MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RURAL WATER AUTHORITY OF DOUGLAS COUNTY HELD

March 30, 2016

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rural Water Authority of Douglas County (RWADC) was held on March 30, 2016, at the Phillip S. Miller Library, Jamie LaRue Conference Room, 100 S. Wilcox St., Castle Rock, CO.

Call to Order

Director Gager called the special meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Attendance

In attendance were Directors:

Charles Bucknam

Barry Gager Hank Giclas Chris Kennedy

Also in attendance were the following members of the public:

Malcolm W. Bedell, Jr. Stephanie Darmstedter

Mary Lou Foy Carl Hanson Shirley Hanson Tina Huston

Disclosure of Conflicts

Director Gager asked if any Board member had a conflict of interest with any item on the Agenda. Director Gager said that if his work as a petroleum geologist should create a conflict in discussions of oil and gas development applications, he would abstain from those discussions and actions, if any.

<u>Approval of Agenda</u> The Agenda was approved with a **motion (Giclas/Bucknam)** and passed on a 4-0 vote.

Public Discussion

This meeting was held at the request of Tina Huston, representing the group "Stop Over Development of Douglas County," The Hilltop Group, to discuss concerns about groundwater aquifers and the potential impact of the proposed rezoning of A-1 land to Rural Residential for the development of the Hilltop Subdivision under project ZR2015-025. All members of the public in attendance are landowners and residents who reside in the Hilltop or surrounding area, and were hopeful of gaining the support of the RWADC to help in their efforts to stop the proposed rezoning.

The proposed subdivision is in Douglas County on land that is designated to remain nonurban rural through 2035, according to the Douglas County Master Plan 2035 and A-1 according to the Zoning Resolution map. In addition, the land in question does not meet the intent of the Rural Residential zoning, which is semi-rural in the Master Plan. Of significant concern to adjacent landowners was the developer's plan to withdraw water from the Upper Dawson for all but one of the 56 proposed 5-acre lots on approximately 257 acres. The proposed development would put additional stress on, and accelerate the depletion of, the relatively shallow, non-renewable Upper Dawson aquifer on which most landowners in the area depend.

The meeting discussion also covered possible options to secure water. They included the developer drilling into deeper aquifers such as the Denver formation or securing renewable water either from nearby pipelines or the Rueter-Hess Reservoir. The latter is under the jurisdiction of the Parker Water and Sanitation District. Any increase in wells and population will further deplete already stressed aquifers.

With its mission to conserve groundwater, the RWADC Board of Directors agreed to draft a letter in support of "Stop Over Development of Douglas County" for the upcoming Planning Commission hearing on April 4, 2016.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Director Bucknam, with a second by Director Giclas, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Minutes approved on May 18, 2016

Director C.L. Kennedy, Secretary