

5-2-1- DRAINAGE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD

JULY 25, 2007

Grand Junction City Hall, Executive Conference Room
Grand Junction, Colorado

Chairman Jim Doody called roll of the Board Members.

Board Members Present:

Dave Walker	Town of Palisade
Dave Karisny	City of Fruita - excused
Richard Bowman	Grand Junction Drainage District
Steve Acquafresca	Mesa County Commissioner
Jim Doody, Chairman	City of Grand Junction

Also Present:

John Ballagh (Grand Junction Drainage District, Manager), **Vohnnie Pearson** (Town of Palisade, Planner retired), **Nathan Boddy** (Town of Palisade, Planner), **Eric Mende** (Fruita City Engineer), **Julie Constan** (Mesa County Engineering), **Clint Kinney** (Fruita City Manager standing in for Dave Karisny), **Tim Moore** (City of Grand Junction, Public Works Manager), **Doug Cline** (City of Grand Junction, Street Superintendent), **Chris Spears** (City of Grand Junction, Street Supervisor), **Yvonne Charlesworth** (5-2-1 Drainage Authority Recording Secretary).

Chairman Jim Doody opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m. He asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as is. Dave Walker made the motion to adopt the agenda, Clint Kinney seconded, Chairman Doody polled the Board to accept the agenda.

The roll call vote results:	Contracting Party	Vote
	Grand Junction Drainage District	aye
	Mesa County	aye
	Grand Junction	aye
	Fruita	aye
	Palisade	aye

Minutes:

Chairman Jim Doody asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of May 23, 2007 and June 27, 2007. Dave Walker asked for a revision of the June 27 minutes on page 3, second full paragraph, first sentence: change the last 2 words from "next year" to "*in the future.*" Steve Acquafresca made a motion to accept the minutes for the May and June Board Meetings as amended. Dave Walker seconded the motion.

The roll call vote results:	Contracting Party	Vote
	Grand Junction Drainage District	aye
	Mesa County	aye
	Grand Junction	aye
	Fruita	aye
	Palisade	aye

Financial Report:

John Ballagh reviewed the June 2007 balance sheet, profit & loss statement, and the check register. He stated things are looking good this month, we have money in the bank earning interest, and we are writing 4 to 5 checks each month. The Qwest bill has settled down and varies only a few dollars each month. We received no calls on the hot line last month, but it is being manned. All items were reported to be in order.

Steve Acquafresca moved that the Financial Report be accepted as is, Richard Bowman seconded the motion, and Chairman Jim Doody polled the Board.

The roll call vote results:	Contracting Party	Vote
	Grand Junction Drainage District	aye
	Mesa County	aye
	Grand Junction	aye
	Fruita	aye
	Palisade	aye

Report:

Jim Doody asked if Larry Beckner was going to be at the meeting today. John Ballagh stated that he wasn't planning on attending, but someone from his office would be carrying over the URS Contract to be signed. He stated that a paragraph had to be added about not hiring any illegal aliens, one liability clause had to be changed, and another removed.

Report:

Jim Doody brought up the subject of the recent rainfall. Rainfall and runoff was discussed for several different areas throughout the valley. Jim Doody reported that the Redlands had so much rain that the runoff created a stream between Shadow lake and the duck pond. John Ballagh stated that he had contacted RMAVV to get a report on the rainfall around the valley. The information is online but in increments, not totals, so it is hard to decipher. Clifton Water lost their computer due to a lightning strike so they had no results. John called several different agencies to try to obtain results, but was unsuccessful in doing so.

Dave Walker asked if we could put together a network of our own monitoring stations around the valley and stated it should only cost around \$4,000 to \$5,000. John Ballagh stated that NOAA gathers information that is reported to them, but they don't chase the data. There is talk about tying some stations together. The Colorado Department of Health was brought up as a source of information.

Eric Mende stated that Fruita didn't get much rain at all. Palisade reportedly had flooding in a creek between the Grand Mesa and Plateau Creek. Julie Constan stated that this area is not within the Authority's boundaries. The boundary goes up Rapid Creek. There reportedly was no flooding on the I-70 corridor in the area. John Ballagh stated

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that none of the drainage basins have reported flooding. He stated that normally the valley receives rain one to two days, and that a week is a-typical. It will be interesting to see if a flood will occur, and if so what the reaction will be. John Ballagh stated that the runoff this time is different, that the area can suffer more with less rain because of saturation levels.

Steve Acquafresca stated everyone should have a rain gauge because the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority has a vested interest. He stated he has a gauge at his home, which is situated between the college and the airport. He reported 8/10” of an inch of rain. He stated that you can put mineral oil on top of the water to prevent evaporation so you can take a reading at a later time. It was stated that such a system can only tell us what has already happened, not what is going to happen.

John Ballagh stated he would find out about the network of observation points and attempt to tie them together. He will report on this at the next meeting.

Report:

URS Basin Master Plan for Douglas Wash

The URS contract has been approved and is being signed. John Ballagh passed out a letter agreement between the Grand Junction Drainage District and the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority to combine monies to be spent on the Drainage Basin Master Plan. The Drainage District will contribute \$60,000 and the Drainage Authority will contribute \$82,000. The 5-2-1 DA will administer and manage the contract to have the basin master plans completed, and will be the owner of the basin master plans. Jim Doody asked if Larry Beckner has seen the letter agreement. John Ballagh stated that he hasn't. The Chairman of the Grand Junction Drainage District had already signed the agreement, and Jim Doody asked for a motion to approve signing of the agreement. Dave Walker made the motion and Steve Acquafresca seconded.

The roll call vote results:	Contracting Party	Vote
	Grand Junction Drainage District	aye
	Mesa County	aye
	Grand Junction	aye
	Fruita	aye
	Palisade	aye

Action Item:

There were no action items.

Discussion Items:

Modified Business Plan

Julie Constan stated that budget season is rolling around. A budget proposal is due by August 13 with the final due October 15. She asked for input from the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority. Mesa County needs numbers between August 3rd and August 10th. The various funding levels per entity were discussed. Several options were discussed to

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alleviate that level. Several funding levels for 2008 were discussed at length. The level of service as well as what services could be provided for the various levels from \$500,000 to \$1,600,000 for fiscal 2008 were discussed. The share to be paid by each contributing party resulted in interesting debate.

Julie Constan asked if we are again looking at a General Fund transfer rather than a utility fee. Steve Acquafresca asked where savings could exist and mentioned the permit fees. The \$600,000 funded for basin studies seems excessive considering the expertise available within the one year time frame for conducting the studies. The administrative personnel costs can fluctuate. The motorized Huffly Bike option without permit fees is \$650,000. Permit fees can save \$100,000 to \$150,000. The permit fee level is \$2100. Dave Walker discussed the fees being assessed to the contractors and stated they would spend anywhere from \$4000 to \$5000 before sinking a shovel into the ground. He asked if we were trying to limit growth.

The subject of withdrawal from the 5-2-1 DA was again discussed. Larry Beckner was supposed to review the question and provide an answer about what is required to accomplish this and what the results to the withdrawing entity would be. John Ballagh stated that Larry Beckner has not been consulted. Julie Constan then read from the IGA what was required and the results. Discussion on pulling out led to the statement that the act of pulling out of the DA doesn't remove an area from the DA boundaries, the only thing that happens is that the entity loses a vote on the Board.

Clint Kinney asked if the DA approves a utility fee and it passed 4 to 1, would the County have the option to go ahead and pull out and thereby kill the whole thing? Steve Acquafresca stated the County could go on record as a "no" vote.

Discussion led to backing off the \$600,000 for basin studies to provide relief for the smaller entities. The basin studies are desirable but they aren't an emergency. Mesa County is looking at \$500,000 to \$650,000 for their share. The Mesa County Board has come a long way from not wanting to fund at all to where they are today. They are willing to fund the lion's share of the contribution to go forward. This would relieve the burden on the other entities and make it less than \$38,000 for Palisade.

Julie Constan stated that the commitment to the State for NPDES compliance is by a 5 year term. The question was asked if the Board would be having the same budget discussion each year, and how is it possible to commit to a 5 year term? How can the entities plan that far ahead? Julie Constan stated that Phase II expires in March 2008. The State needs a commitment that the money will be there to fund for the next 5 years. An IGA can accomplish that. The State wants to know that funding support will continue through the life of the permit.

Jim Doody stated that the discussion of a utility fee keeps coming up. It is his feeling that a utility fee will be implemented some time in the future, just not now. Dave Walker

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stated there is concern with continuing authorization of general funds not knowing numbers for funding, studies, etc. There are a lot of unknowns in the way of proceeding. Eric Mende suggested that these issues could be worked out during each entity's budgeting process.

Jim Doody stated that when the budgeting discussion of the 5-2-1 comes across, a lot of eyes will be opened. He believes that the City Council behind forming the 5-2-1 had a vision, but this Council isn't there yet. Consensus is that members are committed to staying with the 5-2-1 one more year as is.

Julie Constan stated that the 5-2-1 doesn't own the infrastructure which is a part of NPDES. The State would allow the 5-2-1 to hold the permit if it shows funding without owning the infrastructure. Steve Acquafresca stated that all the entities have good credit ratings, all we need is to show that we are going forward to form the 5-2-1. Julie Constan will ask Nathan Moore at the Colorado Department of Health what commitment he wants. In September all NPDES holders must file an intent to renew. If each entity does their own intent to renew, the Permit can still be transferred to the 5-2-1 before March 2008.

It was decided to find out from Larry Beckner what it would take to form a utility.

Other Business:

Steve Acquafresca stated he is signed up for the August 15 & 16 Stormwater class and asked if anyone else was planning on attending. Julie Constan clarified that this class is part of the on-going quarterly circuit of stormwater classes.

Read Ahead:

There were no read ahead items provided.

Meeting Calendar for the Future:

August 22 nd	February 27 th 2008
September 26 th	March 26 th 2008
October 24 th	April 23 rd 2008
November 28 th	May 28 th 2008
December 26 th	June 25 th 2008
January 23 rd	July 23 rd 2008

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Doody adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Jim Doody, Chairman