

MEETING MINUTES

Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District

August 7, 2024, RPBCWD Board of Managers Work Session

PRESENT:

- Managers:** Jill Crafton, Treasurer
Tom Duevel, Secretary
Bonnie Nelson*
Dorothy Pedersen, President
David Ziegler, Vice President
- Staff:** Zach Dickhausen*, Natural Resources Coordinator
Liz Forbes*, Communication Manager
Terry Jeffery, District Administrator
Josh Maxwell*, Water Resources & Fisheries Manager
Dylan Monahan, Administrative Assistant
Alaina Portoghese*, Communications Specialist
Rachel Whittington, GreenCorps Member
- Other Attendees:** Larry Koch
Fred Rozumalski
*Note: *Attended virtually.*

1. Call to Order

- 1 President Pedersen called the Board work session to order at 5:00 p.m.
- 2 President Pedersen stated that by declaration of the president this meeting is being held in person
- 3 in public and hybrid while the District recognizes a manager may, based on advice from a
- 4 healthcare professional, have a legitimate reason for not attending a meeting in a public place in
- 5 person, such as Covid-19 exposure or infection, and in such circumstances may participate in the
- 6 meeting remotely.
- 7 Louis Smith called attendance for the Board of Managers as follows:
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| <i>Manager</i> | <i>Action</i> |
|----------------|---------------|
| Crafton | Present |
| Duevel | Present |

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|----------|---------|
| Nelson | Present |
| Pedersen | Present |
| Ziegler | Present |

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2. Review of Ecosystems Health Action Plan (EHAP)

10 Administrator Jeffery shared the slide presentation, “EHAP Draft Review.” He said the
 11 EHAP is a foundation from which the District can build its next 10-year plan. Administrator
 12 Jeffery said tonight’s presentation focuses on the concepts and the metrics identified in the
 13 draft plan. He said he seeks the managers’ feedback on the overall concepts. He said the
 14 Board’s October meeting agenda includes taking action on the EHAP, which kicks off the
 15 District’s 10-year plan process.

16 Bonnie Nelson commented that green space is important and maybe District stewardship
 17 grants could be extended to cities. She said it would be a good way to partner with cities,
 18 such as what could be done with easements.

19 President Pedersen asked Mr. Smith for his opinion on the approaches described by
 20 Administrator Jeffery. Mr. Smith said he is happy to review any documentation the District
 21 drafts. He said in general the approach Mr. Jeffery describes to create a base of scientific
 22 information and a vision of ecosystem stewardship and the notion of partnership with various
 23 jurisdictions all having a role seems to be a sound foundation. Mr. Smith said once the
 24 District gets specific about determining its regulatory role and how to incorporate the
 25 District’s new understanding about ecosystem protection, there will be a lot of specific legal
 26 questions that arise.

27 Mr. Jeffery said right now the concepts being discussed are strategies about what the District
 28 could consider under the umbrella of water quality. He said the concepts are not
 29 recommended actions or proposed new District standards.

30 President Pedersen said she envisions the District’s approach being collaborative with the
 31 cities. She said she thinks the District needs to make a plan on how to develop cooperative
 32 relationships with the cities and the communities about the approach.

33 Manager Duevel said he sees the District as having leverage in the system, and he would like
 34 to see the District become like a multiplier force for pulling things together. He said there is a
 35 lot of data out there, but it is not yet connected

36 Administrator Jeffery asked the managers for their initial thoughts on the proposed strategy
 37 scoring. Manger Ziegler commented he thinks it fits in well with the District’s current
 38 methodology for scoring projects. He said he could see combining the two for determining
 39 projects and something separate for regulatory and new development. President Pedersen
 40 agreed with Manager Ziegler’s comment.

41 Manager Nelson asked if partnerships and collaboration will be part of the scoring.
42 Administrator Jeffery said that is a good point and it is not currently incorporated in the
43 scoring strategy. Mr. Rozulmaski said it is in effect considered in the scoring category about
44 level of effort. President Pedersen said she does not think level of effort considers the
45 number of communities that would need to be involved in an effort. Administrator Jeffery
46 said another consideration is the level of political capital needed.

47 The managers expressed their support of the District moving in this direction with the EHAP
48 plan. President Pedersen said she thinks the era of looking at water in a silo is going to
49 change.

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3. Adjournment

51 Manager Ziegler moved to adjourn the work session. Manager Duevel seconded the motion.
52 Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0 as follows:

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| <i>Manager</i> | <i>Action</i> |
|----------------|---------------|
| Crafton | Yes |
| Duevel | Yes |
| Nelson | Yes |
| Pedersen | Yes |
| Ziegler | Yes |

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55 The work session adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

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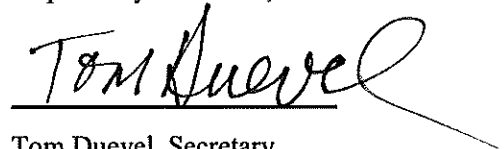
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Respectfully submitted,



Tom Duevel, Secretary

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