



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Kirk Russell, P.E., Chief
Finance Section

DATE: July 20-21, 2016, Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM: 14a. Colorado's Water Plan - Water Plan Funding Policy

Introduction (Information Only Item)

The attached Policy was presented in May 2016 to the Board. At that time, the Board began considering the Financial Policy's use and benefit. The Policy is intended to guide the Board and develop a long term funding plan that addresses current and future water supply and infrastructure needs around the state. Staff will continue to participate in a Statewide Funding Committee that will play a valuable role in providing input towards the development of a sustainable funding plan that addresses the action items identified in Chapter 10 of the Water Plan.

Over the past few months, members of the CWCB staff have been presenting a proposed plan to fund several of the existing programs that will see significantly reduced funding as a result of the low Severance Tax revenue projections. IBCC, basin roundtables, workshops, river forums and water meetings were very receptive to the idea of the use of the supplemental funds and also the use of Severance Tax Perpetual Base Funds as a guarantee fund for large multi-sponsor water supply projects. It is important to note that the proposed near-term funding plan is an annual authorization and will require review of funds available each year. The current projections indicate that three years of funding at the proposed level is possible.

This agenda Item will update the Board on the funding plan and provide a precursor to the September 2016 Finance Committee Meeting to be held in Beaver Creek.



POLICY NUMBER: X {{DRAFT}}

SUBJECT: **LONG TERM FUNDING PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION ITEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE COLORADO WATER PLAN.**

EFFECTIVE DATE:

REVISED DATES:

POLICY: The Colorado Water Conservation Board (Board) will provide support and guidance in the development and annual revision of a long term Funding Plan for the implementation of action items identified in the Colorado Water Plan, in accordance with its statutory authority established in Sections 37-60-119, 37-60-120, and 37-60-121, that will assist water providers, districts, local and state entities, and others, in moving forward consumptive and non-consumptive projects identified in the Basin Implementation Plans or other planning documents, taking into account existing revenue streams available to the Board and the potential development of new revenue sources, to strengthen existing CWCB loan and grant programs, and to develop new programs, funds, or other collaborations, that protect and direct existing and future funding sources that support the Board's mission to "conserve, develop, protect, and manage Colorado's water for present and future generations", consistent with the CWCB's Strategic Framework, adopted in January of 2013.

PURPOSE: To identify, protect, prioritize, and direct available and new funding sources that will move forward action items identified in the Colorado Water Plan, in a clear and concise Funding Plan.

APPLICABILITY: This policy and procedure applies to future consumptive and non-consumptive water projects statewide.

PROCEDURE: The Board will be presented with the initial Funding Plan at the September, 2016 Board Meeting, which will be re-evaluated and revised at each subsequent September Board Meeting, based on available funding, project review, and input throughout the year from the Basin Round Tables, Inner Basin Compact Committee, water providers, districts, local and state entity, and others.