



36 **Consideration of Attorney's Report and Approval of Proposed Terms of Water**  
37 **Rights Decree and Stipulation in Boot Jack Ranch Case No. 22CW3044 (Phillips**  
38 **Ditch)**

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40 Directors considered the Attorney's Report regarding water rights diverted from  
41 the San Juan River. The Attorney's Report was in the Board Packet.

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43 Attorney Kane wrote a letter to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) regarding the  
44 Piedra Pass diversion cases (#22CW3050 Division 7 and #22CW3049 Division 3).  
45 The letter describes the position of SJWCD in opposition to any expansion of uses  
46 and volumes of water diverted from Piedra Pass ditches. He has not received a  
47 reply from CPW's counsel.

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49 Regarding the Treasure Pass case, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
50 appears to have moved toward a willingness to limit their original request to  
51 historic amounts. SJWCD obtained information through a FOIA request. SJWCD  
52 and BLM negotiations continue.

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54 Regarding the Bootjack applications, the Phillips Ditch Case #22CW3044  
55 requested to make absolute a water right of 0.05 cfs, because a lake has replaced  
56 an irrigated pasture and water no longer passes through. There was not a basis to  
57 continue opposing, according to Kane. Director Hagberg moved to accept Kane's  
58 recommendation. Director Riehm seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

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60 Bootjack requested a second change in water rights to expand their Chippers Lake  
61 Pumping Station and Lodge Pond. A description of their requested increase was in  
62 the Board Packet. No action was needed.

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64 **Consideration of Treasurer's Report**

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66 Directors considered approval of the Treasurer's Report. Directors recognized the  
67 need to revisit the budget line item for legal fees to defend water rights. With  
68 Director Tedder and Attorney Kane absent, further discussion of the legal fees  
69 was deferred to a future meeting. Director Hagberg moved to accept the  
70 Treasurer's Report and put on hold the discussion of the water rights legal  
71 defense expenses. Director Nossaman seconded. The motion passed  
72 unanimously.

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**Consideration of Application for Exemption of 2023 Audit**

Directors considered the Application for Exemption of 2023 Audit. The Board Packet contained all the components of the Long Form of the Application. Director Tedder submitted all necessary materials to Ronny Farmer, SJWCD accountant. Farmer prepared the Long Form. The Long Form was received after the Board Packet had been sent. For that reason, it will be printed and left on the office table for Directors to read and sign. When Director Tedder returns, he will upload it to the Colorado Auditor’s Office.

**Consideration of Contract with Moxiecran Media and CWCB Deposits**

Directors reviewed the draft contract between SJWCD and Christi Bode. Director Tedder requested that the board approve the terms in the draft contract. The final details will follow. Director Hagberg moved to approve the terms described in the draft contract. Director Nobles seconded. Approval was unanimous.

**Consideration of Vacancy on Board of Directors**

Two Directors, Proffitt and Tedder, sent Judge Wilson Letters of Intent expressing their willingness to continue serving on the SJWCD board. Director Secrist remained undecided and Director Pfister’s seat was vacant. Potential Board Member, Lindsey Kurt-Mason, attended the meeting and was invited to ask questions. Because Jeff Kane interacts with the Court when SJWCD requests board appointments, any action was postponed until more Letters of Intent are received.

**Consideration of Office Lease and Pending Building Sale**

Directors considered an extension of the office lease with an increase in rent of \$25 a month for the remaining ten months in 2024. The building is for sale. Director Nobles moved to accept the lease extension with the rent increase. Director Hagberg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

110 **Chair's Update and Board Outreach Updates**

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- 112 • The deadline for SJWCD to be included in funding considerations for Senators  
113 Bennett and Hickenlooper is March 29. Director Jones requested a Special  
114 Meeting for Monday March 25 at 4 pm to discuss and meet the deadline.
- 115 • Directors Hagberg, Riehm, and Jones attended parts of the Interbasin  
116 Compact Committee's (IBCC's) meeting on February 27. Highlights included  
117 the focus of the Colorado River Task Force under the leadership of Becky  
118 Mitchell, the Colorado Open Soil Moisture and Monitoring Project (with CSU),  
119 the installation of more Snotel sites, and a list of speakers who may be  
120 relevant to SJWCD public presentations.
- 121 • Director Jones and Sally High interviewed former Director Pfister about his  
122 years of experience and leaving SJWCD. Notes will be compiled in future  
123 weeks and made available to Directors.
- 124 • Directors Hagberg and Riehm attended the recent San Juan Headwaters  
125 Forest Health Partnership meeting. Dr. Bill Smith of Mountain Studies Institute  
126 described an evolving technology, a portable tower to measure water content  
127 in the forest. Various locations are being discussed as possible data collection  
128 sites. Jackson Mountain and its years of varied data collection projects make  
129 the Archuleta County location favorable for inclusion as a test site for the new  
130 technology.
- 131 • Southwestern Water Conservation District's Annual Seminar is Wednesday,  
132 March 27, at the Sky Ute Casino in Ignacio. Directors Riehm, Jones, and  
133 Hagberg are registered. Director Riehm will drive. Southwestern Water  
134 Conservation District's Annual Meeting is April 10 and 11 in Durango.

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136 **Discussion of [www.sjwcd.org](http://www.sjwcd.org) and ADA Accessibility Rules**

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138 The Colorado Special District Association informed SJWCD that SDA websites must  
139 meet ADA accessibility expectations. The deadline for websites to comply with  
140 ADA rules is summer 2024. A review of SJWCD.org has been submitted for SDA  
141 analysis and subsequent instructions. Sally High will attend an instructive webinar  
142 when SDA releases it to members.

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144 Christi Bode will include captions in her SJWCD films to meet ADA rules.

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147 **Discussion of PAWSD Response to SJWCD Letter**

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149 Director Jones stated that the PAWSD response to her letter was “disappointing.”  
150 The intended main points were SJWCD’s opposition to renewing the gravel lease  
151 and improving the working relationship with PAWSD. PAWSD has appointed a  
152 subcommittee to interact with SJWCD. Director Jones expressed support of  
153 PAWSD’s mission and proposed a joint work session to include two SJWCD board  
154 members and the PAWSD subcommittee of two. The Webber leases were named  
155 as starting points for a discussion. Director Jones stated, “The view of opposing a  
156 reservoir is increasingly out of step with public sentiment.”

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158 **Consideration of Sponsorship of Environmental Film Festival (April 19 and 20)**

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160 Directors considered sponsoring the upcoming Environmental Film Festival with  
161 \$250. A water theme runs through the nine films. Director Hagberg moved to  
162 approve a \$250 sponsorship. Director Nobles seconded. The motion passed  
163 unanimously.

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165 **Consideration of Booth at Earth Day (April 21)**

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167 Directors considered participating in the community Earth Day event centered at  
168 the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. They discussed  
169 how to draw people to their booth, possible merchandise give-aways, a silent  
170 auction, and handouts. Directors volunteered to staff the booth. Director Nobles  
171 moved to participate in Earth Day. Director Hagberg seconded. The motion  
172 passed unanimously.

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174 **Consideration of Approval of Records of Proceedings of February 2024**

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176 Director Hagberg moved to approve the February Record of Proceedings. Director  
177 Proffitt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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179 **Updates from Committees Advancing Strategic Objectives and Actions**

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181 *SJWCD’s 2024 Strategic Objectives*

182 *1. Advance the San Juan Headwaters Project as one resource for meeting environmental,*  
183 *recreational, industrial, agricultural, and municipal water needs of the SJWCD community.*

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185 Director Riehm described the Work Session with Steve Wolff of Southwestern  
186 Water Conservation District. Notes from the successful communications were  
187 included in the Board Packet. Wolff listed suggested next steps. SJWCD Directors  
188 discussed key points captured in the notes.

189

190 *2. Identify complementary and supplementary uses for the Running Iron Ranch property and*  
191 *initiate programs with suitable partners to develop the particular uses.*

192

193 Director Hagberg described two key avenues to alternate uses of Running Iron  
194 Ranch. He talked with Keith Bruno, Audubon Rockies and Weminuche Audubon,  
195 about using the RIR for an educational site. Keith's response was positive. He then  
196 talked with Dan Harms of La Plata Electric Association about a solar farm on site.  
197 The LPEA response was positive. SJWCD was encouraged to continue researching  
198 the feasibility of producing electricity on site. The need to pump water may be in  
199 SJWCD's future.

200

201 *3. Educate the SJWCD community about water resource issues facing the Upper San Juan Basin*  
202 *and define the public position on the construction of a reservoir.*

203

204 Director Tedder included an AIR form in the Board Packet. He stated that the 3-  
205 part film series, Understanding our San Juan River Basin, is moving forward with  
206 Moxiecran Media. Preproduction work has begun. Discussions have begun with  
207 Josh Kurz about his 2024 public presentations at a more advanced level, San Juan  
208 River Water 201.

209

210 There being no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Meeting  
211 was adjourned at 6:05 pm. A March Special Meeting is scheduled for Monday,  
212 March 25, at 4 pm.

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214 SAN JUAN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

215 By /s/ Sally High

216 Executive Assistant for Board of Directors

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218 DISTRICT SEAL