

# CITY OF FORT COLLINS

## WATER BOARD

### WATER BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

1985

#### MEMBERSHIP STATUS

##### Current Members

Norman A. Evans, President  
Henry P. Caulfield, Jr., Vice President  
Neil S. Grigg  
Ray Herrmann (alternate)  
Thomas K. Moore  
Jim S. O'Brien  
Stanley L. Ponce (alternate)  
Thomas G. Sanders  
John F. Scott  
MaryLou Smith  
David Stewart

##### New Members During 1985

Bill Elliott  
Stanley Ponce (alt.)  
Ray Herrmann (alt.)

##### Resignations

Ray Glabach  
Morton Bittinger  
Bill Elliott

Bernie Cain whose term of office was up in July of 1985, was not reappointed.

Tom Sanders was reappointed for an additional 4-year term.

John Scott was moved from an alternate to a regular member.



## MAJOR ISSUES

### Water Rate Study

The Water Rate Study was completed and reviewed in early 1985. Several rate structures were proposed and would likely become a part of a larger

### Selection of Membership on Conservancy District Boards

The Water Board Legislative/Finance Committee met to draft a discussion paper on the issue: Should membership on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Water Conservancy Districts be by appointment of District Judges (as it is currently) or by election or other means? The Water Board presented the following options to the City Council: 1) Three members were in favor of election; 2) Six members voted for appointment by County Commissioners; 3) One member thought that a modification of the current Draft Senate Bill was the most acceptable alternative.

### Purchase of CBT Water

In March the Water Board voted to purchase CBT water at a price not to exceed \$900 per unit and up to the limit of \$150,000. The purchase was subsequently completed.

### Design Report Reviewed on 20 MGD Water Treatment Expansion Project

In the spring, the Project Manager from Black & Veatch gave a presentation and took comments from Board members on the design of the 20 MGD Water Treatment Expansion Project.

### Anheuser-Busch Update

At a special meeting in May, Anheuser-Busch presented the Water Board with their current plans for the acquisition and transfer to the City of the 4260 acre feet of water the Brewery is expected to use. The Board was also given an update on the proposed revisions in the master agreement with A-B to expand the south complex at Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 on East Drake Road rather than the north complex specified in the master agreement. The Board voted unanimously to support, in concept, the south plant complex.

### Changes to Agreement With West Fort Collins Water District

In July, the Water Board agreed unanimously to changes and additions to the agreement with the City of Fort Collins and the West Fort Collins Water District. The changes that were voted on related to providing service to those City customers who will be without service when Water Treatment Plant No. 1 in the Poudre Canyon is relocated.

### Review of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Activities Which Affect the City of Fort Collins

In July Larry Simpson of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, discussed areas of concern and interest related to the City of Fort Collins such as: the review of operating agreements; negotiations with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to accept the operation and maintenance of the entire west slope system; the development of a water resources data base which would be accessible to all qualified entities; pursuing the Cache La Poudre Project study at the same time the Poudre Basin study is taking place; negotiating with environmental groups in order to achieve a compromise so that some form of Wild & Scenic designation of the Poudre can be

accomplished; presenting the District's view of the inclusion issue with Fort Collins; and the restrictions which the Bureau of Reclamation has placed on the storage level of Horsetooth Reservoir.

#### The Drought Study

In August, Resource Consultants gave the Board a complete update on the Drought Study. The Board accepted the report in concept. It was their desire not to make any recommendation for further study, but instead to emphasize continuing planning efforts, stressing also that the Rate Study and the Drought Study will be incorporated into the staff's water management study.

#### In-Stream Flows

In August the Colorado Water Conservation Board proposed some instream flows which would affect certain parts of the Poudre River. The Water Board and the newly formed Natural Resources Board were asked to make a joint recommendation on this issue. The two Boards directed the City Council to recommend approval of the Cache La Poudre Instream Flows which were being considered by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

#### The Inclusion of the City of Fort Collins into the Municipal Subdistrict of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

In September, the Water Board recommended with two abstentions, that the City Council proceed with the request from the District to include all City annexations since 1970 into the subdistrict. They listed the following reasons for this recommendation:

- 1) The City currently has a right to the first use of 4200 acre feet of Windy Gap water under its reuse plan.
- 2) The City wants to be in a position to use the remaining PRPA water on a first use basis, free or on some specified charge if and when that comes about.
- 3) The City wants to keep its right of first refusal by contract.
- 4) The primary liability for the cost of Windy Gap water is by the participants which does not include Fort Collins.
- 5) The equity question since part of Fort Collins is already included.

#### Evaluation of Water Demand Management Options Study

The staff study, "Evaluation of Water Demand Management Options," was introduced to the Board in September and was the subject of discussions for several meetings. Following each meeting the report was refined and revised incorporating the Board's suggestions. At its December meeting, the Board voted 7-1 with one abstention, to encourage the staff to finalize the report incorporating the following suggestions:

- 1) Since existing homeowners have equity in the system, the installation of meters in existing homes should be financed by plant investment fees.
- 2) Water rates for flat rate customers should increase approximately 9% (including both general cost increases and cost of service adjustments) each year until they are in line with metered customers based on cost of service.
- 3) Some sensitivity analyses should be included in the report or in an appendix to it.
- 4) An evaluation system of the metering program should be set up in order to monitor the program's effectiveness.