

**ALLOCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 3, 2018**

A meeting of the Allocation Committee was held on Thursday, May 03, 2018 at 1:05 p.m. at the District Office 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado 81001.

Chairman Carl McClure announced a quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carl McClure – Chairman, Howard “Bub” Miller – Vice Chairman
Andy Colosimo, Alan Hamel, Bub Miller, Curtis Mitchell and James Broderick

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Tom Goodwin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Lorenz, Colorado Springs Utilities; Kent Ricken, CWPDA; Kortney Kelly, Fountain Valley Authority; Alan Ward, Pueblo Board of Water Works; Shane Hayden and Terry Dawson, Bureau of Reclamation; Garrett Markus, Margie Medina, and Chris Woodka, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman McClure confirmed that members of the Committee received their copy of the April 5, 2018 minutes, and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Curtis Mitchell moved, Alan Hamel seconded, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT WATER ALLOCATON PROCESS

Garrett Markus provided a PowerPoint presentation, regarding the full scope for Fryingpan-Arkansas (Fry-Ark) Project water (Project water) allocation. The process is broken down into two major parts; forecasting and allocation.

Forecasting starts with the five Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Snotel sites that measures snowpack amounts relative to the Fry-Ark collection system. District staff prepare weekly reports throughout the winter to visualize snowpack to prior years; but, the forecasting of projected imports are based on snowpack through a Bureau of Reclamation process utilizing the VIPER forecasting model. This model is a regression statistical analysis of previous years to determine what could be expected as Fry-Ark imports. This year, the May 1, 2018 results projected imports of 58,200 acre-feet (AF).

The allocation portion is further broken down into four parts. Deductions, Project water applications, municipal allocations, and agricultural allocations. Project water imports minus the deductions

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produces Project water available to allocate. Those deductions are 3,000 AF for Twin Lakes Exchange, 200 AF for the fish hatchery, 10 percent for transit loss, and 10 percent for evaporation for the first year of storage.

The Fry-Ark Project experienced yearly deficits beyond the deductions. After some evaluation by the Bureau of Reclamation, the deficit was coming from not deducting enough evaporation for first year Project water. From 1997 to 2017 the evaporation loss has consistently been higher than five percent, averaging 9.9 percent. The 2018 allocation year will be the first-year evaporation of Project water will change to 10 percent versus five percent to avoid further deficits year to year.

All water organizations must submit an application to request Project water on a yearly basis. The municipal allocations are authorized to receive 51 percent of the total allocation with an additional 3.59 percent of NPANI (Not Previously Allocated Non-Irrigation) Project water. Municipal allocations are distributed to Fountain Valley Authority (FVA) at 25 percent, West of Pueblo at 4 percent, Pueblo at 10 percent, East of Pueblo at 12 percent, and NPANI water at 3.59 percent. The agriculture sector is authorized to receive 45.41 percent of the total allocation.

The distribution of agriculture Project water is regulated by the Reclamation Reform Act (RRA) process to determine eligible acres. Project water and Project water Return Flows are allocated on an acre-foot per eligible acre basis. A timeline was provided explaining the RRA process starting with data collection for each canal and reporting process for those to meet the reporting thresholds.

FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT WATER AND RETURN FLOW ALLOCATION

The May 1, 2018 snowpack report showed the four-site snowpack in the collection system was 79 percent of median with individual sites ranging from zero percent of average to 103 percent of average. The Bureau of Reclamation forecasts from February the April ranged from 38,200 AF to 46,800 AF but ultimately the official May 1, 2018 forecast was 58,200 AF. Subtracting the deductions and an additional 1,500 AF to offset the previous year's deficit, the Project water available for allocation was 43,050 AF.

Municipal's authorized allocation of 51 percent was 21,956 AF; NPANI authorized allocation of 3.59 percent was 1,545 AF; agriculture's authorized allocation of 45.41 percent was 19,549 AF. Based on the requests from the allocation process the Committee recommended allocations for municipal was 7,781 AF with 1,545 AF additional from NPANI and agriculture received 33,724 AF.

The recommended Return Flow allocation was 11,889 AF of which 3,351 AF was allocated for the Fort Lyon Project for the Fort Lyon Canal Company first right of refusal.

ACTION ITEM:

Alan Hamel moved the Allocation Committee recommend to the Enterprise Board to approve the Project water and Return Flow allocation for 2018 as presented or amended, second by Bub Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

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INFORMATION ITEM

None

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chairman McClure adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Garrett J. Markus, P.E.

Water Resources Engineer