## **RESOLUTION #2020-11-03**

## CHATFIELD SOUTH WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# DESIGNATING A CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE CHATFIELD SOUTH WATER DISTRICT AND ADOPTING AN OPEN RECORDS POLICY

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 32-1-1001(1)(h-i), C.R.S., the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Chatfield South Water District ("District") is responsible for the management, control and supervision of all business and affairs of the District and has the authority to appoint, hire, and retain agents; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is appropriate to designate a custodian of the District's public records, in accordance with C.R.S. § 24-72-202(1.1), for the purpose of storing, maintaining, and protecting such public records in accordance with applicable Colorado statute and to permit their inspection in an orderly and timely fashion (the "Custodian"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 24-72-200.1, et seq., (as may be amended, "CORA"), "public records" of the District, as that term is defined in CORA, shall be made available for inspection by the District, except as limited therein; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-72-203, as it is reasonably necessary for the protection of its public records and to prevent the unnecessary interference with the regular discharge of the duties of Custodian of the District's public records, the Board of Directors of the District has determined that it is appropriate to adopt an open records policy in conformance with CORA.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Chatfield South Water District that:

SECTION 1. Special District Solutions, Inc. is hereby designated as the Custodian of the District's public records, responsible for the maintenance, care, and keeping of all public records of the District.

SECTION 2. The Custodian shall have the authority to designate such persons and/or organizations as it shall determine appropriate to perform any and all acts deemed necessary to maintain, care for, and keep the District's records, subject to annual appropriation and budget and pursuant to the provisions of CORA. This may include, and shall not be limited to, the temporary, offsite storage of such public records.

SECTION 3. The District hereby adopts the CORA Policy, attached to this Resolution as **Exhibit A**, as the policy of the District related to the processing of and response to open records requests.

SECTION 4. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting or waiving any rights or privileges that the District may have pursuant to CORA that are not otherwise explicitly stated herein. The District hereby retains any further or additional rights and privileges provided to it pursuant to

CORA regarding the generation, retention, destruction, inspection or copying of any records of the District, whether or not such records are deemed to be "public records" pursuant to CORA.

The foregoing Resolution was approved and adopted this 11th day of November, 2020.

CHATFIELD SOUTH WATER DISTRICT

Prosiden

ATTEST:

Sy. Santa

Exhibit A (CORA Policy)

## Chatfield South Water District Open Records Request Policy<sup>1</sup>

#### **Policy Statement**

The Chatfield South Water District (the "**District**") has developed the following Open Records Request Policy in order to create a systematic method of managing open records requests. Pursuant to the Colorado Open Records Act ("**CORA**"), Sec. 24-72-200.1, CRS et seq., public records are to be open for inspection by individuals at reasonable times, upon request, unless such disclosure would be contrary to the public interest or otherwise precluded under CORA. As a public entity, the District recognizes the importance of this state policy and the importance of creating an environment of openness with respect to its internal operations. This policy is intended to balance the public's right to inspect the records of the District with the District's need to protect its records and prevent unnecessary interference with its regular duties in responding to such requests.

#### **Procedures**

- The designated Custodian of Records (CR), as defined in Sec. 24-72-202(1.1), CRS, will accept written CORA requests.
- Written requests for District records shall be addressed to:

Chatfield South Water District, Custodian of Records c/o Special District Solutions, Inc. 2370 Antelope Ridge Trail Parker, CO 80138-4235

- The CR will immediately forward requests to the District's legal counsel for review and assistance with developing an appropriate response.
- All requests must be made in writing to the CR. E-mailed requests will be accepted if sent to the CR's email address: <a href="mailto:info@specialdistrictsolutions.com">info@specialdistrictsolutions.com</a>. E-mail requests not sent to the CR's email address will not be answered. The first full business day following the date the request is received by the CR will constitute the first business day for calculating the three-day or seven-day response period, in accordance with Sec. 24-72-203(3)(b), CRS, as provided below.
- All requests must be specific as to the records sought and the relevant dates of those records.
- Requests for correspondence must identify the parties to the correspondence. For any
  request that is vague or broadly stated the CR may require the requestor to provide a
  more specific request.
- Requests for records will not take priority over previously scheduled work activities or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Last updated \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020

duties of the District; provided, however, that the request shall be met within the statutory three (3) business day-time period unless extenuating circumstances exist, as described in Sec. 24-72-203(3)(b), CRS. In which case, the District may receive a time extension which will not exceed an additional seven (7) business days. A finding of extenuating circumstances must be communicated in writing to the requesting party within three (3) business days of receiving the request.

- The CR reserves the right to levy a reasonable fee of \$33.58 per hour for research and retrieval services of requested documents. However, the first hour of research and retrieval services shall be provided at no charge.
- The CR is not required by the Open Records Act to construct a document that does not exist or organize information a particular way in response to a request.

## Responding to Requests for Open Records

- The District's legal counsel will assist the CR to determine if the information requested
  is subject to inspection under CORA. If it is determined that the records requested are
  not subject to inspection under CORA, the CR will inform the requestor, in writing, that
  the request is being denied and provide the specific statutory citation supporting the
  denial.
- If the request is for records the District does not possess, the requestor will be informed, in writing, that the District does not possess the requested records and will be informed who does possess the records and where they can be found, if that information is known to the CR.
- If the requested records contain information that is partially open to inspection and partially exempt from inspection, the District may withhold the record altogether or redact the exempted information and provide the record(s) for inspection.
- Some records are available online. If so, the CR will inform the requestor of its online availability. If the requestor still wants to personally inspect and to obtain copies of the records pursuant to this policy, the District will reasonably accommodate this request.
- Once the records have been located and reviewed, the District will notify the requestor, in writing, that the records are available for inspection.
- A transmittal fee may not be charged for emailing electronic records to the requestor.

#### Inspection of Records

- Once the requestor is notified that the records are available for inspection, the requestor
  must contact the District within three (3) business days to arrange a date, time and place
  to inspect the records. If, within three (3) business days, the requestor fails to schedule
  a time for inspecting the records, the request will be considered abandoned.
- Records will be available for inspection during the District's normal business hours.
- The requestor may obtain copies of the requested records at a cost of \$0.25 per page, or

for documents in non-standard formats, the actual duplication costs.

- Full payment for copying costs as well as research and retrieval costs must be received by the District in advance of releasing requested copies or allowing the requestor to inspect the same.
- The records will be maintained by the District for two (2) business days after the scheduled inspection time, at which point the records will be returned to their point of origination and the request will be considered abandoned.
- Once a request is considered abandoned, the requestor must submit a new request to inspect any records.