

# **WATER BOARD MINUTES**

**January 28, 2019**

**Service Center Conference Room  
1100 S. Sherman Street  
Longmont, CO 80501**

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## **REGULAR MEETING**

The January 28, 2019, meeting of the Longmont Water Board was called to order by Chair Todd Williams at 3:00 p.m. at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Renee Davis, Todd Williams, Kathy Peterson, John Caldwell, and Roger Lange

Council Liaison Present: Marcia Martin

City Staff Members Present: Ken Huson, Wes Lowrie, Nelson Tipton, Kevin Boden, Danielle Levine, Jamie Freel, and Heather McIntyre

Public in Attendance: None

### **2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Board member Peterson to approve Water Board's December 17, 2018 minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Board member Lange. The motion passed 5-0.**

### **3. WATER STATUS REPORT**

Staff member Nelson Tipton gave the current water status report. The flow at the Lyons gage at 8:30 a.m. today was 21 cfs with an historical average of 15 cfs for this date. Ralph Price Reservoir at Button Rock Preserve is at 12,240 acre feet, down approx. 3,960 acre feet. The call on the St. Vrain Creek is McCall Lake, with a priority date of 3/15/1909, and the call on Main Stem of the South Platte River is Burlington Head Gate, with a priority date of 11/20/1885, which impacts Districts #2, 8, 9, 23, & 80. There are currently no calls below the Burlington Head Gate.

**4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Staff member Ken Huson mentioned to the Board that this year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for closure of Button Rock Dam in February 1969. This is when they officially closed the gates of the dam and began filling it with water.

**5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS**

None.

**6. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY**

**A. Longmont Storage Final Plat**

Water Board approved a recommendation that Longmont Storage Final Plat will be in compliance with the City's Raw Water Requirement Policy upon satisfaction of the 10.800 acre foot raw water deficit at time of final plat approval.

**The motion was made by Board member Davis to approve and was seconded by Board member Lange. The motion passed 5-0.**

**B. Brick Stone Subdivision Minor Subdivision Plat Final Plat**

Brick Stone Subdivision Minor Subdivision Final Plat is a 13.517 acre parcel located south of State Highway 119 and west of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. All historic water rights were transferred at annexation. The Brick Stone Subdivision Minor Subdivision Plat Final Plat is presently in compliance with the Raw Water Requirement Policy and required no action from the Board.

**7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**A. Designation of Posting Place**

**A motion was made by Board member Peterson to retain the same designated bulletin board located in the Public Works and Natural Resources Service Center reception area and the Longmont Water Board's webpage of the City's website as the official Water Board agenda posting places for public meeting notification. The motion was seconded by Board member Caldwell. Motion passed 5-0.**

**B. Button Rock Preserve Management Plan IGA & Kick Off**

Staff member Danielle Levine, PW&NR Project Manager, updated Water Board members on the development of the Button Rock Management Plan, a two-year process. The Plan will provide management direction in the areas of water quality protection, existing infrastructure and improvements, passive recreation, natural and cultural resource protection, and rules and regulations for visitor use. Staff is now ready to ask City Council for approval to move forward with the Plan and to approve an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Colorado Natural Heritage Program, a non-profit organization sponsored by Colorado State University, who will help complete necessary natural resource inventory work at the Button Rock Preserve. The inventory will be used to help inform the work on the finalized management plan.

**A motion was made by Board member Caldwell to recommend that City Council approve moving forward with the Button Rock Management Plan and approve the IGA with the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Board member Lange seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.**

**8. ITEMS FROM STAFF****A. Annual Button Rock Preserve and Forest Stewardship Updates**

The Annual Button Rock Preserve and Forest Stewardship Update was included in the January 28, 2019 Water Board packet. Staff member Jamie Freel gave a presentation showing different projects that were completed in 2018.

**B. Windy Gap Firming Project Update**

Staff member Huson stated that the State Water Court filing is still waiting on a decision regarding one objector, an adjacent land owner. Project participants are looking at options to purchase interests in dispute. Design for the Project is almost done, and participants hope to have a revised cost estimate for the project soon.

**C. Monthly Water Supply Update**

Staff member Lowrie reviewed Longmont's current and projected water supply with Water Board members, with information that was included in the Water Board packet. As of January 17, 2019, the South Platte River Basin snowpack is above normal at 104 and the Upper Colorado River Basin snowpack is at 105%. Predictions for this year are estimating a normal year for overall snowpack.

**D. Monthly Legislative Report**

Staff member Huson provided Water Board with the current water related Legislation Bills that Longmont is tracking. Due to the quickened pace of bills being decided at this year's state legislative session, staff is making recommendations to Council on whether

or not to support individual bills. Board members will be updated on those items, and when time allows, will be asked for input on Longmont's position on upcoming bills. A spreadsheet listing the current water-related bills was handed out. Review of the current bills followed:

- HB 19-1015 Re-creation of the Colorado Water Institute (City of Longmont supports this bill)
- HB19-1029 Republican River Water Conservation District (staff will monitor)
- HB19-1050 Encouraging use of xeriscape in common areas (staff will monitor)
- HB19-1071 Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment water quality control (staff will monitor)
- HB 19-1082 Water rights easements (City of Longmont supports this bill)
- HB 19-1113 Protect water quality adverse mining impacts (staff will monitor)
- HJR 19-1005 Water projects eligibility lists (City of Longmont supports this bill)
- SB 19-020 Wildland fire airspace patrol system (City of Longmont supports this bill)
- SJR 19-002 Corps of engineers to dredge lower Arkansas River (staff will monitor)

## **9. ITEMS FROM BOARD**

### **A. Review of Water Board By-Laws and Guiding Water Principles**

The Water Board By-Laws and Longmont's Guiding Water Principles were reviewed by the Board with no changes made.

### **B. Review of Major Project Listing**

The Board reviewed the most recent Water Board project status report.

## **11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WATER BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Informational items and correspondence were included in the packet.

Board member Lange requested information on the policy on water rental in response to a Times-Call article from the January 27, 2019 newspaper, and Council Liaison Martin requested a review of the water rights policy.

**12. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before Water Board, Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Water Board will be held on February 25, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, CO 80501.

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**Todd Williams, Water Board Chair**

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**Date**

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**Heather McIntyre, Recording Secretary**

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**Date**