

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

September 27, 2018

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jim Lane, President, Scottsdale
Councilmember Eddie Cook, Vice President, Gilbert
Councilmember Pat Dennis, Avondale
Vice Mayor Lauren Kuby, Tempe
Vice Mayor René Lopez, Chandler
Councilmember Kevin Thompson, Mesa
Councilmember Bart Turner, Glendale, via teleconference
Mayor Thelda Williams, Phoenix

VOTING MEMEBERS NOT PRESENT—EXCUSED

Mayor Cathy Carlat, Secretary-Treasurer, Peoria

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Aarons, The Aarons Co.	Pat Kossan, AMWUA
Patrick J. Adams, AMWUA	Frank Milam, Phoenix
Gretchen Baumgardner, Tempe	Andrea Odegard-Begay, Garver
Jessica Blazina, Avondale	Diana Piña, AMWUA
Cynthia Campbell, Phoenix	Clark Princell, Phoenix
Gregg Capps, Chandler	John Raeder, Goodyear
Miranda Dewitt, Mesa	Kathy Rall, Scottsdale
Alan Dulaney, Peoria	Tony Staffaroni, CAP
Gretchen Erwin, Goodyear	Brad Strader, RWCD
Kathy Ferris, AMWUA	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Brett Fleck, AMWUA	Heather Turrentine, Gilbert
Lacey James, Avondale	Theresa Ulmer, Ulmer Consulting
Sam Jaskolski, AMWUA	Carol Ward-Morris, AMWUA

A. Call to Order

Mayor Lane called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

B. General Business – Items for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approval of the Minutes from the September 6, 2018 Meeting

Upon a motion by Vice Mayor Lopez and a second by Mayor Williams, the AMWUA Board of Directors unanimously approved the September 6, 2018 meeting minutes.

2. Next meeting scheduled: Thursday, October 25, 2018, 11:00 a.m., in the AMWUA office

3. Status of Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan and DCP Steering Committee

Mr. Tenney shared an update on the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) and the DCP Steering Committee. He stated that while a consensus has not yet been found on DCP, the goal to reach an agreement has been moved up to November 9th. He said AMWUA is engaged and looking for solutions even though the Association does not have a seat on the DCP Steering Committee.

Mr. Tenney stated that implementing DCP in Arizona hinges on the issue of ag mitigation. He noted that homebuilders also want mitigation for DCP impacts. He reported that in response, the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) and the Central Arizona Project (CAP) have emphasized a set of tools to pull water together for a “mitigation pool,” which includes incentivizing existing users to order less of their Non-Indian Agricultural (NIA) water so it can go to Pinal County Ag. Mr. Tenney said this ag mitigation proposal bypasses the priority system, a system that provides certainty for how Colorado River water is delivered by CAP. He noted that NIA water is a critical component of the AMWUA members’ water portfolios and seven of AMWUA’s members have NIA water that is being used today. He added that being asked to modify the priority system sets a troubling precedent for the future.

Mr. Tenney stated that some have suggested that cities do not want to feel the effects of DCP; however, under DCP municipalities are already agreeing to earlier supply cuts as shortage progresses, to lose certainty on recent allocations for additional NIA water, and to pay higher costs for water delivered by CAP during DCP shortages.

Mr. Tenney noted that AMWUA is willing to be engaged in ag mitigation efforts because it knows the impacts and understands ag’s concerns about losing Colorado River water sooner than expected. He said AMWUA feels these mitigation efforts can be done without asking cities to undermine the work they have done over the last 35 years. He stated that AMWUA has been suggesting mitigation tools that benefit Pinal farmers and been supportive of two-way agreements and securing funding mechanisms that will allow farmers to access and develop their existing water rights to the groundwater supplies that they currently do not fully utilize.

Mr. Tenney said as the DCP process progresses, AMWUA needs its members to continue to convey the message that they are willing to support DCP as long as it protects the Colorado River system as well as Arizona's established priority system and water rights. He stated that both can be achieved if all parties continue to focus on what benefits Arizona long-term.

The AMWUA Board of Directors, Mr. Tenney, Ms. Ferris, Mr. Aarons, and Ms. Ulmer discussed the history and importance of the priority system and recognized the need to assist ag transition off of Colorado River water while protecting the municipalities' investments in water and infrastructure.

4. [Avondale and Phoenix Storage, Recovery & Exchange Agreement and Treatment & Delivery Agreement](#)

This agenda item was tabled for a future meeting due to time constraints.

C. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tenney stated that Ms. Joanne Toms, City of Glendale, and Ms. Leeann Yacuel, Salt River Project (SRP), will be presenting on the collaborative effort between AMWUA and SRP in 2017 to provide and organize commercial facility water audit trainings at three valley resorts for AMWUA conservation staffs at the 2018 WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exhibition. He said the presentation will also include the recommended actions from the audits and potential water and money savings for the resorts if the recommended actions are taken.

Mr. Tenney reported that AMWUA will be an agency sponsor of the 2018 WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition, an event which draws more than 1,000 participants across the country and 21 foreign nations.

Mr. Tenney stated that the October AMWUA Board of Directors meeting will have a full agenda consisting of DCP updates, legislative strategy, and AMWUA communications efforts.

Mr. Tenney stated that Brett Fleck, water policy analyst, has been with AMWUA for nearly three years and in that time has produced solid work and served as a strong resource on water policy issues. Mr. Tenney is revising Mr. Fleck's title to Senior Water Policy Analyst to more accurately describe his contributions to the Association.

D. Future Agenda Items

There were no requests for future agenda items.

E. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Councilmember Thompson and a second by Vice Mayor Lopez, Mayor Lane unanimously adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m.