

RECORD OF PROCEEDING

**SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO
WATER ACTIVITY
ENTERPRISE MINUTES
November 20, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Colorado Water Activity Enterprise (Enterprise) was held on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at the District office, 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado. President Long called to order the Enterprise meeting at 9:45 a.m. to be held in conjunction with the District meeting for a presentation item. Following the joint presentation item with the District, President Long recessed the Enterprise meeting at 10:19 a.m. President Long reconvened the Enterprise meeting at 10:30 a.m. The ZOOM platform was also made available for Board members and visitors.

Attendance:

Board Members Present:

Abby Ortega	Curtis Mitchell	Mike Bartolo
Alan Hamel	Dallas May	Pat Edelmann
Andy Colosimo	Justin DiSanti	Seth Clayton
Ann Nichols	Kevin Karney	Tom Goodwin
Bill Long	Matt Heimerich	

DIRECTOR(S) ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Greg Felt

DISTRICT OFFICIALS:

Executive Director Leann Noga; General Counsel, Lee Miller; Staff Attorney Peter Levish; Senior Policy and Issues Manager Chris Woodka; Engineering Manager, Gordon Dillon; Project Engineer, Trevor Singleton; Water Resources Engineer, Robert Banham; Administrative Manager, Misty Bellino; Administrative Support Specialist Patty Rivas. H2O Consultant, Roy Vaughan; Jewell, Jimmerson Natural Resources Law, April Hendricks; Wilson Water Group, Mitch Frischmeyer (remote); and Kogovsek & Associates, Christine Arbogast.

PRESENT VISITORS:

Aurora Water, Isreal Ortega; Pueblo West Metro District, Elissa Velasquez; USGS, Andy Klakulak; USBR, Mike Holmberg; and Colorado Springs Utilities, Scott Lorenz.

VISITORS CONNECTED VIA ZOOM:

Cathy Garcia-Widner, Representative Jeff Hurds Office; Jeffery DeHerrera, Pueblo West Metro District.

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CONSENT ITEM:

Mr. Hamel moved, seconded by Mr. Karney, to approve:

- The minutes of the October 16th Enterprise Board meeting
- Treasurer Report for October 2025

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

FEDERAL LEGISLATION UPDATE

Ms. Christine Arbogast gave an update to the Board:

1. The shutdown is over, and activity renews on the appropriations process. We are still waiting for the energy and water bill in the Senate to be released, indicating funding for Reclamation and the AVC.
2. The appropriators are hoping to move two or three more bundled bills before the end of the year but certainly before the next continuing resolution expires on January 31.
3. I will be speaking next week with the staff of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding movement of water-related bills including the Boebert-Hurd bill on AVC.

WATER RESOURCES UPDATE

Mr. Robert Banham presented to the Board a PowerPoint:

Precipitation Outlook

- Discusses expected precipitation trends and forecasts for the upcoming months.
- Highlights potential impacts on water resources and drought conditions.

Soil Conditions

- Evaluates current soil moisture levels across southeastern Colorado.
- Indicates implications for agriculture and water conservation efforts.

Streamflow Conditions

- Analyzes streamflow data and trends in local rivers and streams.
- Assesses the impact of streamflow on water supply and drought management.

Drought Conditions

- Reviews current drought status in Colorado, including affected areas.
- Provides statistics on drought severity and its implications for water resources.

DROUGHT FOR COLORADO

- Details of the ongoing drought situation in Colorado.
- Discusses historical drought patterns and their effects on water availability.

Precipitation Outlook

- Reiterates the importance of precipitation forecasts for water management.
- Emphasizes the need for adaptive strategies in response to changing weather patterns.

Soil Conditions

- Summarizes soil health and moisture retention capabilities.
- Highlights the importance of soil conditions for sustainable agriculture.

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Streamflow Conditions

- Provides insights into streamflow variability and its effects on ecosystems.
- Discusses the relationship between streamflow and reservoir levels.

DROUGHT FOR COLORADO RIVER

- Analyzes the drought conditions affecting the Colorado River.
- Highlights the historical storage levels of Lake Mead and Lake Powell from 1937 to 2025.

Lake Mead vs Lake Powell Historical Storage Overview

- Compares storage levels of Lake Mead and Lake Powell over time.
- Illustrates the declining trends in water storage capacity.

Lake Powell vs Lake Mead Storage Patterns Last 10 Years

- Examines storage patterns of both lakes from 2015 to 2025.
- Highlights significant drops in water levels and implications for water supply.

Lake Powell Inflow vs. Outflow

- Analyzes inflow and outflow data for Lake Powell from 2015 to 2025.
- Provides critical data on inflow and total release in cubic feet per second (CFS).

Questions were asked of Mr. Banham

AVC UPDATE

Mr. Gordon Dillon updated the Board on construction of the AVC:

- Construction
 1. Boone Reach 1
 - a. Close Out
 2. Boone Reach 2
 - a. Waiting for CDOT permit to bore under HWY 96
 - b. Installing fiber optic
 3. Injection Site Phase 1- Early 2027 completion (current schedule)
 4. Crowley Reach 1 – Construction starts early 2027
- AVC 2025 Workplan through November
- 1. Design through Rocky Ford (SRF Package 1):
 - a. 60% submission with cost estimate complete
 - b. Starting negotiations for 60-100% design work
- 2. SRF Loan Application was submitted November 5th

Questions were asked of Mr. Dillon.

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INFORMATION ITEMS:

The Board was provided written material on the following topics, which were posted to the Board website, and OnBoard:

- Arkansas Valley Conduit Newsletter
- JWBHP Update
- Excess Capacity Master Contract Update
- Central Colorado Mountain River Basin (CCMRB) weather modification project
- Reclamation Reform Act Update
- SNOTEL Update

President Long adjourned the Enterprise Board Meeting @ 10:49 a.m. and reconvened the District Board Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Lee Miller announced a request has been made for the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District to enter Executive Session for the purpose of:

Discussion with legal counsel on the following matter:

1. Executive Director Review

Pursuant to:

“ **C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b):** (Conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions)

“ **C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e):** (Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators)

The presence of the following individuals are requested at this Executive Session:

1. Non-Excused Board members, (state for the record any who are excused)

MINUTES WILL BE ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED AS REQUIRED BY THE COLORADO OPEN MEETINGS ACT

MOTION

VOTE (2/3 needed)

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At this time, the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District will enter Executive Session.

Mr. Hamel moved, seconded by Mr. Goodwin, that the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District will enter Executive Session at 10:50 a.m. The vote was unanimous.

At 11:50 a.m. coming out of Executive session, Mr. Lee Miller advised that there was discussion with legal counsel instructing, and that no action was needed for Executive Session Item:

1. Executive Director Review

President Long asked if there were any other matters to come before the District Board, hearing no other matters, Mr. Long adjourned the District Board meeting at 11:52 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Patty Rivas
Administrative Support Specialist

Seth Clayton – Secretary

Bill Long – President

Greg Felt

Curtis Mitchell – Vice President

Justin DiSanti

Ann Nichols – Treasurer

Kevin Karney

Abby Ortega

Matt Heimerich

Alan Hamel

Mike Bartolo

Andy Colosimo

Pat Edelman

Dallas May

Tom Goodwin