Board of Directors Meeting and 2027 Budget Hearing Minutes

This meeting was held in-person at Fountain Utility Operations Center,

700 S. Charter Oak Ranch Road, Fountain, Colorado 80817and online via Zoom.

Meetings are open to the public.

Friday, October 23rd 2026

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Draft Minutes

1. Call meeting to order 9:00-9:10 **NOTE: the recording did not start until 9:46am. Minutes from 9:00am-9:46am were written referencing notes from Mary Wilson.
    a. Roll call, and establish a quorum

Chair Wysong called the Fountain Creek Watershed District Board of Directors Meeting to order. In attendance were the following duly designated members of the District Board of Directors:

Name	Representing
Bill Wysong	Chair, El Paso County
Jeff Chostner	Vice Chair, Pueblo County
Tamara Estes	Secretary, City of Fountain
Jennifer Herzberg	Alternate, City of Fountain
Nancy Henjum	City of Colorado Springs
Terry Hart	CAG Chair
Jay Kita	Alternate, Small Municipalities
Miles Lucero	Pueblo County
Dianne Danti	City of Pueblo
Jessica Mills	Lower Ark. Valley Water Conservancy District
Steve Atencio	Legal Counsel

Allison Schuch Executive Director

A quorum was present.

b. Introduction of Guests:

Name	Representing
Mark Shea	Colorado Springs Utilities
Steve Rodriguez	FCWD Staff
Elise Fluegel	FCWD Bookkeeper
Mary Wilson	FCWD Staff
Jordan Witteveen	FCWD Staff
Sharon Thompson	Mayor, City of Fountain
Steve Baugess	Pueblo County

c. Approval of October WAE/District Board Meeting Agenda

Director Hart made a motion to approve the October District Board and WAE Agenda. Director Danti seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Recess to Water Activity Enterprise Meeting 9:10-10:05

Chair Wysong recessed into the Water Activity Enterprise Meeting by consensus.

a. Consent Calendar

Vice Chair Chostner made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Mills seconded and the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved.

b. New Business

i. Recognize appointment of Steve Baugess as Pueblo County Primary representative and MMF Secretary

ii. MMF 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Addendum

Director Hart made a motion to approve the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Addendum. Director Danti seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Old Business

i. Project Updates

1. Eagleridge and Southmoor Dr.
    a. ED Schuch and Steve R. provided updates about fall maintenance. Board Members asked various questions and made various comments.
2. Frost Ranch
    a. ED Schuch and Steve R. provided project updates, including landowner challenges. Board Members asked various questions and made various comments.

ii. In-Lieu Fee Program Updates

1. Mark S. provided updates, and Board Members asked various questions and made various comments. Steve A. mentioned the need for an ILF budget.

d. Adjourn WAE Meeting

Chair Wysong adjourned the Water Activity Enterprise Meeting and returned to the Board of Directors Meeting by consensus.

3. Reconvene District Board Meeting 10:05
    a. Board Member Comments on Non-Agenda Items
        i. Director Henjum provided positive commentary about the new Leonardo DaVinci Museum in Pueblo.
        ii. Mark S. mentioned security issues with public meetings online and unidentified online guests. Steve A. expressed a need to establish an open Board Meetings policy.
    b. Consent Calendar

Vice Chair Chostner made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Mills seconded and the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved.

4. Executive Director Report 10:10-10:25
    a. ED Schuch provided updates on various District items.
    b. Land Use Authority was discussed regarding an emerging development in El Paso County. This item was added to the long-term funding special meeting on November 6th for more discussion.

5. Committee Updates 10:25-10:35
    a. HR/Contracts
        i. Future meetings to-be-scheduled
    b. Finance
        i. Previous meeting focused on finalizing the 2027 budget proposal
    c. Governance
        i. ILF Advisory Committee was discussed but no determinations were made. Further discussion postponed until the December Board Meeting.

6. Presentations 10:35-11:45
    a. 2027 Budget Hearing
        i. ED Schuch presented the 2027 Budget Proposal.
            1. Board Members made various comments and asked various questions.

   a. Carryover funds were discussed. No resolution or decisions were made.
2. One public comment was made by Mayor Thompson, stating that carryover funds should not be allotted for future projects and should instead be applied to current project work.
3. The Board planned for a tentative February 2027 Budget Amendment meeting.

Director Hart made a motion to approve the proposed 2027 budget for the Fountain Creek Watershed District as presented and as corrected. Director Kita seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Director Hart made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-6, approving the proposed 2027 budget for the Fountain Creek Watershed District as presented and as corrected. Director Henjum seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Director Hart made a motion to approve the proposed 2027 budget for the Water Activity Enterprise as presented and as corrected. Vice Chair Chostner seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Director Hart made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-7, approving the proposed 2027 budget for the Water Activity Enterprise as presented and as corrected. Vice Chair Chostner seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

7. Old Business 11:45-11:50
   a. Strategic Planning
      i. Discussion postponed until the November 6th Funding Special Meeting.
   b. Eastern bill payment process
      i. Due to temporary technical issues, bills and financial processing is to be conducted via paper.

8. New Business 11:50-12:00
   a. Board Officer Positions
      i. Elections to occur at the January 23rd Board Meeting
      ii. Discussion was had about how to legally conduct District business and meetings with Steve A. Steve A. referred to a statute specifying that a notice needs to be given if two or more Board Members communicate virtually or in-person to discuss or conduct District business.

9. Executive Session – None

10. Public Comment - None

11. Closing Comments by the Board

    a. The Board expressed gratitude to ED Schuch, FCWD staff, and Elise F. for their efforts with the 2027 Budget Proposal

12. Confirm Next Meeting

    a. Special Long-Term Funding Meeting, hybrid on Friday, November 6th 9am-11am
    b. Hybrid on Friday, November 20th from 9am-12pm

13. Adjourn Board Meeting 12:10

The District Board of Directors meeting was adjourned by consensus with no formal motion made.