

Fort Collins Water Board Annual Report

Following is a summary of the 2004 activities of the Fort Collins Water Board. The report focuses on topics addressed during the year plus actions taken on the 2004 Work Plan.

Water Board Members

Tom Sanders, Chairperson
Tom Brown, Vice Chairperson
John Bartholow
Ted Borstad
Jim Finley
Bill Fischer

Gina Janett
Rami Naddy
Debra Sweetman
Doug Yadon
Reagan Waskom

Water Utility

Surplus Water Rental Rates

The Board approved staff's recommendation to City Council to categorize surplus raw water into two separate rates: active rental market which includes Colorado Big Thompson, North Poudre Irrigation Company, Water Supply and Storage and Joe Wright reusable effluent. These rates are based on expected rental market conditions. The other category is limited rental market which consists of users who have turned in raw water or have met the water requirements for their properties. The objective is to recover the costs associated with delivering this water.

Wastewater Utility

Mercury Control Program

The Board discussed the high mercury pollutants that have been discharged into the Poudre River. The limit has been exceeded three times as a result of a very low State Water Quality Standard which applies to the discharge point on the Poudre River, and because there are no regulations requiring amalgam separators in dental offices. Dental offices are the main point sources for mercury resulting from the removal of amalgam fillings. The Board recommended to approve staff's recommendation that City Council require dental offices equip their offices with amalgam separators. An ordinance was adopted by City Council.

Water & Sanitary Sewer Service Policy in LaPorte Area

The City has been approached by a number of developers to discuss or request out of city service for developments in the LaPorte area. The Utility has continued to provide

service under a 1970 agreement which expired in 1990. The Water Board met with staff to formulate a policy for future requests for service in the LaPorte area. The Board approved staff's recommendation that the City encourage the developers and property owners in the LaPorte area to form a single service district and the City would provide wastewater treatment services for that district.

Meadow Springs Ranch Easement

The Weld County Public Works Department requested an easement on the Meadow Springs Ranch for a roadway in order to eliminate two 90 degree curves on Weld County Road 126 and to improve the road connection between I-25 and US 85. The Board approved staff's recommendation to adopt the ordinance with the condition that staff attempts to obtain a conservation easement.

Out of City Utility Requests

The Board approved staff's recommendation to approve water and sewer service for developers of Spring Green subdivision. The proposed subdivision is located east of Overland Trail and south the Poudre River consisting of 56.3 acres of which 17.9 acres will be developed for 27 residential units.

The Board also approved staff's recommendation to approve a water and sewer service request from the Center of Disease Control for the construction of a new laboratory on the Foothills Campus south of College Lake.

Stormwater Utility

Floodplain Variance

The Board approved a variance request from the owner of Bean Trees Coffee Shop, located on lot 3 of the Mulberry-Lemay Crossing. The request was to waive the dry land access requirement to this property.

Stormwater Master Plan

The Board recommended to City Council that they adopt the Stormwater Master Plan. The plan is a culmination of three years of planning efforts to revise all of the City's Stormwater master plans and prioritize stormwater capital projects.

2005 Utilities Rates and Fees

The Board reviewed the increases in all utility rates, plant investment fees and development review fees. The Board recommended Council approve all proposed increases.

Presentations

The following presentations were discussed during the year:

Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Updates
Treated Water Production Summary & Water Supply Outlook
Halligan Reservoir Updates
Watershed Protection Presentation
Fluoride Feed System
Fluoride Issue Update
Mercury Control Update
2003 Drinking Water Quality Policy and Annual Report
Legislative, Finance, Liaison Committee Updates
Conservation & Public Education Committee Updates
Engineering Committee Updates
Water Supply Committee Updates
Meadow Springs Ranch Conservation Agreement
Chronic Wasting Disease Issue