

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2018

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmember Eddie Cook, Vice President, Gilbert
Mayor Cathy Carlat, Secretary-Treasurer, Peoria
Councilmember Pat Dennis, Avondale
Councilmember Lauren Kuby, Tempe
Councilmember René Lopez, Chandler
Councilmember Bart Turner, Glendale, via teleconference

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PRESENT—EXCUSED

Mayor Jim Lane, President, Scottsdale
Councilmember Kevin Thompson, Mesa
Mayor Thelda Williams, Phoenix

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry Aarons, The Aarons Co.	Pat Kossan, AMWUA
Anthony Alejandro, Peoria	Ryan Lee, Glendale
Michelle Barclay, AMWUA	Frank Milam, Phoenix
Cindy Blackmore, Avondale	Andrea Odegard-Begay, Garver
Ned Blum, CliftonLarsonAllen	Brian Payne, AMWUA
Gregg Capps, Chandler	Diana Piña, AMWUA
Mariom Columbia, Goodyear	Don Sehorn, CPA
Alan Dulaney, Peoria	Javier Setovich, Goodyear
Kathy Ferris, AMWUA	Richard Siegel, SRP
Brett Fleck, AMWUA	Tony Staffaroni, CAP
Sandra House, Glendale	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Lacey James, Avondale	Carol Ward-Morris, AMWUA
Sam Jaskolski, AMWUA	Marge Zylla, Tempe

A. Call to Order

Councilmember Cook called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

B. General Business – Items for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approval of the Minutes from the May 24, 2018 Meeting

Upon a motion by Councilmember Kuby and a second by Mayor Carlat, the AMWUA Board of Directors unanimously approved the May 24, 2018 meeting minutes.

The order of the agenda was altered by the AMWUA Board of Directors.

4. Contract for the Redevelopment and Redesign of the Smartscape Website and Database

Ms. Jaskolski stated that the Smartscape program supports AMWUA members in their efforts to increase water use efficiency, extend existing supplies, reduce future water demand, and prepare for potential shortage restrictions. She said the current Smartscape website and database are both outdated, increasingly problematic to maintain, and not user friendly to the program coordinators, students, and the public. Ms. Jaskolski stated that the redevelopment and redesign of the Smartscape website and database was recognized in AMWUA's Annual Action plan and was also included as a line item in AMWUA's approved Fiscal Year 2019 budget. She detailed that this project will also entail consolidating the online management of the Smartscape program as well as marketing efforts across Maricopa and Pima counties. She said the final products will promote a comprehensive, cohesive message and increase program recognition, efficiency, and conversations about the importance of low-water-use landscapes.

Ms. Jaskolski reviewed the request for proposals process that AMWUA underwent to contract for the Smartscape website and database project. She stated that a stakeholder committee of AMWUA staff, AMWUA member staffs, Tucson Water staff, and Maricopa and Pima counties Smartscape program staffs reviewed the received proposals. She said based on the committee's recommendation, AMWUA staff has selected the firm Ackmann & Dickenson for this project. She said the agreement with Ackmann & Dickenson includes two phases culminating a fixed-bid price of \$90,000 and has been reviewed by Ms. Ferris, AMWUA's legal counsel.

Mr. Tenney stated that at its June 13th meeting, the AMWUA Management Board unanimously recommended to the AMWUA Board of Directors to approve the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Ackmann & Dickenson for the redevelopment and redesign of the Smartscape website and database at a cost not to exceed \$90,000.

Mayor Carlat noted appreciation for Tucson Water's contribution to this project and the importance of having updated and mobile-adapted technology.

Councilmember Lopez asked for more information about the training noted in the proposal from Ackmann & Dickenson. Ms. Jaskolski explained that the Smartscape program staff and AMWUA staff will be trained on use of the website.

Councilmember Dennis commented on the importance of collaborating with individual landscapers as well as larger organizations using water for landscaping, especially homeowners' associations (HOAs). Ms. Jaskolski agreed and stated that AMWUA's Conservation Committee Commercial Programs workgroup has been diving deeper into working with HOAs this fiscal year and will continue into the future.

Councilmember Kuby agreed with Councilmember Dennis and noted the benefits to HOAs of having their landscapers learn about new irrigation technologies. She also noted that the Town of Gilbert has been a leader in working with its HOAs. Councilmember Cook and Councilmember Lopez discussed not using potable water in HOA landscapes.

Upon a motion by Mayor Carlat and a second Councilmember Dennis, the AMWUA Board of Directors unanimously approved the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Ackmann & Dickenson for the redevelopment and redesign of the Smartscape website and database at a cost not to exceed \$90,000.

2. Next meeting scheduled: Thursday, August 30, 2018, 11:00 a.m., in the AMWUA office

The July 26, 2018 AMWUA Board of Directors meeting was cancelled.

3. Recovery Implementation Planning

Mr. Fleck stated that there has been a sense of urgency on recovery implementation planning because the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation modeling projections have shown increased probability of shortages that would impact municipalities. He said the State of Arizona has stored 4.3 million acre-feet (MAF) of water underground, 1.48 MAF of which is dedicated for Phoenix Active Management Area (AMA) Municipal and Industrial (M&I) firming, and planning is needed for recovering that underground water. He then reviewed several graphics of Lake Mead levels and shortage projections.

Mr. Fleck reported that the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), the Arizona Water Banking Authority (AWBA), and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) have jointly convened the Recovery Planning Advisory Group (RPAG) to update and refine the 2014 Joint Recovery Plan with the goal of completing the task before the end of 2018. He said three RPAG meetings have been held thus far and the next meeting is scheduled for July 17th.

Mr. Fleck stated that AMWUA's efforts on recovery planning include: coordinating the development of eight "Foundation Principles" to ensure member preferences are clearly communicated and act as a framework for any recovery solution; generating recovery method ideas to support members' needs; and encouraging focus on the details.

Mr. Fleck said ADWR has requested that participants submit specific recovery method proposals by July 1st. He noted that there are many unanswered questions at this point in

the process, particularly how much it will cost, which is dependent upon variables that are currently being determined like volume, timing, method, and participants involved.

Mayor Carlat asked what surprises can be expected from recovery. Mr. Fleck said unknowns and surprises include the costs of different recovery methods as well as legal and political challenges. He gave an example of the differences in recovery from the Granite Reef Underground Storage Project (GRUSP) and from the Tonopah Desert Recharge Project (TDRP).

Relating to the GRUSP and TDRP example, Councilmember Dennis asked if there was a process for how recharge locations were evaluated and selected with respect to eventual recovery. Mr. Fleck said TDRP was a great location to deposit water; unfortunately, recovery was less of a focus at the time. Mr. Fleck said CAWCD has been drilling test wells to estimate yield and collect water samples at TDRP.

Councilmember Dennis and Mr. Fleck discussed the AMWUA Water Resources Advisory Group's (WRAG) eight "Foundation Principles" for recovery planning.

Councilmember Lopez and Mr. Fleck discussed that recovery planning was not thoroughly fleshed out before water was put in the ground. Mr. Fleck said momentum for recovery planning has ebbed and flowed with wet and dry seasons and Lake Mead levels over time.

Councilmember Cook asked if AMWUA has a chart that includes each of its members 100-year planning and water needs. Mr. Tenney said between now and the next AMWUA Board meeting in August, he plans to meet with each of the Board members to touch base on these topics and others. Mr. Fleck said that particular chart does not currently exist; however, AMWUA will compare its members notes and see how best they can work to help each other.

Councilmember Cook commented that AMWUA's members share freeways and powerlines and asked if they would have water infrastructure connections in the future. Mr. Fleck said sharing infrastructure could be an option in the future in cases where necessary and beneficial, though he does not foresee complete integration.

Ms. Ferris noted that legislative fixes may be required to answer some of the questions in the recovery process. She also said current statute on recovery is complicated and includes requirements that may not be the most appropriate in certain circumstances, for example how credits are distributed.

C. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tenney reported that ADWR and CAWCD will be holding a briefing on the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) and Arizona's Colorado River water supply this afternoon. He said Commissioner Brenda Burman of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will speak at the

meeting to discuss the extended drought and increased strain on the Colorado River Basin. Ms. Ferris noted that this meeting will be livestreamed.

Councilmember Kuby asked if AMWUA will publish a blog on the ADWR and CAWCD DCP meeting. Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA will decide following the meeting; regardless, a blog on the topic of DCP will certainly be published.

Councilmember Cook asked if the meeting will be facilitated. Mr. Tenney stated that today's meeting is strictly informational and starting in August, a facilitated group will be meeting.

In response to a question from Councilmember Dennis, Mr. Tenney stated that the DCP will have to go to the Legislature in order for Arizona to enter into the agreement. Councilmember Dennis and Mr. Tenney discussed the importance of working with legislators throughout this process. Mr. Tenney added that Mr. Aarons has already begun working with legislative candidates on water issues as well.

Mayor Carlat asked Mr. Tenney if he anticipates these conversations ending in something that could mitigate consequences for agriculture. Mr. Tenney said he does not foresee an agreement that does not include mitigation for agriculture.

Mr. Tenney stated that last week, Representative Bowers and Senator Griffin held a listening session on water issues in Buckeye. He thanked the AMWUA Board and their staffs' efforts. He noted that Mayor Lane and Councilmember Kuby were able to make comments at the meeting; Councilmember Cook had to leave after not being called upon for two hours. He said staff from Peoria, Glendale, and Phoenix were also able to speak.

Councilmember Cook stated that at last week's meeting in Buckeye, some of the rural communities were blaming folks in the Valley for taking their water. Mr. Tenney said AMWUA and its members are not looking to take water and need to work on changing the mindset of rural versus urban.

Mr. Tenney stated that Representative Bowers was interviewed on KJZZ last week. He said based on Representative Bowers' comments regarding municipalities efforts on conservation, AMWUA responded with a letter to correct any wrong information.

Mr. Tenney reported that last week, the CAWCD Customer Service Task Force had a productive meeting. He said the Task Force looked at three priority areas that it would like to focus on to improve customer relations and have requested stakeholder input. He noted that AMWUA's suggestions were discussed during the meeting.

Mr. Tenney stated that AMWUA recently finished reprinting the Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert books. He said this edition of the book features updated plant names that are coordinated with ADWR's 2018 update of the Low Water Use Drought Tolerant Regulatory Plant List and several new pictures.

Councilmember Cook recognized and thanked Mr. Don Sehorn for his work for AMWUA over the past 29 years.

D. Future Agenda Items

There were no requests for future agenda items.

E. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mayor Carlat and a second by Councilmember Dennis, Councilmember Cook unanimously adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m.