

Work Session: Prior to today’s board meeting , the directors participated in a work session to discuss and receive updates on the Platte Valley Water Partnership

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
LOWER SOUTH PLATTE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

February 10, 2026

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Allen Coyne	Gene Manuello
Ken Fritzler	Bob Mari
Bruce Gerk Zoom	Joe Patterson
Brian Kembel Zoom	Kent Pflager
Dan Kendrick Zoom	Cody Poitz

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Jack McClary - Excused
Carson Smart – Excused
Brad Stromberger - Excused

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:

Joe Frank, General Manager
Rick Fleharty, Technician
Craig Brownell, Technician
Deanna Eskew, Secretary

VISITORS PRESENT:

None

The meeting was called to order by President Fritzler.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 13, 2026 BOARD MINUTES:

Director Coyne made the motion to approve the January 13, 2026 Board Minutes as submitted. Director Poitz seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

FINANCE REPORT:

Treasurer Coyne presented the finance report for the month of January. Director Coyne then made the motion to approve payment of District checks 17792-17821. This included voided check #17808 which was missing from the printed report. The motion also included Julesburg Recharge check #1284. Director Mari seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

WATER RIGHTS MONITORING:

- *Division I Water Court Resume':*
No statements of opposition will be filed from the December, 2025 Water Court Resume.'

WATER ACTIVITIES ENTERPRISE:

- *Julesburg Recharge Project:*
 - Manager Frank stated that the 2025 annual billing to the well owners will be ready pending the finalized South Platte Water Related Activities Program (SPWRAP) accretion credit payments.
- *Heyborne Recharge Project:*
 - Manager Frank noted that the project will be turned off in February to allow groundwater levels to subside. Pumping will restart in March.
- *Watchorn Project:*
 - The District will add the Watchorn-Johnson Lake Project to the District's augmentation plan in order to cover their out-of-priority depletions.

LEGAL REPORT:

Manager Frank stated that the board would need to adjourn into executive session later in the meeting to review items regarding stipulations and economics of the Platte Valley Water Partnership case #19CW3253.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

None

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Included in the Manager's report were the following:

Legislative Matters:

- WRASP/Colorado Water Congress –
 - Manager Frank reviewed the 2026 Annual Colorado Water Congress Convention that was held January 28th – 30th.
 - The board discussed the proposed data center in Logan County and the impact it would have on the area.

General Matters:

- South Platte Water Alliance –
 - Manager Frank reviewed the South Platte Water Alliance January 2026 Informational Update with the board. He noted that there are currently nine board members (three representing local landowners and six representing local augmentation plans) with Jay Goddard recently being added as the ninth board member. According to the Informational Update Manager Frank presented to the board, “the current South Platte Water Alliance membership consists of the vast majority of landowners along the proposed alignment of the Perkins Canal and nearly 92% of the high-capacity groundwater wells within Water District 64”.
- South Platte Water Related Activities Program –
 - Manager Frank discussed the recent first Quarter SPWRAP board meeting that was held at the District's office in Sterling on January 22, 2026.
 - Manager Frank noted that the recharge credit payments to the augmentation plans for 2025 will be smaller than in previous years due to dry hydrology.
- South Platte Basin Roundtable –
 - The next meeting of the SPBRT will be held later today with a focus on “Low and No Regrets”.
- Other Discussion Items –
 - Director Coyne made the motion that the District enter into an agreement with the Sterling Urban Renewal Authority for property tax increment revenue sharing. Director Pflager seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - Manager Frank has submitted proposed revisions to the District's Personnel Policy. The board will review the proposed revisions for a vote at next month's meeting.
 - Manager Frank also noted that one of the two pickups the District advertised for sale has sold.

➤ Meetings –

- Manager Frank will send a Thank You note to the Morgan County Conservation District for sponsoring the Buy and Dry Seminar that was held in Fort Morgan on December 17, 2025.
- The Upper Platte and Beaver Annual Meeting was held yesterday, February 9, 2026.
- Manager Frank will be attending the Julesburg Irrigation District's Annual Meeting on February 13, 2026 in Julesburg.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At approximately 12:12 p.m. Director Coyne made the motion to adjourn into executive session for the following:

1. For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e).

Director Manuello seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

President Fritzler adjourned the executive session and reconvened the board meeting at approximately 2:10 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Director Poitz made the motion to adjourn. Director Coyne seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:12 p.m.

Deanna Eskew, District Secretary