

Brent A Schantz

December 1, 2023

Mr. Garrett Varra,

I wish to express interest in filling the vacant seat on the South Platte Roundtable for the Industrial Representative. I believe I can make a position contribution to the South Platte Roundtable as a member. I have 29 plus years of experience in administration of water rights in the South Platte basin from Chatfield to the Stateline for the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR). My proudest achievements over that period are the relationships built and trust developed with water users I served.

I retired from DWR on July 1 of 2023 and on August 1st began employment with United Water and Sanitation District as their Water Resources Manager. United's water rights and infrastructure cover a significant portion of the Front Range, spanning more than 400 miles. They use natural geologic features in conjunction with pipelines, pumps, and reservoirs to store and transport water cost-effectively for their partners. United, through its several enterprises and with related districts, has completed transactions with the Denver Board of Water Commissioners, the Town of Lochbuie, South Adams Water & Sanitation district (serving Commerce City), Compark, East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District, Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority, and the Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company to help these entities gain access to renewable water sources. United is committed to working with Colorado communities to identify renewable water resources and develop delivery, industrial, and treatment systems that meet each community's unique needs. United Water and Sanitation district was formed in 2003 to be a water district for other water districts, helping Colorado's municipalities and special districts meet their unique water supply challenges.

My resume and three letters of recommendation are attached in the email. Please review my work experience and how it has led to extensive knowledge of the South Platte Basin. If you have any questions or wish to clarify anything, please contact me. I look forward to the Roundtables decision on this matter.

For more information and maps of United Water's service area please visit their website:

<https://www.unitedwaterdistrict.com/>

Sincerely,

Brent Schantz

Brent A Schantz

Please consider me to fill the open seat on the South Platte Roundtable for the Industrial Representative. I believe I can make a positive contribution to the South Platte Roundtable with 29 plus years of experience in administration of water rights in the South Platte basin from Chatfield to the Stateline as an employee of the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR). My proudest achievements over that period are the relationships built and trust developed with water users.

I retired from DWR on July 1, 2023, and on August 1 began employment with United Water and Sanitation District as their Water Resources Manager. United's water rights and infrastructure cover a significant portion of the Front Range, spanning more than 400 miles. They use natural geologic features in conjunction with pipelines, pumps, and reservoirs to store and transport water cost-effectively for their partners. United has water rights, including Industrial use, in multiple reservoirs and ditches from Brighton to Fort Morgan. They also operate an irrigated farm at the 70 Ranch near Kersey. The work I do for United is in support of their activities to provide renewable water resources for municipal uses and to assist in developing projects that will have a direct benefit to agriculture water users.

Experience

Deputy Water Commissioner/Hydrographer, Division 1, Colorado Division of Water Resources 1994-2002

- Initiated Well Survey Program, identifying and locating all non-exempt wells in Districts 2, 1 & 64.
- Assisted the District 2 water commissioner in administration of water rights from the Denver Gage to Kersey on the South Platte River.
- As a Hydrographer I measured river and canal flow at assigned stations from Denver to Julesburg along the South Platte and in the Republican basin and developed and maintained ratings for those gages.

Lead Water Commissioner District 1 Division 1, Colorado Division of Water Resources 2002-2005

- I developed my skills as lead commissioner in the worst drought in 500 years.
- Administered water rights from Kersey to Balzac along the South Platte and its tributaries.
- Participated in numerous Water Court proceedings dealing with well augmentation groups.
- Coordinated water management with multiple appropriators to maximize the beneficial use of water.
- Supervised one full time and 1 part time Deputy Water Commissioner.

Lead Water Commissioner District 1 and 64 Division 1, Colorado Division of Water Resources 2005 - 2011

- Administer water rights along the South Platte and its tributaries from the Kersey gage to the Nebraska state line including the administration of the Colorado and Nebraska compact.
- Established and manage the Sterling field office for Districts 1 and 64 including the direct supervision and management of four full time and two part time employees.

- Participate in numerous and sometimes contentious ditch company, water user and public meetings.
- Administration of 100 plus augmentation plans, 600 plus recharge areas and several hundreds of additional water rights along 159 miles of main stem river and numerous tributary streams.
- Administration of 7 major and many minor reservoirs within Districts 1 and 64.
- Implemented installation of data-loggers and telemetry to aid in the collection of data and transparent administration of water rights.

South Platte Mainstem and Compact Coordinator Division 1, Colorado Division of Water Resources
2011 – July 1, 2023 (Retired)

- Acting water commissioner for District 2 for Water Years 2015 and 2016
- Acting water commissioner for District 1 for Water Years 2021, 2022 and half of 2023
- Active administration of water rights from Chatfield reservoir downstream to the State line.
- Daily administration of Chatfield storage and releases. Helped develop the accounting for the Chatfield reallocation pool.
- Daily communication with those entities with storage or exchanges into Chatfield
- Provided direct supervision and leadership to the lead water commissioners in districts 1,2 and 64.
- Provide training to lead water commissioners and their deputies on all aspects of water administration.
- Developed and maintained positive working relationships with water users along the South Platte mainstem.
- Administered water rights including exchanges, diversions, recharge, augmentation plans, reservoir storage, and oil and gas development for all decreed and new appropriations.
- Obtained grant money from the SPBRT to install telemetry on 300 plus diversion structures.
- Testified in Water Court in several water rights cases on water administration on the South Platte River.
- Daily operation and consideration of the requirements of the Colorado-Nebraska Compact during the Compact period of April 1 – October 15. Frequent contact with Nebraska officials to discuss activities to meet the requirements of the Compact

Water Resources Manager United Water and Sanitation District - August 2023 – Present

- Assist with installation and maintenance of telemetry for sites spanning from Brighton to Fort Morgan on the South Platte and the lower Cache La Poudre River
- Monitor daily required releases for augmentation or diversions to recharge.

EDUCATION

University of Northern Colorado – Greeley Colorado – BA in Geography, May 1993

- Directed studies in Water Resource Management, Spring 1993
- Internship with Central Colorado Water Conservancy District, Spring 1993
- Internship with the United States Geological Survey, Denver Federal Center GIS Lab, Spring 1993
- Internship with the Division 1 Office of the State Engineer, Fall 1992 and Spring 1993
- Awarded Departmental Scholar, Spring 1993
- Awarded membership in the International Geographic Honor Society (Gamma Theta Upsilon) 1990-1993

References

Corey DeAngelis – Division 1 Engineer – 970-381-3158 – corey.deangelis@state.co.us

Randy Ray – Executive Director - Central Colorado Water Conservancy District – 970-939-5640 – rray@ccwcd.org

Jon Altenhofen – South Platte Projects Manager, Northern Water – 970-622-2236 – jaltenhofen@northernwater.org

Jim Yahn – General Manager of North Sterling Irrigation District and Prewitt Reservoir – 970-520-0170 – jim@northsterling.org



CENTRAL COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
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PHONE: 970.330.4540 | STAFF@CCWCD>ORG

August 28, 2023

South Platte Basin Roundtable
Membership Committee

Dear Basin Roundtable,

I would like to recommend Brent Schantz to take the position of Local Domestic Water Provider Representative on the South Platte Basin Roundtable. Brent has been a supporter of water users in the South Platte Basin his entire career. Brent, as many of you know him, understands the the South Platte River, the water users, the hydrology and most importantly where work to maximize our basin resources needs to be focused as the Roundtable moves forward with future planning. I highly recommend his appointment.

Sincerely,

Randy W. Ray
CCWCD Executive Director



Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District

220 Water Avenue Berthoud, Colorado 80513
Phone 1-800-369-7246 • www.northernwater.org

TO: South Platte Basin Roundtable

FROM: Jon Altenhofen, PE

South Platte Projects Manager, Northern Water

DATE: September 6, 2023

REF: Reference Letter for Brent Schantz

I highly recommend Brent Schantz to be on the South Platte Basin Roundtable filling the position for small domestic water users. Brent's expertise and experience will bring to the South Platte Basin Roundtable an excellent knowledge base for making future decisions on water management. I have worked with Brent for decades in his Colorado State DWR positions as Water Commissioner for South Platte Water Districts 1 and 64 and as Reservoir Operations and Compact Coordinator for the South Platte Basin. Brent still works for DWR and consults for developers for municipal and domestic water providers. As the South Platte Basin Roundtable considers support and funding for future projects that benefit the Basin, Brent's practical foresight on water administration and strong historical background will serve those goals. When I have questions on water history on the South Platte, Brent knows and finds the references. Brent has been a real asset to all water users over his career in water and the South Platte Basin Roundtable will find his input very valuable.

Dear South Platte Round Table,

I strongly recommend Brent Schantz for the role of Local Domestic Water Provider Representative on South Platte River Basin Roundtable Board Member.

I'm Corey DeAngelis, the current Division of Water Resource ("DWR") Division One Engineer for the South Platte River and Republican River Basins. I've known Brent for 17 years and have had the pleasure of working specifically with Brent on a daily basis since 2011 in the South Platte River Basin. All of us at DWR are proud of Brent's work and accomplishments during his nearly 30 years of dedicated public service with the DWR, and I'm honored to write this letter on Brent's behalf.

While at DWR, Brent has consistently shown expertise of the South Platte River Basin water operations and water administration and provided collaboration and leadership to the water users and DWR throughout the Basin. Brent's expertise on the hydrology, geography, water operations and use throughout the South Platte River Basin from the headwaters to the Colorado and Nebraska state line is as of an expert and has benefited the Basin's water users, DWR and all Coloradoans. Brent has been recognized by many for his contributions and received many accolades and awards recognizing his expertise and positive impacts to the water users of the basin and Colorado.

Brent's passion, leadership, work ethic, and drive to understand the South Platte River Basin history and development imposed onto current water resources operation and administration distinguishes him from other colleagues.

I'm absolutely confident that Brent can add value and expertise to the South Platte River Basin Round Table. Brent is an expert in water resources and operations within the South Platte River Basin, and I have no doubt will utilize this expertise coupled with his passion and leadership to the benefit of the Round Table and its water users. I can say with certainty that if appointed to the South Platte River Basin Roundtable, Brent can become a crucial asset and team member with a unique perspective of all types of water users' needs and demands. If you have questions about the time I spent working with Brent at the DWR, please reach out to me. I'm happy to answer any further questions you may have about the letter.

Sincerely,

Corey T. DeAngelis

Corey T. DeAngelis
Colorado Division of Water Resources, Division 1 Engineer
Corey.deangelis@state.co.us / 970-352-8712