

WINTER WATER STORAGE PROGRAM
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 31, 2025

Acting Chair Leann Noga began the Winter Water Trustees virtual meeting at 10:03 a.m. with a roll call for each canal company.

Representatives for the Board of Trustees

Brett Sabbath, Bessemer Ditch; Greg Williams, Catlin Canal; Stacey Sober, Colorado Canal; Kim Siefkas, Fort Lyon Canal; Darren Grap, High Line Canal; Donny Hansen, Holbrook Mutual Irrigation Ditch; Jeff Baylor, Las Animas Canal; Curtis Sniff, Fort Lyon Canal; and Josh Reinert, Amity Canal.

West Pueblo, Oxford, Riverside Dairy Ditch no representative present.

Others present: Amity Mutal, four board members; Jeremy Dutton, Holbrook; Rick Young, High Line Canal; Wesley Eck, Burt Heckman, Rex Davis, Eddie Hall and Curtis Sniff with Fort Lyon Canal Company; Rachell Zancanella, Brady Cole, Jessie Harris, Brian Lenher, Bethany Arnold (10:14), Lonnie Spady, Brian Lenhr – Division of Water Resources; Dan Burke, Catlin Canal. Leann Noga, Chris Woodka, Michelle Tocyldowski, Gordon Dillon, Lee Miller, and Margie Medina SECWCD staff.

2025 Winter Water Balance

Leann Noga turned the meeting over to Rachell Zancanella, Division of Water Resources Engineer. Mrs. Zancanella reported that the DWR rebalanced based on the requests after receiving a little more direction from the trustee's water situations and transit loss concerns. Holbrook and Fort Lyons allocations are based off how much they divert, not what makes it to the reservoir. The amount of water that was lost was redistributed by essentially inadvertently sending a portion of the water that should have gone to John Martin Reservoir to Adobe Reservoir first.

Transit loss accounted for from Glasgow to John Martin in the Amity stipulation made more sense to equally distribute the loss amount to all the participants. Rachel referenced her worksheets adjusted to move all of Las Animas Consolidated water to Holbrook, the balance in the reservoir. DWR zeroed out Las Animas Consolidated water in Pueblo and put it in Holbrook. The rest of Holbrooks water is now in Pueblo Reservoir. Putting 1,432 of Colorado Canals water in Pueblo and 11,123 for Colorado Canal. Fort Lyon with 995 AF in Pueblo and the rest in Adobe to balance. The transit loss is distributed down to Fort Lyon storage canals. Final numbers are applied retroactive split Pueblo to John Martin will be 3,300 AF, Lake Meredith to John Martin 3,300 AF and Adobe out the gauge to John Martin is 2,225 AF. This is the balance of the program as it converts from Winter Water to compact storage. Final Winter Water total is 118,908.65 AF.

Stacey Sober inquired further regarding the numbers so he could balance since they had changed.

As soon as DWR gets final evaporation numbers they will organize the releases relatively quickly.

There was discussion on direct flow through John Martin to Amity as levels at Avondale were also discussed. Keeping Fort Lyon's headgate relatively similar to what had been running to credit the increase to FLCC name delivery, then release out of Adobe into the Fort Lyon canal. Timing of the releases were discussed for Colorado Canal.

The Winter conservation numbers would jump by 6300 AF or so, a weighted per rata split over the course of the winter. The numbers could change a little after discussions with Kansas.

What Fort Lyon proposed will mitigate the amount of shrink for all the participants by bringing in the native water so values can go up a little.

DWR would run the transit losses, collect the evaporation values and then be back in touch with the ones that need to make releases and get a final report out as soon as they can.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Margie Medina, Administrative Support Specialist
SECWCD