

# MEETING MINUTES

November 22, 2021

## LOWER FOUNTAIN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (LFWQMA)

### Member

**Attendees:** Cindy Murray (FSD), Mike Fink (City of Fountain), Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain), Roy Heald (SWSD), Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills), Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metropolitan District), Shaun Thompson (CSU), Brandon Bernard (Widefield W & S)

**Non-Attendees:** Fort Carson, Woodmen Hills

**Guests:** None

**Meeting Location:** Widefield Water and Sanitation District

\*\*Chairman Fink called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions followed.

1. **Review/Approve Meeting Minutes** - Mr. Fink presented the meeting minutes for August 23, 2021, for approval consideration. Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.
2. **Review/Approve Finances** - Mr. Fink presented the Treasurer's Report for the months of August thru November 2021 for approval consideration. Mr. Heald made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Mr. Watkins. Motion carried.
3. **Review/Approve the 2022 Proposed Budget** – Mr. Heald made a motion to approve the 2022 Proposed Budget. Second by Mr. Bernard. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of the USGS Joint Agreement for 2022** – Mr. Bernard made a motion to approve the USGS Joint Agreement for 2022 in the amount of \$11,723.00. Second by Mr. Niles. Motion carried.
5. **Discussion/Comments on the Annual Meeting** – Mr. Bernard apologized for Widefield's lack of participation. Mr. Heald stated that everyone had a good time and the comments received have all been positive.
6. **Kevin Niles (Stratmoor Hills)** – Mr. Niles reported that they continue to progress on the construction of their PFAS Treatment Facility. The exterior is complete, and they are working on the interior treatment components, i.e., pipe work, ion exchange unit. The plan is to complete construction by the end of November or the first of December so they can process a request for payment to the Air Force. He reported that they finalized the rehabilitation work on one of their lift stations. He stated that Water Technologies Group was very helpful with working through some problems and coming up with economical solutions. He reported that they had some issues with their UV Trap and installed a serpentine type of piping in the event the UV lights break the mercury can be recovered as required.
7. **Roy Heald (SWSD)** – Mr. Heald reported there has been no activity on their PFAS Mitigation Facility. They are having issues with the Corps of Engineers. They continue to have an issue with resin residual that the contractor released into a finished water main by mistake. They are investigating the "ice picking" method to remove resin residual, which looks to be very effective. He also reported that the upgraded wastewater treatment facility has been producing good effluent. They feel confident with the facilities ability to meet their new effluent limits effective July 2022. They are completing end of year tasks and

finalizing the 2022 Budget. Mr. Heald reported they are having staffing issues as reported by all the members.

8. **Cindy Murray - (FSD/LFMSDD)** –Ms. Murray reported that they have completed the rehabilitation work on Aeration Basin #2 at the District’s Richard J. Christian II Wastewater Treatment Facility. She reported that the BNR Demonstration Project at the HDT facility has been delayed because of supply chain problems. Ms. Murray reported that the District’s engineer, Jonathan Moore was nominated and accepted on the 811 Notification Board. She reported the Board of Directors appointed Dan Blankenship to fill a vacant position until the May 2022 regular election cycle. The position was vacated due to an illness and subsequent death of Mr. Coke, a long-time member of the Board. They are also finalizing and preparing the 2022 Budget presentation.
9. **Mike Fink (City of Fountain)** – Mr. Fink reported that the City of Fountain has a new Mayor and three new Council Members. He reported that the updated Water Master Plan was approved.
10. **Taylor Murphy (City of Fountain)** – Mr. Murphy reported that a 36-inch transmission water main being installed under Fountain Creek is almost complete. They are in the process of designing the next phase of this transmission main which will take it under the railroad and across Interstate 25. The struggles to complete the construction of their PFAS Water Treatment Facility continues. The equipment and building foundation have been installed but no building superstructure. The City has retained their own contractor to erect the building structure around the equipment. The Corps of Engineers demobilized until the end of April when the City hopes to have the building constructed, at that time they will complete any final work and start up the facility. Mr. Murphy reported the Air Force dropped them from the ESA grant program. A letter was received informing them that their influent was below the Health Advisory Limits (HAL), and they were no longer going to renew the ESA or subsidize any additional expenses. After protesting, they came up with a resolution to implement a long-term ESA that only triggers if they rise above the HAL, if two subsequent tests rise above the HAL then funding kicks back in. They also included language to the effect that it will be applicable for going above the HAL or by future Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL’s) established by the EPA. They do have a separate ESA for the building superstructure where there is a \$1.5 million reimbursement commitment for eligible expenses.
11. **Brandon Bernard (WWD)** – Mr. Bernard reported that they have completed installing the two-transmission main lines for their west to east transmission line. They are almost finished building a two-million-gallon water tank on the east side off Drennan Road with an anticipated completion by the end of the year. He reported that their 2022 Budget was approved including proposed capital projects like additional booster stations and an additional three miles of 24-inch main line.
12. **Joshua Watkins (Cherokee Metro District)** – Mr. Watkins reported that they have been completing water tank cleaning as well as looking into implementing some in-house well testing and optimization. For wastewater he reported that construction is going strong with 53-acres evaporation ponds for the brine from the RO system. The new facility buildings have been erected and dried in, however the supply chain issue is causing a materials delay to complete. They have been sampling for TENORM requirements in their biosolids. They have also been working on the demolition of some screw presses and other biosolids equipment to reduce centrifuge maintenance costs. They are looking for more energy efficient equipment.
13. **Shaun Thompson (CSU)** – Mr. Thompson reported that the Direct Potable Reuse demonstration program tour season is over. It has been moved indoors until next May and is undergoing optimization. He reported that they started a 5-year Resilience Assessment at the JD Phillips facility. He reported the Las Vegas Facility is completing a diffuser changeout and will be switching to silicone tube diffusers and installing some additional piping for operator control. They are progressing with the biogas project at the Clear Springs Ranch Facility, which they will be completing in-house. They also have some labor issues with trying to fill an Instrumentation and Control Technician position.

14. Mr. Fink reported that Andrew Gunning at PPACG informed him that they have yet to hire a candidate for the open Environmental position. Ann Werner will be filling the position in the interim. Mr. Fink informed the group that he is resigning from his position on the Arkansas Basin Roundtable. Mr. Heald informed the group that he is resigning from his position on the Colorado Water Resources Power Development Association. Mr. Lucas Hale will be taking his position once appointed by the legislative process and should formally start in March 2022. Mr. Heald also reported that Gary Stein is retiring and will be resigning from Fountain Mutual Irrigation Company.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Fink adjourned the meeting at 2:29 p.m.

**Next LFWQMA Meeting** – The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 24, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. at Fountain Sanitation District.