

LONGMONT WATER BOARD AGENDA

Monday, October 21, 2019

Service Center
1100 South Sherman Street
Longmont, CO 80501

3:00 pm – Water Conference Room

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES
 - a. September 16, 2019 – Water Board Regular Meeting
3. WATER STATUS REPORT
4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS
6. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY
 - a. Development Activity Requiring Water Board Action
 - i) None
 - b. Development Activity Submitted for Water Board Information Only
 - i) None
7. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - a. 2020 Legislative Guiding Water Principles (Staff will ask Water Board for input regarding the existing guiding water principles). Staff Contact: Nelson Tipton 303-651-8365, nelson.tipton@longmontcolorado.gov.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- a. Windy Gap Firming Project Update (Staff will provide Water Board with a verbal update on this project). Staff Contact: Ken Huson 303-651-8340, ken.huson@longmontcolorado.gov
- b. Update on Bureau of Reclamation Grant Application (Staff will provide Water Board with a verbal update regarding this application). Staff Contact: Ken Huson 303-651-8340, ken.huson@longmontcolorado.gov
- c. Button Rock Preserve Management Plan Update (Staff will provide Water Board with an update on this plan). Staff Contact: Danielle Levine 303-651-8448, danielle.levine@longmontcolorado.gov

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

- a. Review of Major Project Listing and Items Tentatively Scheduled for Future Board Meetings

10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WATER BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

- NCWCD Fall Water Users Meeting
- South Platte Forum

11. ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- Cash-in-Lieu Review (March, June, September, December)

12. ADJOURN

If you need special assistance to participate in a Water Board meeting, please contact Heather McIntyre at 303-651-8817 in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

WATER BOARD MINUTES

September 16, 2019

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

REGULAR MEETING

The September 16, 2019 meeting of the Longmont Water Board was called to order by Chair Todd Williams at 3:00 pm at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Todd Williams, Renee Davis, and Roger Lange

Board Members Excused: Kathy Peterson and John Caldwell

City Staff Members Present: Ken Huson, Wes Lowrie, Nelson Tipton, Jim Angstadt, Ben Wagner, Jason Elkins, and Heather McIntyre

Council Liaison Present: Marcia Martin

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There was a quorum present with three board members in attendance.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

A motion was made by Board member Lange to approve Water Board's July 15, 2019 minutes; the motion was seconded by Board member Davis. The motion passed 3-0.

4. WATER STATUS REPORT

Staff member Nelson Tipton gave the current water status report on behalf of District 5 Water Commissioner Shera Sumerford. The flow of the St. Vrain at the Lyons gage at 1 pm today was 41 cfs, with an historical average of 60 cfs for this date.

The call on the St. Vrain Creek is James Ditch, Admin #6756, with a priority date of 6/30/1868. There was no call on the Main Stem of the South Platte River affecting District 5.

Ralph Price Reservoir at Button Rock Preserve is spilling at an elevation of 6,400.1 feet, equaling 16,215 acre-feet. Currently there is 35 cfs being released from Ralph Price Reservoir.

Union Reservoir is at an elevation of 25.85 feet, equaling 11,205 acre-feet, down approx. 1,500 acre-feet. Currently there is 30 cfs being released from Union Reservoir.

As of the end of last month, District 5 reservoirs were at approximately 80% full.

5. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There was no public in attendance.

Staff members Jim Angstadt, Director of Engineering Services, and Ben Wagner, Recreation Area Supervisor, gave a brief presentation on the 2019 City of Longmont Ballot Initiatives. The presentation included a factual summary of the following three items that will be on the November 5, 2019 Election Ballot for voter consideration:

- Competitive Pool and Ice Rink Sales Tax Increase and Bond Approval (Ballot Issue 3B)
- Street Fund Sales and Use Tax Permanent Extension (Ballot Issue 3C)
- Amendment of the City Charter to Allow for 30-year Leases of Public Property (Ballot Issue 3D)

More information about each of these initiatives can be found on the City's website at www.longmontcolorado.gov/election.

6. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

None

7. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Staff member Lowrie submitted the following development activity as information only:

1. North Terry Street Townhomes Subdivision is currently in compliance with the City's Raw Water Requirement Policy and no action was needed by the Board.

Chair Williams asked for clarification on how land use and water demand is taken into consideration for development activity, particularly for high-density uses, after a property has been annexed. Staff members Wes Lowrie and Ken Huson stated that this particular development was annexed as mixed-use development and still falls within the guidelines for water demand. They did agree, though, that Chair Williams' suggestion should be considered for future activity to account for and offset water demand associated with the development. Further discussion ensued about how to include that in future development activity reports.

2. Prairie Village Filing No. 7 Final Plat is presently in compliance with the City's Raw Water Requirement Policy and no action was needed by the Board.
3. Baker Street Townhomes Subdivision is presently in compliance with the City's Raw Water Requirement Policy and no action was needed by the Board.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Cash-in-Lieu Review

Staff member Lowrie reminded the Board of City Council's approved Resolution R-2019-78 establishing the fee for cash-in-lieu of water right received at the current rate of \$16,840.00 per acre-foot.

The Board reviewed and discussed the current cash-in-lieu rate with no recommendation for change to the fee at this time.

B. WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Funding

On behalf of Staff member Francie Jaffe, Staff member Huson presented information she put together about a grant that Public Works & Natural Resources (PWNR) is applying for that would help with costs associated with replacing residents' water meters with smart water meters. The Bureau of Reclamation has small and large grants available to help in the conversion to smart meters; PWNR is applying for both grants and hoping to get funding for the larger of the two.

By transitioning to an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system and incorporating a Customer Portal, the City has the opportunity to provide improved leak detection and education to the customer, which can result in improved water savings and conservation. Staff requested a letter of recommendation from the Board to include in the application and a recommendation to City Council to approve a resolution authorizing PWNR to apply for the grant.

A motion was made by Board member Davis to authorize Chair Williams to sign a letter of recommendation for the application packet and to recommend that City Council approve a resolution authorizing PWNR to apply for the Water and Energy Efficiency Grant; Board member Lange seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

None

10. ITEMS FROM BOARD

A. Raw Water Demand Evaluation Discussion Update

Chair Williams stated that he and Board member Davis are looking at dates with Staff member Huson to meet with Deputy City Manager Dale Rademacher to

discuss the Raw Water Demand Evaluation and the City of Longmont’s position on its Windy Gap participation level. After the meeting, Chair Williams and Board member Davis will report the outcome of the meeting to the Board. They are hopeful that the Board and City staff will be able to work together to present a united message to City Council.

B. Review of Major Project Listing

A review of major project listing was provided in the agenda packet.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND WATER BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Informational items were included in the packet distributed for this meeting.

Staff member Huson highlighted a report on the Colorado River Recovery Program’s 2019 trip to Washington, D.C. This is an annual event in which proponents for Upper Colorado and San Juan recovery programs go to show congressional and administration staff that maintaining support and funding for these programs is necessary. Participants from this year’s trip are hopeful that appropriations to fund the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and the San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program will continue for Fiscal Year 2020.

12. ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

The next cash-in-lieu review is scheduled for December’s meeting.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before Water Board, Chairperson Williams adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Water Board will be held on October 21, 2019, at 3:00 pm at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, CO 80501.

Todd Williams, Water Board Chair

Date

Heather McIntyre, Recording Secretary

Date



WATER BOARD

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Meeting Date: **October 21, 2019**

Item Number: **6**

Type of Item: **Development Activity**

From: **Wes Lowrie, Water Resources Analyst, 303-651-8814**
wes.lowrie@longmontcolorado.gov

As the Board will recall, City Council approved Ordinance O-2012-73 on October 23, 2012, which requires Water Board action during annexation review and when further raw water deficit satisfaction is required pursuant to a particular development activity. Listed below are two development activity categories: Development Activity Requiring Water Board Action and Development Activity Submitted for Water Board Information Only.

- 6a Development Activity Requiring Water Board Action
 - i) None

- 6b Development Activity Submitted for Water Board Information Only
 - i) None



WATER BOARD

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Meeting Date: October 21, 2019

Item Number: 7a

Subject: Longmont's 2020 Guiding Water Principles

Type of Item: General Business

From: Nelson Tipton, Water Resources Analyst, 303-651-8365
Nelson.Tipton@longmontcolorado.gov
Ken Huson, Water Resources Manager, 303-651-8340
Ken.Huson@longmontcolorado.gov

Suggested Action: Provide input regarding City of Longmont's 2020 Guiding Water Principles.

We are approaching the start of the 2020 Legislation Session. Staff would like to take this opportunity to discuss with Water Board, City of Longmont's 2020 Guiding Water Principles, see attached. Each year Sandi Seader, Assistant City Manager, presents to City Council, Longmont's overall Legislation Principles and Guiding Water Principles. City Council is tentatively scheduled to review Longmont's 2020 Guiding Water Principles in December 2019. As water related legislation is introduced, the guiding water principles allow City Council, Water Board, and staff to evaluate how proposed bills might impact the citizens of Longmont.

Attachments:
Longmont's 2020 Guiding Water Principles

City of Longmont Water

Principles 2020 Legislative Year

- Support water policies that protect Colorado water resources.
- Support the constitutional doctrine of prior appropriation and the constitutional priority given to domestic water use.
- Support the inventorying and protection of Longmont's water rights.
- Support appropriate water conservation efforts by all users and effective long-term water resource management.
- Support appropriate coordination of municipal water use with agriculture, recreation and open space uses.
- Support federal; and state financial aid programs assisting municipalities with the construction and improvement of water systems to protect and enhance the quality of water supplies to the public and to comply with federal and state mandates.
- Support State Legislation that enhances stream flow in Colorado Rivers for the purpose of protecting Colorado aquatic and riparian areas.
- Recognize the special needs of smaller municipalities and encourage the federal government and the state to provide special financial assistance to smaller municipalities for water systems based on financial and health needs.
- All Colorado water users must share in solving Colorado's water resource problems with the costs to meet the water needs of water users being paid solely by those benefiting from the project or effort.
- The State of Colorado should provide assistance, when requested, for local water supply planning and assist in the implementation of consensus-based water resource solutions that respect local authorities, private property and water rights. Proper water supply planning should be required in conjunction with land use planning efforts.
- During the process of planning to meet future needs, water suppliers and utilities should explore full development of existing local water sources, consideration of new water supplies, and demand management, including water conservation as a demand management strategy in planning for future water supply.
- Additional water storage should be pursued through the improvement and rehabilitation of existing structures and the development of new structures. These activities should be accomplished with local consensus.

- The right of water rights owners to market their water rights must be protected. Colorado must fully explore flexible, market-based approaches to water supply management, including interruptible water contracts, water banking, in-state water leasing and groundwater recharge management.
- Longmont’s Raw Water Policy calls for the transfer, for municipal use, of all historical water from lands being annexed to the City. The transfer of agricultural water outside of a City’s planning area should be encouraged to be completed through leases or interruptible water supply contracts in order to preserve agriculture. Water leases should not preclude, but be in addition to purchases, to meet the water supply needs of municipalities.
- In the event that agricultural water is transferred, the transaction must adequately address the need for maintaining the existing tax base, protecting the remaining water rights in the area, and maintaining the proper stewardship of the land including revegetation and weed control.
- The need to develop additional water supplies to serve Colorado’s growing population should be weighed against the recreational and environmental benefits served by preservation of instream flows. Longmont holds that the term “balance” should not imply evenly split, but rather is reflective of the specific conditions existing relative to additional water development projects.
- Adverse economic, environmental, and social impacts of future water projects and water transfers must be minimized; unavoidable adverse impacts must be mitigated, including both the immediate and long-term impacts attributable to water transfers. Locally affected communities must have the opportunity to assist in defining appropriate mitigation for each project. The transfer of water from Northern Colorado to meet the water needs of the Denver metro area is a significant concern for Longmont.
- Future water supply solutions must benefit both the area of origin and the area of use.
- Water conservation measures that do not injure other water rights should be aggressively pursued.
- There must be an ongoing, concerted effort to educate all Coloradans on the importance of water, and the need to conserve, manage, and plan for the needs of this and future generations.
- Prudent municipal water supply planning necessitates securing multiple, independent sources of raw water to create redundancy and flexibility of operations during emergency situations such as floods, forest fires, and droughts. Support State legislation that encourages such planning and fosters certainty of municipal water supplies. Oppose State Legislation that would place additional burdens or restrictions on the ability to develop multiple water sources.



WATER BOARD

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Meeting Date: **October 21, 2019**

Item Number: **8c**

Type of Item: **Button Rock Preserve Management Plan - Update**

From: **Danielle Levine, Project Manager II, 303-651-8448**
danielle.levine@longmontcolorado.gov

Summary & Background

Staff last updated PRAB, Sustainability, Water Board, and City Council in late May after initially enforcing the interim “dogs on leash, one dog per person” rule. Since then, Button Rock Preserve has continued to experience a decrease in dog visitation and in dog waste litter needing to be removed.

The first public meeting took place on June 25, 2019. Topics included a project introduction, a review of Survey #1 results, and an open discussion around visitor use topics. The public had a chance to review informational boards and speak with project staff and technical advisory members from Boulder County and U.S. Forest Service.

A second public survey (Survey #2) was conducted at the Preserve trailhead throughout August and September, and is currently still available on the *Caring for Button Rock* Engage webpage. Survey #2 is visitor use and natural resources focused, including questions about implementing a visitation fee at the preserve, to how many people is it acceptable to encounter and have a satisfying visit, to questions about drinking water and forest health.

The second public meeting is scheduled for Nov. 6, 2019, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the Parks, Open Space, and Trails building located at 7 S. Sunset Street. Attendees will hear presentations focusing on management plan goals, on natural resources data collected in 2019, and on Survey #2 results. The public will have a chance to ask questions, speak with project team members, and hear about next steps.

Board Action

This is an information item; staff is not seeking direction at this time.



WATER BOARD
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Item Number: 9a

Subject: **Review of Major Projects Listing and Items Tentatively Scheduled for Future Board Meetings**

Type of Item: **Informational**

From: **Water Board**

Suggested Action: N/A

Attached is a copy of the most recent Water Board project status report. Please note the report now includes expected future review date information for each item.

WATER BOARD PROJECT STATUS REPORT

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>MOST RECENT WATER BOARD REVIEW DATE</u>	<u>PROJECTED NEXT WATER BOARD REVIEW DATE</u>	<u>MOST RECENT ACTION TAKEN AND/OR PROPOSED FUTURE ACTION</u>
1 Union Reservoir Enlargement Land Acquisition Program	February 25, 2019	February 24, 2020	Annual update was presented to Water Board February 25, 2019.
2 Water Supply and Drought Management Plan	April 15, 2019	April 14, 2020	2019 Plan presented to Water Board in April 2019 with recommendation to City Council to remain at a Sustainable Conservation Level.
3 Windy Gap Firing Project	September 16, 2019	November 18, 2019	Review of Longmont's 5th Interim Agreement.
4 Water Legislation & Guiding Water Principles	May 20, 2019	January 27, 2020	Review of current legislation.
5 Cash-In-Lieu Review	September 16, 2019	December 16, 2019	Currently at \$16,840 per Acre-Foot. Resolution R-2019-78.
6 Button Rock Preserve & Forest Stewardship	May 20, 2019	January 27, 2020	Review the Button Rock Preserve visitation policy.
7 Longmont Water System Yield	July 15, 2019	TBD	Ongoing discussion of future water projects and projected future water yields.

Tentative Future Event Schedule	
Event	Date
Water Board Monthly Meeting	November 18, 2019
Water Board Monthly Meeting	December 16, 2019
Water Board Monthly Meeting	January 27, 2020

Water Board Member Terms

John Caldwell - 2020
 Kathy Peterson - 2021
 Todd Williams - 2022
 Roger Lange - 2023
 Renee Davis - 2024

Updated: October 2019



WATER BOARD
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Meeting Date: October 21, 2019

Item Number: 10

Type of Item: Informational Items & Water Board Correspondence

Attached are information items and Water Board correspondence.

Heather McIntyre

From: Ken Huson
Sent: Tuesday, October 08, 2019 7:52 AM
To: Marcia Martin
Cc: Dale Rademacher; David Bell
Subject: Good news on Windy Gap

Water Board members,

Good news concerning both the Windy Gap FIRMING Project and the Colorado River Connectivity Channel Project at Windy Gap Reservoir. The closing on the Schmuck Children's Trust property is substantially complete. This allows the connectivity channel to move forward, hopefully with enough time left on the various funding sources for that project to be completed. Also, the trust has subsequently withdrawn its statement of opposition to the Windy Gap decree in Colorado state water court, allowing that case to move forward. A very significant milestone for the Windy Gap FIRMING Project.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks, Ken

Ken Huson | *Water Resources Manager*

City of Longmont | Public Works & Natural Resources
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