

ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 5, 2025

A meeting of the Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) Committee was held at 11:34 a.m. June 5, 2025, at District offices and via electronic and telephonic means.

Chairman Kevin Karney announced a quorum was present for the AVC Committee.

AVC COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Karney – Chairman, Justin Di Santi -Vice-Chairman (remote), Matt Heimerich (remote), Dallas May (remote), Mike Bartolo (Remote), Bill Long, and Leann Noga

AVC COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tom Goodwin, Alan Hamel, Andy Colosimo, Ann Nichols (remote) and Seth Clayton (remote), SECWCD Board members; Bill McDonald, McDonald Water Policy (remote); Nick Harris (remote), Colorado Springs Utilities; Gordon Dillon, Chris Woodka, Margie Medina, Patty Rivas (remote), Lee Miller, and Peter Levish, SECWCD staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Bill Long moved, and Mike Bartolo seconded approval of the April 24, 2025, AVC Committee meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

2025 AVC Work Plan

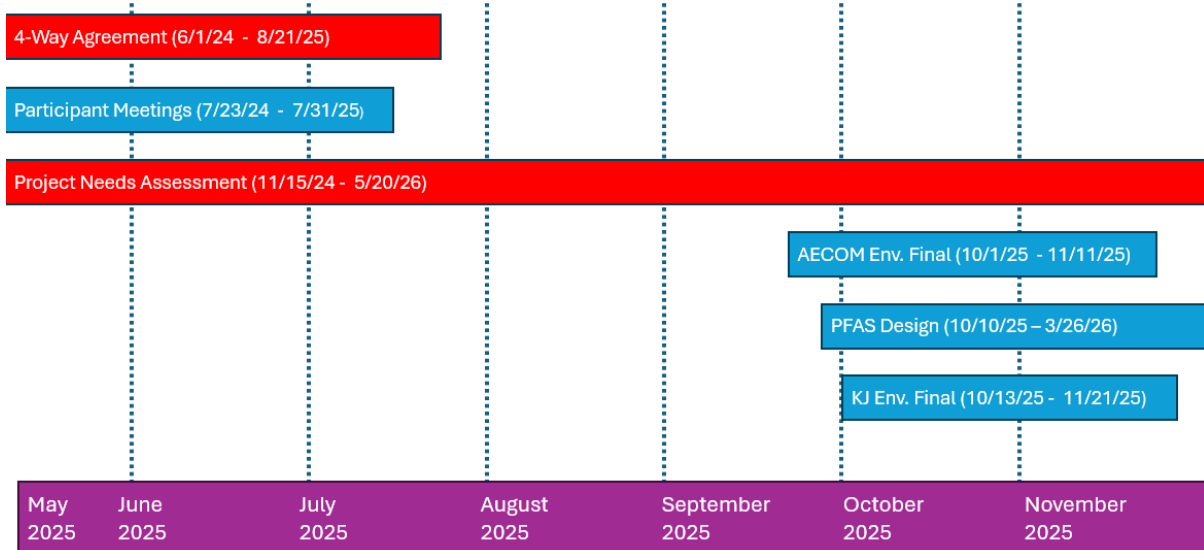
Gordon Dillon presented the 2025 AVC Work Plan, which is part of the larger work plan that the Enterprise has developed in order to improve tracking and identify critical events which have to be completed in order to keep later part of the AVC Enterprise Sub-Project (Sub-Project) on track. Leann Noga explained that the work plan is more complete than a construction timeline because it also includes legislative actions and funding decisions as well as construction.

The rest of the presentation previewed work which will be done in the next six months, which was requested by the AVC Committee at its April meeting.

Environmental Reports for the entire Sub-Project are being completed by consultants Kennedy Jenks and AECOM, as the final step of contracts which were put on hold in 2024. This means that design for the entire Sub-Project is at 30 percent completion, which includes initial alignment and other factors. The Environmental Reports are expected to be completed in November 2025, at a combined cost of \$82,666.

Six-Month Timeline

Critical items shown in red



In the Work Plan for the next six months are:

- Completion of the four-way agreement among the Enterprise, Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority (CWRPDA) and Otero County to allow Otero County to accept CWCB grants that will leverage State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans for AVC construction.
- Participant meetings, which will occur later this summer.
- Project Needs Assessment (PNA) work being completed by Swiftwater Solutions LLC, which is necessary for the SRF funding.
- Design of the Lamar vault, using a \$90,000 contribution from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds provided by the City of Lamar. The vault design can be replicated with slight modifications for other AVC vaults.

The next step will be to design spurs and delivery lines through Rocky Ford, which will cost an estimated \$2 million. The scope was chosen as the likely reach of the AVC Trunk Line that will be built by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Sub-Project in the next few years. Potential sources for the design include:

- Remaining ARPA funds, about \$55,000.
- Emerging contaminants (per- and polyfluoroalkyl or PFAS) funding that has been applied for, \$300,000.
- Enterprise cash flow.

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- Using part of the \$30 million CWCB grant.

Mrs. Noga outlined the options, and it was generally agreed that design funds not covered by ARPA and PFAS should be paid out of Enterprise funds, saving the CWCB grant money for construction. The fully developed plan will come to the Committee and the Enterprise Board in August or September.

Participant Meetings

Bill Long and Leann Noga reviewed the meeting Enterprise officials had with the City of La Junta Utility Board and City Council on May 12. The meeting was positive. Mrs. Noga had follow-up calls with La Junta officials and delivered information on AVC funding that La Junta requested. The meeting was summarized in the May AVC Newsletter.

A meeting with County Commissioners in the six counties was not necessary because commissioners agreed that sufficient information about AVC has been supplied.

Reclamation Sub-Project

Mr. Dillon said the Trunk Line to Boone is on track to be completed, following payment to Xcel Energy, to move gas lines near North Avondale, an issue that had delayed construction for Pate Construction on Boone Reach 2. Boone Reach 1 will be completed soon by WCA Construction, LLC. The construction of the injection site has been delayed by internal problems at Thalle Construction that Reclamation is working to resolve.

ACTION ITEMS:

None

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be scheduled in the future.

ADJOURN

Chairman Kevin Karney adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Woodka
Senior Policy and Issues Manager