



*Public Notice Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02*

**ARIZONA MUNICIPAL WATER USERS ASSOCIATION  
MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Arizona Municipal Water Users Association  
Board Conference Room  
3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 1550  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012**

**A. Call to Order**

**B. General Business—Items for Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Approval of the Minutes from the August 9, 2017 Meeting
2. Schedule Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
3. Governor’s Water Discussion
4. Water Quality Standards Proposal for Non-Project Water under the System Use Agreement
5. AMWUA Website

**C. Management Board Members’ Updates**

**D. Executive Director’s Report**

**E. Future Agenda Items**

**F. Adjournment**

\*The order of the agenda may be altered or changed by the AMWUA Management Board.

More information about AMWUA public meetings is available in the AMWUA office, online at [www.amwua.org/what-we-do/public-meetings](http://www.amwua.org/what-we-do/public-meetings), or by request.

**Arizona Municipal Water Users Association**

## **MANAGEMENT BOARD**

### ***MEETING MINUTES***

**August 9, 2017**

#### **VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Craig Johnson, Glendale, Chairman  
Mr. Kevin Artz, Avondale  
Mr. Brian Biesemeyer, Scottsdale  
Ms. Marilyn DeRosa, Tempe  
Mr. John Knudson, Chandler  
Ms. Jessica Marlow, Gilbert  
Ms. Karen Peters, Phoenix  
Mr. Javier Setovich, Goodyear  
Mr. Mike Weber, Peoria  
Mr. Jake West, Mesa

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Barry Aarons, The Aarons Co.	Kathy Ferris, AMWUA	Stuart Peckham, SRP
Gretchen Baumgardner, Tempe	Brett Fleck, AMWUA	Diana Piña, AMWUA
Cindy Blackmore, Avondale	Sara Gerlitz, Phoenix	Kathy Rall, Scottsdale
Jessica Blazina, Avondale	Lacey James, Avondale	Richard Siegel, SRP
Cynthia Campbell, Phoenix	Sam Jaskolski, AMWUA	Tony Staffaroni, CAP
Keith DeVore, Mesa	Pat Kossan, AMWUA	Drew Swieczkowski, Glendale
Miranda DeWitt, Mesa	Frank Milam, Phoenix	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Brian Draper, Mesa	Haley Paul, Gilbert	Carol Ward-Morris, AMWUA
Alan Dulaney, Peoria	Brian Payne, AMWUA	Tony Woodrum, Avondale

#### **A. Call to Order**

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

#### **B. General Business – Items for Discussion and Possible Action**

##### **1. Approval of the Minutes from the June 14, 2017 Meeting**

Upon a motion by Ms. Peters and a second by Mr. Biesemeyer, the AMWUA Management Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 14, 2017 meeting.

2. [Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the AMWUA office](#)
3. [Governor's Water Discussion](#)

Mr. Tenney stated that this summer has been busy since Governor Ducey launched the Governor's Water Discussion in June to look at Colorado River and groundwater issues. He said the Governor's Office asked AMWUA to keep its members up to date on the issues being discussed, and so AMWUA has been doing so through meeting summaries and discussions with the Water Resources Advisory Group (WRAG).

Mr. Tenney reported that the Governor convened a Plenary Group comprised of state leaders, including Scottsdale Mayor Jim Lane. He said Mayor Lane asked Brian Biesemeyer, Kathryn Sorensen, and himself to support Mayor Lane in this effort and attend the work group meetings. He commented that the three have been working well together to coordinate and keep each other informed. The Governor's Chief of Staff, Kirk Adams, has been leading the Colorado River Work Group and the Groundwater Work Group meetings, which are held every two weeks.

Mr. Tenney said the Colorado River Work Group has drawn the most attention due to the State laying out a number of issues it wants to accomplish. He said the overall objective is to gain support for the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) and put DCP Plus in place. Mr. Tenney said the State has also sought to clarify the role of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) in regards to Colorado River water policy.

Mr. Tenney reviewed the issues that have been discussed at the Colorado River Work Group meetings and have been recommended to move forward to the Plenary Group:

**DCP & DCP Plus** – Mr. Tenney stated that the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) has given a high-level overview about the importance of the Drought Contingency Plan. Regarding DCP Plus, he said ADWR is pursuing an approach that allows for more flexibility in determining how to reduce shortage probabilities by targeting Lake Mead elevations above 1,075 feet on a five-year rolling basis. He also noted that ADWR staff is working with CAWCD to complete modeling that would determine the framework for how much water should be conserved at certain triggers and will discuss DCP Plus in more detail once that is completed.

**Tribal Intentionally Created Surplus** – Mr. Tenney said the 2007 Interim Guidelines instituted Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) as an incentive for a Contractor to store water in Lake Mead to help prevent shortage declarations. He stated that to date, only CAWCD has created and accrued ICS. Mr. Tenney stated that the State believes that under the 2007 Interim Guidelines, tribes with a water right settlement that include an entitlement to mainstream Colorado River water delivered via the Central Arizona Project (CAP) System constitutes a Contractor and can therefore create ICS. He said the

Bureau of Reclamation also agrees that tribes can create ICS; however, CAWCD does not agree.

Mr. Tenney stated that the State has proposed a framework for how tribal ICS would work, in which the State would oversee all water being forborne by a Contractor in Arizona so that the right combination of ICS is used to keep Lake Mead at the appropriate level to forestall shortage. He noted that stakeholders have expressed general support for the Arizona ICS concept but have also expressed interest in what the details will be. He said CAWCD staff has concern that allowing individual entities to recover ICS could trigger or exacerbate a shortage; however, having the State oversee the exhibit for ICS would help to minimize or remove that concern. Mr. Tenney stated that the understanding is that tribal ICS is being proposed as a tool that would only be used when it is most advantageous to have additional water in Lake Mead.

Mr. Biesemeyer asked Ms. Ferris for her opinion regarding CAWCD's belief stated at last week's CAWCD Board meeting that the Secretary of the Interior has to sign a document in order for tribal ICS work. Ms. Ferris said she does not have the answer to that question at this time, but she has already begun extensive research on this complicated issue. She noted that this was the first time she heard the Bureau of Reclamation publicly say that they believe a tribe with a settlement that included mainstream water was a Contractor for purposes of the 2007 Guidelines. Ms. Ferris said she feels the Bureau of Reclamation did not take that position lightly and that she believes their position is based on significant research. She also noted that a lot of the positions taken by CAWCD's legal staff at the CAWCD Board meeting were not referenced to any statutory provision, case law, or supporting evidence for their position. She said in her mind this is just their position, because they have not backed it up with the necessary citation for others to see the basis for their opinion.

Mr. Tenney then reviewed three issues that the Colorado River Work Group has discussed dealing more directly with CAWCD:

**Sovereign Immunity** – Mr. Tenney reported that the State has proposed legislative language to clarify that CAWCD does not have sovereign immunity. He noted this proposal is consistent with the position that the AMWUA Board of Directors expressed in its April letter to the CAWCD Board. He said AMWUA appreciates that the CAWCD Board has stated they have no intent to use sovereign immunity in disputes with subcontractors; however, in response to the confusion raised this year and to ensure a future CAWCD Board does not use sovereign immunity as a defense, AMWUA believes this legislative language brings clarity.

**Agreements Regarding Colorado River Water** – Mr. Tenney said the State would like to have the ADWR Director's approval given prior to anyone beginning negotiations or entering into an agreement involving the use, storage, or conservation of Colorado River water. He reported that at last week's CAWCD Board meeting, CAWCD staff pointed out

a list of beneficial agreements that CAWCD has entered into over the years. He said CAWCD believes it needs this essential function to negotiate and enter into agreements with the United States for the use and delivery of Colorado River water and feels that the current arrangement has worked well and does not need to be changed. Mr. Tenney noted that in work group meetings, CAWCD and ADWR have debated about past negotiations, raising questions about how well the current arrangement is working; the differing opinions highlight the State's concern that difficulties have arisen with other states when CAWCD has asserted itself ahead of ADWR. He said clarification regarding the State taking the lead on Colorado River water agreements would be positive to ensure Arizona is speaking with one voice. He reported that stakeholders agreed to move this item on to the Plenary Group, and asked for clarification on some of the language to ensure that this is only referring to discussions about use, storage, and conservation of Colorado River water and does not infringe on agreements between Agriculture and the United States.

Mr. Biesemeyer agreed with the stakeholders' comments and emphasized the importance of making certain that the language is clear and specific so there are no unintentional consequences that have to be dealt with later.

**Audit** – Mr. Tenney said the State has proposed that the Auditor General regularly audit CAWCD for finances and performance, in an effort to increase transparency and accountability at CAWCD. He noted that there has been some debate regarding how often these audits should be performed with the State originally proposing three years but now suggesting five years.

Mr. Tenney next highlighted two proposals from the Groundwater Work Group that the State hopes will address concerns about new groundwater pumping:

**Metering and Reporting** – Mr. Tenney said the State is recommending that metering and reporting of groundwater pumping be done throughout the State, as opposed to only within Active Management Areas (AMAs), which is the current requirement. He noted that metering and reporting provides data for ADWR to better manage the AMAs; without having data throughout the State, it is difficult for ADWR to effectively consider new management tools for areas with problems like Mohave, La Paz, and Cochise counties. He said some have questioned if reporting is an unnecessary regulatory burden, especially if their area is not experiencing problems, to which ADWR countered that the only way to confirm that there is no problem is to have accurate data. Mr. Tenney reported that the State has proposed two alternatives for tomorrow's meeting: 1) metering and reporting all wells outside of AMAs, including exempt wells, or 2) measuring and reporting of all non-exempt wells with exceptions similar to those in AMAs. He said AMWUA staff believes that since exempt wells are not measured and reported within AMAs, it would be more effective to pursue the second alternative to ensure the State begins to measure and report wells outside of AMAs. Mr. Tenney said

this recommendation is appropriate for improving statewide groundwater management.

**2025 Sunset** – Mr. Tenney reported that the State is recommending removing the 2025 sunset for effluent created long-term storage credits, which AMWUA municipalities have expressed support for over the years. He said in the work group meetings, the Salt River Project (SRP) suggested looking at repealing legislation known as WaterBUD, of which the 2025 sunset is a component. He continued to say WaterBUD requires that groundwater pumping be completely offset by storing renewable water supplies underground before any long-term storage credits can be issued for stored water. Mr. Tenney stated that SRP convened a stakeholder meeting last week, where the Arizona Water Company and the Town of Queen Creek pointed out that long-term storage credits gained from their CAP subcontracts would benefit their service areas by recharging the water closer and reducing their reliance on the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGR) to replenish water. He noted that AMWUA held a neutral position on repealing WaterBUD when potential legislation was considered in the 2016 legislative session.

Mr. Tenney said the Groundwater Work Group is meeting tomorrow and the Colorado River Work Group is meeting again on Friday. He also noted that the CAWCD Board plans to meet again next week to continue to discuss the issues raised by the Governor's Office, particularly forbearance, tribal ICS, excess water, and permanent system conservation. He said CAWCD has asked AMWUA to provide comments and give the Phoenix area municipal viewpoint on these issues, though it is not clear what they specifically want AMWUA to comment on right now.

Ms. Peters thanked Mr. Biesemeyer and Mr. Tenney for their work put into the Governor's Water Discussion. She said that it is very important for AMWUA to constructively weigh in on these efforts and to continue to play a role. She noted the importance of taking a coordinated, credible approach while discussing Arizona's water future with other states and the federal government. She stated that the Governor's Water Discussion is a great way to have these conversations and reach more certainty so operations can occur within clear parameters and emphasized the importance of seizing this opportunity.

Mr. Biesemeyer thanked Mr. Tenney for his professionalism upon receiving derogatory comments from the CAWCD Board while he was representing AMWUA at their meeting. Mr. Johnson echoed Mr. Biesemeyer's sentiments and noted appreciation for Mr. Tenney's efforts to keep the AMWUA Management Board apprised on these issues.

Mr. Tenney stated that if the AMWUA Management Board feels it is a good approach, these issues may be brought back in the next month or two for a formal recommendation to present to the AMWUA Board of Directors. Mr. Johnson agreed with Mr. Tenney's plan.

#### 4. Update on Water Quality Standards Proposal for Non-project Water under the System Use Agreement

Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA has continued to facilitate Water Quality Group meetings among the AMWUA municipalities, Southern Arizona, Apache Junction, the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), and SRP to try to develop a collective proposal to present to CAWCD for a water quality standard for non-project water put into the CAP canal. He said a challenge for the Water Quality Group has been that the Phoenix area and Southern Arizona have different distinct experiences in how they have treated Colorado River water. He noted that the Water Quality Group has met three times, and that the most recent meeting was productive, bringing the Group closer to moving forward with a concept.

Mr. Tenney said prior to requesting proposals, CAWCD staff suggested the use of maximum containment level (MCL) drinking water standards in determining water quality standards for non-project water. He reported that the Water Quality Group looked at this option; however, they realized there is a fundamental problem with focusing on what is discharged into the canal, as opposed to what levels of constituents are in the canal. Mr. Tenney then gave an example of arsenic compounding in the CAP canal, significantly raising the arsenic parts per billion (ppb) by the time the water reaches Tucson.

Mr. Tenney stated that the Water Quality Group has been focusing on how to ensure that the water taken out of the canal is within the range of what is currently found in Colorado River water, which will determine what constituent levels are acceptable for water in the canal. He noted that the Group is starting at the end of the canal in Southern Arizona to determine what constituent levels work for them so they do not have to spend additional money, add additional treatment, and raise public concern. He said public perception of water quality is a very big concern for Southern Arizona. Mr. Tenney stated that as part of this process, the Group has also looked at what constituent levels are appropriate for Phoenix area treatment plants with the objective of not having to do additional treatment and add additional expenses because of the introduction of non-project water.

Mr. Tenney stated that SRP has been assisting the Water Quality Group by taking the information for a handful of major constituents and running models on scenarios with non-project water being introduced. He reported that the models displayed that the Colorado River water received was basically within historical levels, and thus is acceptable. He said this approach means that it will need to be revisited each time an entity wants to move non-project water through the CAP canal, or when a shortage is declared and less Colorado River water will be in the canal. Mr. Tenney noted that there would come a point where an entity wanting to discharge non-project water may have to treat for a particular constituent in order to ensure that downstream users have water that is acceptable at their treatment plants and in soil aquifer treatment in Southern Arizona.

Mr. Tenney said SRP is going to run a few more scenarios so that the Water Quality Group can include them in a presentation to CAWCD. The Water Quality Group has



been working on a presentation that explains their proposed approach in more detail. He noted the Group feels this approach meets their objectives and allows for greater certainty in managing the water quality in the CAP canal and believes it can work well with current conditions in the CAP canal, as well as during a shortage.

Mr. Tenney stated that proposals are being presented to CAWCD at the September 12<sup>th</sup> task force meeting, so a proposal would need to be completed by the end of the month.

Mr. Setovich commented that it is important to keep a strategy that is easily managed because this process is very complex. Mr. Tenney agreed because this is a new venture for CAWCD, but also expressed that he feels it is doable and there is encouragement that SRP is able to manage their water system in house, which is much more complex than what CAWCD would deal with.

### C. Board Members' Updates

AMWUA Management Board members were invited to report on water activities in their city/town.

**Gilbert:** Ms. Marlow stated that Gilbert is working on its rate studies for water, wastewater, and solid waste; however, the Town's schedule has been extended because a new consultant will need to be selected.

**Glendale:** Mr. Johnson said the City of Glendale is working on its rate increases for water, wastewater, and solid waste and have held two of four public meetings, which are going well. He noted that Glendale's last rate increase was in 2010, and going forward will have more frequent, smaller rate increases rather than less frequent, larger rate increases. He also said four new fund balance policies have been set in place.

**Goodyear:** Mr. Setovich reported that Goodyear's agreement with SRP is still moving forward, and the City will begin advertising for proposals in the near future. He said the plant will be built in two phases, with the first being eight million gallons per day (mgd), and the second adding another eight mgd around 2030.

### D. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tenney reported that AMWUA would be hosting the second Finance Group meeting next week to bring member staffs together to discuss and compare notes regarding financing water issues.

Mr. Tenney stated that the Finance Audit Power (FAP) Committee of the CAWCD plans to revisit and update CAWCD's rate setting policy and wants to have a more informal dialogue with stakeholders as the policy is reviewed. He said in this process, AMWUA plans to continue to advocate that CAWCD taxes, in addition to capital charges, should be used for



federal repayment. Mr. Tenney said AMWUA is currently working on these issues with the WRAG and will keep the AMWUA Management Board apprised as discussions continue. The next FAP Committee meeting will be held in September.

Mr. Tenney said CAWCD has started another task force to look specifically at excess water and will hold its first meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the formation of this task force is partially in response to the Governor's Water Discussion, which outlines excess water as being an issue the Governor wants addressed.

Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA's new website will be premiered at the August AMWUA Board of Directors meeting. He said he will alert members when the new website is up and running, so they can begin to peruse the new site.

#### **E. Future Agenda Items**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

#### **F. Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Mr. Artz and a second, Mr. Johnson unanimously adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

## MANAGEMENT BOARD

### INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 13, 2017

## Governor's Water Discussion

### STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE

Objectives – Safeguard Water Supplies; Reinforce Groundwater Management; Prepare for Impacts of Drought & Shortage; Augment Supplies; Elevate the Benefit of Water Reuse; Minimize Financial Impacts

Collaboration – Legislature; Arizona Department of Water Resources; Salt River Project; Central Arizona Project; Water Community

### SUMMARY

On August 30, 2017, the Plenary Group of the Governor's Water Discussion met to discuss over a dozen issues that the Colorado River and Groundwater Work Groups have deliberated on so far this summer. Kirk Adams, who chaired the meeting, explained that the Plenary Group was to consider supporting the conceptual proposals. He emphasized the State wanted to know if the Plenary Group supported the concepts so that they can be further developed. If they did, the State would start to flesh out the details with stakeholders and develop the proposals into a package for legislation or executive action. While some of the issues generated questions and few expressions of opposition, the Plenary Group gave general support for the conceptual proposals presented. Mayor Lane was supportive of all the conceptual proposals. Attached is the list of the proposals discussed by the Plenary Group.

On August 31, 2017, the AMWUA Board of Directors reviewed those concepts of most interest to the AMWUA members. This included reviewing the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) & DCP Plus; Colorado River Conservation Program including Intra-State Forbearance, Arizona Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) and Tribal ICS; Sovereign Immunity and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD); agreements regarding Arizona's Colorado River water; audit of CAWCD; use of 4-cent tax for Banking Authority purposes; expanded Banking Authority recovery and firming authority; metering and reporting throughout the State; and safe-yield goal beyond 2025.

After discussing these concepts from the State, the AMWUA Board adopted the following motion:

"The AMWUA Board of Directors recognizes that the Governor's Water Discussion is an effort to improve Arizona's overall management of Colorado River water and

groundwater. The Governor's Water Discussion's conceptual proposals concentrate on those issues that Arizona needs to address at this time through legislation and rulemaking. AMWUA's engagement is critical for this process to benefit municipal water users and the State as a whole. Therefore, the AMWUA Board supports the Governor's Water Discussion process, and the need to address the concepts outlined by the State by working with the Governor and the Legislature as the concepts are fleshed out into a legislative package."

In the Work Group meetings, Chairman Adams has repeatedly asked the participants to maintain a statewide view and to act in the best interests of the State.

At the September 13, 2017 meeting, the AMWUA Management Board will be updated regarding any new developments with the Governor's Water Discussion since the drafting of this report.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The AMWUA Management Board is encouraged to discuss the Governor's Water Discussion.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

- **Attachment A** – Plenary Group Summary

The following proposals were discussed at the August 30<sup>th</sup> Plenary:

**ADWR Rule change regarding Pinal Active Management Area Extinguishment Credits and groundwater allowance**

This proposal is important because it increases replenishment requirements for new developments while preserving existing irrigation rights.

**ADWR Rule change to address Adequate Water Supply criteria for the Coconino Plateau**

This proposal will allow flexibility in demonstrating adequate water supply in the hard rock aquifers of northern Arizona.

**CAWCD reforms to strengthen Arizona's one voice on Colorado River matters and to improve transparency and accountability to CAWCD stakeholders:**

**1. Legislation affirming that CAWCD does not have sovereign immunity under the U.S. Constitution**

Legislation affirming that CAWCD does not have sovereign immunity under the U.S. Constitution, provides certainty that contractors and subcontractors can seek judicial relief in federal court in disputes with CAWCD.

**2. Legislation requiring CAWCD to obtain approval of ADWR Director prior to negotiation or entering into interstate agreements involving the use, storage, or conservation of Colorado River water**

Legislation requiring CAWCD to obtain ADWR approval prior to negotiating or entering into interstate agreements regarding Colorado River water, ensures that agreements are consistent with State policy for the management of Colorado River water.

**3. Continuous special audits for a period of years and regular performance audit of CAWCD by the State's Auditor General**

Continuous special audits and a regular performance audit of CAWCD by the State's Auditor General, increases consumer confidence by enhancing CAWCD accountability and transparency.

**Colorado River Conservation Program, including Intra-State Forbearance, Arizona ICS and Tribal ICS**

This proposal is critical because it provides a consistent statewide standard for the creation of all conservation projects designed to increase the elevation in Lake Mead and delay a shortage to Arizona.

**Permanent legislation to allow emergency drought transportation of groundwater outside AMAs with ADWR Director approval**

This proposal protects local groundwater supplies while allowing a limited exception for emergency groundwater use.

Incorporating input from the Groundwater Work Group, this proposal includes requirements for the consent of water providers, as well as notice to political subdivisions.

### **Legislation allowing irrigation of containerized plants in AMAs pursuant to irrigation grandfathered rights**

This proposal provides flexibility for right holders to adapt to technological advances in agricultural production.

### **Groundwater management within Active Management Areas after 2025**

The 1980 Groundwater Management Act provided a framework for groundwater management through 2025. This proposal continues long-term proactive management of groundwater within AMAs incorporating previous management experience and data.

### **Mandatory measuring and reporting of groundwater withdrawals for non-exempt wells outside AMAs and INAs**

This proposal supports robust long-term planning statewide and enhances public confidence in decision-making in water resource management.

### **Legislation amending Irrigation Non-Expansion Area Designation Process and Criteria**

This proposal clarifies the process and criteria for potential designation of new irrigation non-expansion areas. It also allows the Director of ADWR to consider likely future changes to groundwater withdrawal rates to proactively manage groundwater depletion.

### **Expanded flexibility for Arizona Water Banking Authority:**

- 1. Clarify that unexpended AWBA 4-cent tax monies shall be made available to the AWBA upon request of the Chair**

This proposal clarifies that unexpended AWBA 4-cent tax monies shall be made available to the AWBA upon request of the Chair. This restores the original intent of statute regarding the use of the funds for water banking, CAWCD repayment, and O&M.

- 2. Recovery agreements that allow for recovery of long-term storage credits developed with 4-cent tax funds without distributing the credits to CAWCD**
- 3. Lease water for M&I and On-River firming obligations**
- 4. Exchange long-term storage credits accrued with 4-cent tax monies and withdrawal fees**

These proposals expands the AWBA's flexibility to maximize the efficiency and reduce the costs of firming and recovery.

## MANAGEMENT BOARD

### INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 13, 2017

# Water Quality Standards Proposal for Non-Project Water under the System Use Agreement

## STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE

Objectives – Prepare for Impacts of Drought & Shortage; Minimize Financial Impacts  
Collaboration – Central Arizona Project; Bureau of Reclamation; Southern Arizona; Salt River Project; Gila River Indian Community

## SUMMARY

As discussed at the August 9, 2017 meeting, the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) has asked for proposals for a water quality standard for non-project water put in the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal. In an effort to develop a consensus proposal among stakeholders, AMWUA has facilitated meetings among the AMWUA cities, Southern Arizona utilities, Apache Junction, the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), and the Salt River Project (SRP). After meeting during the summer, this Water Quality Group agreed on an overall proposal that will be presented to the CAWCD Task Force on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

The proposal accomplishes the following:

- Allows for wheeling of non-project water.
- Ensures the introduction of non-project water into the CAP canal will maintain the water quality in the canal within the historical ranges we have already been receiving.
- Avoids having increased treatment requirements and costs.
- Accomplished by measuring in-canal water quality at diversion points and the use of modeling that considers in-canal blending to determine discharge limits to best protect users.
- Southern Arizona entities assert an additional “Not-to-Exceed” discharge parameter for constituents is needed. While the Work Group does not have agreement on what, if any, the “not-to-exceed” numbers should be, we believe this one point should not keep us from moving our proposal forward.
- Addresses the current situation of the CAP canal. While it does not consider a deep shortage situation, the concept can apply to shortage scenarios.

At the September 13, 2017 meeting, the AMWUA Management Board will be updated regarding the presentation to the CAWCD Task Force. Also, AMWUA staff would like to present the PowerPoint presentation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The AMWUA Management Board is encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback regarding the Work Group's water quality standard for non-project water in the CAP canal.



## MANAGEMENT BOARD

### INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 13, 2017

## AMWUA Website

### STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE

Operational Principles – Excel as an Expert and Resource; Manage an Efficient and Effective Association

Objectives – Advocate for Solutions

### SUMMARY

The AMWUA website is a primary avenue for providing expert information and resources to a broad audience, communicating the importance of planning and investing in water resources and infrastructure, and conveying a positive message about the success of the AMWUA members in water management.

At the September 13, 2017 meeting, staff will preview for the Management Board AMWUA's new website. The new website was premiered to the AMWUA Board of Directors at their August 31, 2017 meeting. The development and launch of the core section of AMWUA's new website has been completed. This is the first full redevelopment of the site in a decade. Staff worked closely with the website consultant, Halperin Creative, to accomplish this extensive, year-long effort.

The new site is mobile adapted, easy to navigate, modern, and professional. Content is organized around AMWUA's mission and how that mission is accomplished. The design encourages visitors to explore the content, to learn about the issues facing AMWUA members, and to support the solutions that the Association is advocating.

The second phase of the site development will be the integration of the conservation microsites *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert* and *Xeriscape: Landscaping with Style in the Arizona Desert*. The initial designs and concepts for these sites were accomplished as part of the first phase. Staff will work to cull content, write, and organize the extensive amount of material in these sites. Halperin Creative will then build these sections into the new site. The initial estimate to complete the work is a minimum of twelve months, depending on available staff time.

Funding for phase II will come from the FY18 Regional Conservation Program budget. No additional funding is required. The initial estimated cost, subject to revision as additional scoping is undertaken, is \$10,000.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The AMWUA Management Board is requested to ask questions and provide feedback during the preview of AMWUA's new website at the September 13, 2017 meeting.