

## MANAGEMENT BOARD

### MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2017

#### VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

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

#### VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT – EXCUSED

Ms. Marilyn DeRosa, Tempe

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Blaine Akine, Phoenix	Kathy Ferris, AMWUA	Kathy Rall, Scottsdale
Jessica Blazina, Avondale	Brett Fleck, AMWUA	Richard Siegel, SRP
Eric Braun, Gilbert	Sam Jaskolski, AMWUA	Cindy Smith, Phoenix
Cynthia Campbell, Phoenix	Pat Kossan, AMWUA	Tony Staffaroni, CAP
Greg Capps, Chandler	Frank Milam, Phoenix	Drew Swieczkowski, Glendale
Miranda DeWitt, Mesa	Colette Moore, SRP	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Brian Draper, Mesa	Brian Payne, AMWUA	Carol Ward-Morris, AMWUA
Alan Dulaney, Peoria	Diana Piña, AMWUA	Thalia Williams, AMWUA

#### A. Call to Order

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 August 9, 2017 meeting.

2. [Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., in the AMWUA office](#)
3. [Governor's Water Discussion](#)

Mr. Tenney stated that the Plenary Group of the Governor's Water Discussion met at the end of last month to discuss over a dozen issues that the Colorado River and Groundwater Work Groups have deliberated. He said some of the issues generated questions and a few expressions of opposition, the Plenary Group gave general support for the conceptual proposals presented and Mayor Lane was supportive of all of them. He also noted that at the meeting, Kirk Adams emphasized that the proposals were concepts and that the State would start to flesh out the details with stakeholders and develop the proposals into a package for legislation.

Mr. Tenney reported that after reviewing and discussing the concepts of most interest to the AMWUA members, the AMWUA Board of Directors adopted the following motion at their August meeting:

"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."

Mr. Tenney said since the AMWUA Board's meeting, a meeting of the Colorado River Work Group was held where the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) reviewed the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) that Arizona, California, Nevada, and the Bureau of Reclamation have negotiated. ADWR did not review DCP Plus again as a package with the review of DCP. He said Paul Orme, representing Pinal Agriculture, again raised Agriculture's concern that under DCP, they would be immediately impacted if Lake Mead were to fall below 1,075 feet in elevation. Mr. Orme questioned if DCP Plus was enough protection and said Agriculture would like to see a mitigation plan in place for them. Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA will be watching this matter closely since financing a mitigation plan would most likely impact its members. He noted that under the DCP, Agriculture would be the most impacted if Lake Mead falls below 1,075 feet; however, it would also impact municipalities receiving Non-Indian Agriculture Priority water allocations, which is why AMWUA has been supportive of the efforts to put DCP in place.

Mr. Tenney said AMWUA will keep itself and its lobbyists, Mr. Aarons and Ms. Ulmer, apprised on everything occurring with the Governor's Water Discussion and how the Governor's Office proceeds with developing these conceptual proposals into legislation. He noted that Mr. Aarons attended a meeting of lobbyists last Friday to discuss how the Governor's Office plans to work with the Legislature.

Ms. Peters commented that she was glad to see the AMWUA Board of Directors' resolution and that she thinks it strikes the right balance. She also said she was glad to hear that AMWUA is beginning to plan how to engage with Legislators and would encourage AMWUA member staffs to do the same with the Legislators representing their municipality because this is a complicated issue. Ms. Peters and Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Tenney for his efforts and hard work.

Mr. Biesemeyer echoed Ms. Peters' sentiments and emphasized the importance of having a true discussion on these issues because there are false narratives going around.

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

Mr. Tenney reported that the day before, Brian Biesemeyer, Troy Hayes of Phoenix, Sandy Elder of Tucson, Mike Ploughe of the Salt River Project (SRP), and himself presented the complete proposal for water quality standards developed through AMWUA's Water Quality Group meetings to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) Water Quality Task Force. He said the presentation went very well and the Task Force was pleased with the proposal and asked questions. He noted that the Task Force would like to see "not-to-exceed" numbers put in place, so AMWUA's Water Quality Group will meet again to discuss. Mr. Tenney said the presenters also agreed to meet with CAWCD staff to further discuss the entire proposal.

Mr. Payne shared a condensed version of the PowerPoint presentation given to CAWCD with the AMWUA Management Board. The proposal presentation highlighted the entities who participated in the consensus; what the proposal accomplishes and its principle and standard; the equity of the proposal; the six constituents looked at in the proposal and operational maximums, including "not-to-exceed" parameters that are currently being evaluated; additional protection measures; and the proposal's monitoring and oversight requirement.

Mr. Weber asked if there had been discussions on "what if" scenarios regarding canal quality being degraded by upstream discharges and the recourse. Mr. Payne said the model being proposed would cap it before it got to that point and if it were to get to that point, there would need to be operational constraints and that more discussion needs to be held on the issue and a fixed criterion will need to be developed. Mr. Tenney noted that by keeping within the historical range as it is today, there should not be a slow degradation over time. He also said the Central Arizona Project (CAP) would also have enforcement abilities in those situations.

Ms. Marlow asked if that applies to secondary effects in change of raw water quality and if there is a way to mitigate that. She also gave an example of having the same levels of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) in different water sources and experiencing different amounts of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) forming. Mr. Tenney said the model proposed would address that issue, but it primarily focuses on the first six constituents to verify if the framework is acceptable, and then later discussions would address secondary regulated contaminants issues.

Mr. Biesemeyer noted that CAWCD would be encouraged to develop their own monitoring of the canal system to have preliminary sense of the water. Mr. Knudson added that individual dischargers should be held to monitoring the water qualities that they are discharging on a routine basis so that history is recorded; Mr. Biesemeyer agreed.

Mr. Tenney commented on the difference between Central Arizona's, Southern Arizona's, and CAWCD's individual histories with water quality, treatment, and public perception. He reported that after the CAWCD Task Force meeting there were positive sidebar conversations about ways to tackle this situation that everyone would agree to. Mr. Tenney noted that while this process is still moving forward, significant progress has already been made.

Mr. Weber and Mr. Biesemeyer discussed items that would be excluded from being discharged into the canal, such as brine discharges.

#### 5. [AMWUA Website](#)

Ms. Ward-Morris gave the AMWUA Management Board a tour of the new AMWUA website, which was premiered at the August AMWUA Board of Directors meeting. She noted that the new site is easy to use, approachable, well organized, streamlined, and full of information. She highlighted that the website has four subheadings that organize content and tell AMWUA's story: "who we are," "what we do," "where we stand," and "what you can do."

Ms. Ward-Morris noted that a second phase of the website will update the online versions of AMWUA's publications: *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert* and *Xeriscape: Landscaping with Style*. She said this phase will be funded out of the Regional Conservation Program budget and will fall below the threshold requiring the AMWUA Board of Director's approval. Ms. Ward-Morris welcomed any comments, questions, and feedback from the AMWUA Management Board as they reviewed the site themselves.

### C. Board Members' Updates

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

**Chandler:** Mr. Knudson said Chandler’s Municipal Utilities Department is now part of Chandler’s Public Works and Utilities Department. Mr. Knudson’s new title is Public Works and Utilities Director.

**Glendale:** Mr. Johnson asked if any of the AMWUA members had been asked to help with the disasters in Texas and Florida. Mr. Biesemeyer said Scottsdale was asked and would be able to assist, but have not been taken up on their offer yet. Ms. Peters said Phoenix had a similar experience, and noted that Phoenix’s Search and Rescue team was deployed to both Texas and Florida. Mr. Johnson also stated that chemical procurement for treatment may be impacted due to the hurricanes, and suggested the AMWUA members look into ways to make truck shipments more efficient and possibly getting a pricing advantage.

**Scottsdale:** Mr. Biesemeyer noted that the Annual WaterReuse Symposium is in town and gave kudos to Mr. Tenney for his introductory speech. He also reported that Scottsdale’s Water Citizen Academy co-won the Public Education Program of the Year Award at the Symposium.

#### **D. Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. Tenney stated that CAWCD has an Excess Water Task Force, which is looking at excess water that becomes available during the year after water orders have been placed. He said this intra-year water became a major issue earlier this year when the first iteration of DCP Plus was being discussed and still remains a point of discussion. He stated that the hope of this task force is that there will be a better understanding of this intra-year excess water, how much is involved, and how it is accounted. He said the Excess Water Task Force is seeking proposals about how to manage this intra-year excess water and AMWUA will be discussing this with its Water Resources Advisory Group (WRAG).

Mr. Tenney stated that Thalia Williams, AMWUA’s Sub-Regional Operating Group (SROG) Program Coordinator, is retiring at the end of October. He said Ms. Williams has been valuable in overseeing AMWUA’s administrative and financial accounting support provided to the five SROG cities that own and operate the 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA has begun to advertise for this position.

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

There were no requests for future agenda items.

#### **F. Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Mr. Biesemeyer and a second by Ms. Peters, Mr. Johnson unanimously adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.