Advisory Committee. City Council did not want staff to certify the collection of past due amounts to the El Paso County treasurer as a collection method of past due accounts. Instead other collection methods will be pursued.

#### **6. Presentation of Fountain Creek Watershed District – TAC Draft Review Process Flowchart**

Jim Houk provided a brief overview of the flowchart. Due to the small number of committee members present at the meeting it was decided that the discussion of the flowchart should be tabled until next month.

**7. Other Business:** None

**8. Public Comment:** None

**9. Executive Session (If Required):** None

**10. Setting Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:**

The next regularly scheduled TAC meeting will be on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 1:00 pm at Fountain City Hall.

**12. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm