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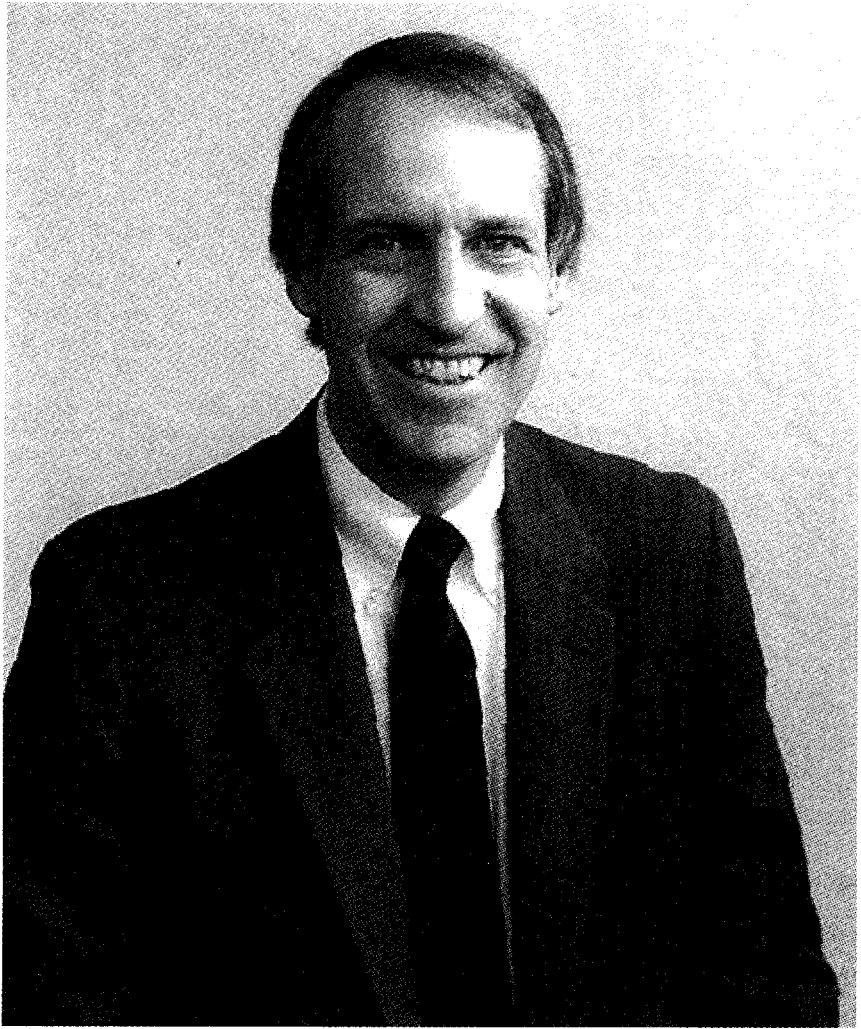
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MONTE PASCOE

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DEDICATION BY HAMLET J. (CHIPS) BARRY

This issue is dedicated to Monte Pascoe, whose passing in March of 2006 was sudden and unexpected.

Monte Pascoe had a career of more than 40 years, during which time he made enormous and repeated contributions in the fields of water law, water rights administration, water quality, natural resources and water policy, and public administration in general. His experience was legendary, and his depth of thought extraordinary. He always provoked thought, and occasionally provoked controversy, as a result of his unwillingness to endorse all the conventional wisdom about water in Colorado.

Monte's career at the law firm of Ireland, Stapleton and Pryor began in 1960, and early on he was assigned to do the legal work on various water projects envisioned by the late engineer Jack Elliott. Monte cut his teeth in water law on the Elliott projects, some of which later became incorporated as part of the Homestake projects of Aurora and Colorado Springs.

Monte's legal specialties included water, banking, land use, land conservation agreements, charitable organizations, and a variety of others. In addition to his law practice, Monte was active in politics, and served as chairman of the Colorado Democratic Party from 1973 to 1977. He came to know fellow democrat Dick Lamm during that period, and in 1980 Governor Lamm appointed him to lead the Department of Natural Resources. From 1980 to 1983, Monte served as a member of the Water Conservation Board, and also as a member of the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission, where he was chairman in 1980 and 1981. During this period of time, he also served as a member of the Colorado River Salinity Control Forum. As director of the Department of Natural Resources, Monte was deeply enmeshed in water quantity and water quality issues. The adverse effects of the Jimmy Carter water "hit list" were still being felt; the demands for water in the Denver metropolitan area were strong and growing; and the large scale development of oil shale and its highly consumptive use of water loomed large on Monte's horizon. He deftly handled oversight of strong personalities who served as State Engineer and head of the Water Conservation Board, guiding Colorado towards support of additional water storage and development, with careful and thoughtful respect for emerging issues of environmental concern.

In 1983, Monte left the Department of Natural Resources to run for Mayor of Denver. Although he lost that election, Denver's new Mayor, Federico Peña appointed Monte to the Denver Board of Water

Commissioners where he served for the next twelve years. He was President of the Board of Water Commissioners during the some of the most tumultuous years of its existence. During this time, the Board built a partnership with many suburban communities in an effort to build the very large Two Forks Dam southwest of Denver on the South Platte River. That effort required dedicated attention to environmental, municipal development and water issues, and hundreds of meetings. Monte was a strong proponent of the Two Forks project, and guided the Water Board through the process with skill and acumen. Although the permit for that project was eventually denied by the Environmental Protection Agency, Monte's vision for cooperation among metropolitan water suppliers and integration of water supplies remains as relevant today as it was twenty years ago. Monte was instrumental in shaping and changing the institutional personality of the Water Department to be one of greater understanding and sensitivity to environmental, West Slope, and suburban concerns and needs.

Finally, Monte's contribution to the water scene included a role as Special Master for the United States Supreme Court in the inter-state compact case of *Texas v. New Mexico*, where he followed two other luminaries of western water law: Judge Jean Breitenstein and Dean Charles Meyers. The original proceeding began in 1974 and had been in active and contentious litigation for 14 years when Monte was appointed by the U.S. Supreme Court following the Court's 1987 decision that money damages were not precluded as a remedy for the breach of an interstate water compact. In the next two years he was able to guide the parties to a resolution which culminated in a stipulated judgment entered on February 26, 1990, in which New Mexico paid Texas \$14 million in settlement of Texas' claims for breach of the Pecos River Compact.

In summary, Monte Pascoe played a long-term and significant role in how water is developed, moved, and administered in Colorado. He served as water lawyer, administrator, regulator, policy advisor, Special Master and Denver Water Board Member. He was surpassingly insightful, compassionate, curmudgeonly and loyal—sometimes all within the same hour. His loud and infectious laughter could—and often did—fill an entire room. The range and scope of his role, his influence, and his personality was unrivaled among his peers on the Colorado water scene.