



CONNIE I. HUNT  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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541 4th Street • P.O. Box C • Ouray, Colorado 81427 • 970-325-7263 • FAX: 970-325-0452

May 31, 2022

To: Co-Applicants, *In re Application for Water Rights for Ouray County in the Uncompaghre River and its Tributaries*, Docket 2019CW3098

Sent: Via email, by county attorney, to:

Peter Fleming and Jason Turner ([pflaming@crwcd.org](mailto:pflaming@crwcd.org) and [jturner@crwcd.org](mailto:jturner@crwcd.org)),  
counsel for Colorado River Water Conservation District

Marti Whitmore, [marti@Ouraylaw.com](mailto:marti@Ouraylaw.com), counsel for Ouray County Water Users' Association

Aaron Clay, [aaron@cdhdeltalaw.com](mailto:aaron@cdhdeltalaw.com), counsel for Tri-County Water

Re: Request for Additional Stakeholder Contributions

Dear Co-Applicants,

As you know, Ouray County is contracted with Pete Foster, P.E., with Wright Water Engineers, for water development matters in Ouray County including engineering consulting with ongoing negotiations in 2019CW3098. Due to the complexity of that case, the appropriated county budget for water development of \$20,000.00 for county fiscal/calendar year (FY) 2022 has already been exceeded as of April 2022. County-paid invoices for Wright Water Engineers in FY2022 are currently at \$20,438.25.

The Ouray County Board of County Commissioners recently agreed to an expanded budget of \$28,000.00 for FY2022, also expanding the scope of services for Mr. Foster to include technical assistance with public outreach, and negotiations concerning leasing-related matters along with opposition-related matters for a new companion case, *In re Application for Water Rights for Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) in Cow Creek*, Docket 2021CW3064.

This recently-expanded budget still leaves only approximately \$7,500.00 remaining for the entire remainder of FY2022, with extensive ongoing negotiations remaining for a high number of opposers including state agencies, nonprofits, and various water users. Even with the recent expanded budget, both I and the County Attorney expect the remaining budget will be inadequate for the invaluable technical assistance provided by Mr. Foster. I have been authorized by the Board of County Commissioners to request additional stakeholder contributions to potentially offset these additional costs for Mr. Foster's services in FY2022.

Water application-related expenses for 2019CW3098 (excluding any costs for in-house legal and outside counsel) for Ouray County from FY2019 through FY2022 have already amounted to \$970.42 for advertising expenses and \$83,964.12 for invoices from Wright Water Engineers, for a total of \$84,934.54 as of today. We are very grateful for prior stakeholder contributions to offset prior costs here, of \$5,000.00 from the Ouray County Water Users' Association, \$15,000.00 from the Colorado River Water Conservation District, and \$3,000.00 from Tri-County Water.

I would very respectfully request additional stakeholder contributions to offset some of the additional expected costs for FY2022, for Mr. Foster's invaluable contributions to an incredibly important project in a time of ever-increasing droughts and water shortages throughout the Western Slope and the southwest in general. Any amount of cost-sharing helps with complex water development projects. Thank you very much for your time and consideration with this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly, or our County Attorney, if you have any questions whatsoever.

Sincerely,



Connie I. Hunt, M.P.A.  
County Administrator

cc: County Attorney, Water Application Work File  
bcc: BOCC