

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718 Denver, CO 80203

P (303) 866-3441 F (303) 866-4474 Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Rebecca Mitchell, CWCB Director

TO:	Colorado Water Conservation Board Members
FROM:	Linda Bassi, Section Chief and Kaylea White, Senior Water Resource Specialist Stream and Lake Protection Section
DATE:	January 25-26, 2021 Board Meeting
AGENDA ITEM:	# 16. Request for Authorization to Proceed to Trial in Case No. 17CW3212 (Water Division 1) (Application of City of Lafayette, City of Boulder, and Colorado Water Conservation Board)

This case is set for a 5-day trial beginning on March 1, 2021. The parties are discussing settlement options and preparing for trial on a parallel track. Staff and Attorney General's Office intend to discuss litigation strategy and settlement options with the Board in Executive Session.

Background:

In this case, CWCB originally filed a Statement of Opposition. However, because the CWCB acquired an interest in water from the City of Boulder which is part of this case, the parties agreed to realign the CWCB's party status from opposer to co-applicant for the purpose of obtaining a decreed right to use releases of the water storage right claimed in this case for instream flow purposes under the Water Delivery Agreement between the City of Boulder and the CWCB. On July 15, 2019, the Court granted the unopposed Motion to remove CWCB as an opposer in this case, and to add CWCB as a Co-Applicant for the limited purpose of obtaining a decreed right to use water released from the Gross Environmental Pool for instream flow purposes in accordance with the Agreement between Boulder and the CWCB.

Staff Recommendation:

Pursuant to ISF Rule 8j., Staff recommends that the Board authorize Staff to proceed to trial to protect its interest and its existing instream flow water rights in the event that Staff and the Attorney General's Office are unable to reach a settlement with all parties before trial.



