



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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**TO:** Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

**FROM:** Ben Wade  
Water Supply Planning Section

**DATE:** September 2, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** Consent Agenda 5i-k Colorado Water Plan Grants - Engagement and Innovation

**Introduction**

Per CWCB Policy #25, grants above \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 and grants not recommended for funding will be placed on the consent agenda for consideration by the Board. See attached Data Sheets and grant application for additional project details.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the following Board action for activities listed in the following table regarding Colorado’s Water Plan Grant Program funding. Project approval is contingent on awardees implementing the project consistent with any public health orders and executive orders in effect at the time of implementation.

Applicant	Project Name	Grant Request Amount	Staff Recommendation
i. Boulder Watershed Collective	Planning & Visual Story Telling	\$86,800	Approve \$86,800
j. H2O Media, Ltd.	H2O Radio Website Upgrade	\$23,250	No Funding Recommended
k. The Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance	Ditch & Reservoir Outreach, Education & Advocacy Programming	\$260,250	No Funding Recommended

**Background:**

Staff received seven applications at the July 1, 2021 deadline. Staff initially conduct a red-flag review of each application to determine whether the grant complies with all current CWCB policies and guidelines concerning grant awards.

Following the initial red-flag review, CWCB Staff scored all Engagement/Innovation applications according to the Colorado Water Plan Grant Program criteria and guidelines and Engagement/Innovation category-specific criteria, with input from a



grant review committee. The grant review committee consisted of Colorado Water Conservation Board staff.

The review committee evaluates engagement/innovation grants on several criteria, including:

- whether the project achieves education, outreach and engagement measurable objectives or critical actions identified in the Colorado Water Plan
- whether the project measures and evaluates the overall success and impact of the project
- whether the project is identified in a Basin Implementation Plan or Basin Education Action Plan;
- Concerning state budget challenges, staff also considers whether the proposed project is financially and technically feasible
- Staff also considers all letters of support included with the application.

### **Project Issues/Additional Needs**

All funding awards are contingent upon the applicants' ability to secure match funding within a reasonable period, based on their continued efforts to secure match funding.

