



Public Notice Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02

ARIZONA MUNICIPAL WATER USERS ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT BOARD

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

October 14, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

**This meeting will be held as a Hybrid meeting.
Attendance in person is welcomed; Others may join via Zoom.**

Access this [Link](#) to join via Zoom. Meeting ID: : 815 3667 5632
(Option to join by phone: 602-753-0140, same Meeting ID as above)

A. Call to Order

B. General Business—Items for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approval of the Minutes for the September 9, 2026 Meeting
2. Next Meeting Date: November 10, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.
3. Post-2026 Colorado River Operations and Impacts for Arizona
4. 2027 Legislative Agenda
5. Overview of New Water Supplies

C. Member Reports

D. Executive Director's Report

E. Future Agenda Items

F. Adjournment

*The order of the agenda may be altered or changed by the AMWUA Board of Directors. Members of the AMWUA Board of Directors may attend in person or by internet conferencing.

More information about AMWUA public meetings is available online at www.amwua.org/what-we-do/public-meetings, or by request.

Arizona Municipal Water Users Association

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**MANAGEMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2026
HYBRID MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kirk Beaty, Avondale, Chair
David Burks, Peoria, Vice Chair
Jeremy Abbott, Chandler
Jessica Marlow, Gilbert
Ron Serio, Glendale
Silvana Burgos, Goodyear
Joe Giudice, Mesa
Brandy Kelso, Phoenix
Thyra Ryden-Diaz, Scottsdale
Tara Ford, Tempe

AMWUA STAFF PRESENT

Michelle Barclay, AMWUA	Dr. Caitlyn Hall, AMWUA	Sheri Trapp, AMWUA
Paul Bergelin, AMWUA	Aly Slobodzian, AMWUA	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Tyenesha Fields, AMWUA		

A. Call to Order

Kirk Beaty called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

B. General Business – Items for Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approval of the Minutes from the August 12, 2026, Meeting

Upon a motion by Brandy Kelso, seconded by Jeremy Abbott, the AMWUA Management Board unanimously approved the minutes for the August 12, 2026, meeting.

2. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.

3. Post-2026 Colorado River Operations and Impacts for Arizona

Warren Tenney, AMWUA's Executive Director, observed the need for continued planning and investment as Colorado River supplies become increasingly limited and less reliable.

Paul Bergelin, AMWUA's Water Policy Advisor, reported that the 2027–2028 Colorado River operating guidelines call for 1.25 million acre-feet in reductions from the Lower Basin States, with Arizona to take a 760,000 cut, the majority of the reductions. He noted that operational measures that CAP is pursuing could lessen the impact of that reduction in 2027 and 2028 to municipal and industrial users; however, worsening hydrologic conditions at Lakes Powell and Mead will most likely lead to additional reductions. Mr. Bergelin also reported on Nevada's litigation and uncertainty surrounding implementation of the guidelines. He emphasized the need for developing additional water supplies to maintain reliable service over the next decade.

4. Wet-Credit Water Exchange

Mr. Tenney reported that Colorado River reductions will require greater flexibility for municipal water providers to meet demands during shortages. He said AMWUA had been developing a concept allowing long-term storage credits to be exchanged for wet water and requested a recommendation for AMWUA to support development of the exchange in coordination with stakeholders and the Legislature.

Mr. Bergelin explained that the proposed exchange would allow municipal water providers to trade long-term storage credits for wet water, which is not currently allowed in statute. He explained that the approach would simplify existing water exchanges, reduce recovery and permit challenges, and provide greater flexibility for communities to share water during shortages. AMWUA is working with ADWR and other stakeholders to develop the concept and described safeguards that would be included.

Mr. Ron Serio asked about the basis for prohibiting the sale of exchanged long-term storage credits. Mr. Bergelin explained that allowing their sale could create a market for wet water and allow third parties to purchase and resell credits for profit, potentially increasing water service costs. He noted that credit swaps may still be permitted.

Mr. Kirk Beaty commented that maintaining flexible and temporary options is important for addressing water supply challenges. Mr. Bergelin agreed, noting the proposal would provide an additional option for water exchanges.

Mr. Joe Giudice asked about ADWR's potential concerns with the proposal. Mr. Bergelin explained that concerns center on where exchanged long-term storage credits may ultimately be recovered, particularly whether recovery occurs within or outside the storage facility's area of impact. He noted that appropriate recovery requirements are still being developed.

Upon a motion by Brandy Kelso, seconded by Joe Giudice, the AMWUA Management Board unanimously approved recommending that the AMWUA Board of Directors support pursuing the establishment of the wet water credit exchange program.

5. Secure Water Arizona Program

Mr. Tenney stated that creative and flexible water management options will be increasingly important after 2026. He discussed the Secure Water Arizona Program (SWAP), developed by Phoenix and Tucson as a voluntary mechanism to help water providers manage demands during Colorado River shortages. Mr. Tenney requested the Management Board's recommendation for AMWUA to formally support and advocate for SWAP.

Max Wilson, Water Resources Management Advisor for the City of Phoenix, provided an update on the Secure Water Arizona Program (SWAP), which includes an emergency water reserve, a reduction offset program, and a water-sharing program. He explained that SWAP is voluntary and designed to provide participating communities with greater flexibility during Colorado River shortages. Phase One is expected to begin in January 2027, with participants working together to further develop the program, establish governance, and prepare for expanded implementation in Phase Two.

Mr. Abbott expressed support for SWAP but recommended that AMWUA's current support focus on Phase One and the continued development of Phase Two, given that details of Phase Two remain under development. Mr. Wilson agreed and emphasized continued engagement and updates would be given as the program develops.

Upon a motion by David Burks, seconded by Tara Ford, the AMWUA Management Board approved supporting Phase One and the development of Phase Two of the Secure Water Arizona Program.

6. AMWUA Communication Update

Sheri Trapp, AMWUA Communications Director, reported on regional communication efforts surrounding the Colorado River shortage and increasing public concern regarding Arizona's long-term water security. She noted increased media attention and emphasized the importance of clear, consistent regional messaging to help residents understand the impacts of Colorado River reductions and the actions cities are taking to maintain reliable water supplies. This is happening as the public is concerned about growth, data centers, water rates, conservation, and development of new water

supplies. She reported significant increases in engagement with AMWUA's website and communications and outlined ongoing efforts to expand conservation messaging, including water waste resources and simplified outdoor watering guidelines designed to encourage behavioral change and reduce water use.

Mr. Giudice emphasized the importance of communication and commended AMWUA's efforts to coordinate regional messaging.

Mr. Beaty asked about outreach to businesses, HOAs, and other entities regarding outdoor water waste. Ms. Trapp explained that outreach to HOAs can be challenging due to changing leadership and landscape management structures, but AMWUA and its members are working to improve engagement with HOAs, property managers, landscapers, and business organizations. She noted that increased awareness of water waste ordinances and reporting options can help reduce outdoor water waste.

C. Member Reports

No Member Reports.

D. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tenney reported that AMWUA's Demand Management Workgroup continues coordinating regional conservation efforts, including watering schedules, water waste messaging, drought and shortage planning, and conservation efforts for commercial properties and data centers.

He also reported that AMWUA is collaborating with SAWUA and NAWUA on a Water Security 101 presentation for legislators and legislative candidates focused on Arizona's water challenges, municipal preparedness, and the need for new water supplies.

Mr. Tenney noted that SRP's reservoir system was at 46% capacity, compared with 54% at the same time last year.

E. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

F. Adjournment

Mr. Beaty adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

AMWUA MANAGEMENT BOARD

INFORMATION SUMMARY

October 14, 2026

Post-2026 Colorado River Operations and Impacts for Arizona

ANNUAL PLAN REFERENCE

Sustainable Water Management

Promote policies and actions to sustain and safeguard members' water resources by preparing for Colorado River reductions and managing a stressed aquifer.

- Analyze and evaluate developments related to post-2026 Colorado River operations and their implications for CAP deliveries in 2027.

SUMMARY

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has issued its Record of Decision for the Colorado River management framework from 2027 to 2036 and the specific operating guidelines for 2027 and 2028. Reclamation will determine operations and deliveries every two years within its 10-year framework based on a wide range of parameters. The most significant restriction is imposing up to 3 million-acre feet of reductions annually on the Lower Basin States by priority. This means CAP would be cut first under this framework.

Reclamation has agreed to most of the Lower Basin Proposal for operating the river in 2027 and 2028. Arizona, California, and Nevada would share an annual reduction of 1.25 million acre-feet in 2027 and 2028, which equates to a 760,000 AF cut to Arizona in each of those years. Additionally, Nevada will contribute 100,000 acre-feet and Arizona and California each will contribute at least 300,000 acre-feet to leave in Lake Mead through 2028.

The 2027 and 2028 operating guidelines are contingent upon the Lower Basin States completing an implementation agreement to formalize sharing annually the cut of 1.25 million acre-feet those two years. The lawsuit filed by Nevada against the federal government regarding Reclamation's 10-year framework has complicated drafting an agreement. The three states each say they want the agreement for 2027-2028 operations and are to be working on it. This also includes formalizing the contributions from each state for leaving water in Lake Mead through 2028. If this agreement is not approved, CAP has warned that it could face a 1.1 million acre-foot cut, which would reduce the M&I subcontracts by 50%.

In the meantime, overall system storage, inflows into Lake Powell, and other intervening flows into the Colorado River remain historically low.

AMWUA staff will provide an update about the Colorado River situation and its impact on Arizona at the October 14, 2026 Management Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

The AMWUA Management Board is requested to ask questions and discuss the Colorado River situation including its hydrology, federal action, the Lower Basin agreement, and post-2026 impacts on Arizona.

AMWUA MANAGEMENT BOARD

INFORMATION SUMMARY

October 14, 2026

2027 Legislative Agenda

ANNUAL PLAN REFERENCE

Legislation

Actively advocate for the municipal water perspective at the Legislature.

- Engage in state and federal legislation aligned with the Legislative Agenda and our members' collective interests.
- Position AMWUA as the premier voice on municipal water issues at the Legislature.

SUMMARY

The 2027 Legislative Agenda outlines the principles and priorities that will guide AMWUA's legislative action in a post-2026 Colorado River world and is aligned with the 2027 Annual Plan. AMWUA members may use the agenda as a reference when developing their individual legislative agendas to increase regional collaboration and coordination.

Attached is AMWUA's proposed state Legislative Agenda for 2027, which AMWUA staff will review with the Management Board at the October 14th meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

It is requested that the AMWUA Management Board recommend to the AMWUA Board of Directors adoption of the proposed 2027 Legislative Agenda for the upcoming legislative session.

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the AMWUA Management Board recommends that the AMWUA Board of Directors adopt the proposed 2027 Legislative Agenda.



2027 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

AMWUA will advocate that legislators:

- Recognize that municipal water providers supply the water security essential for Arizona's thriving economy.
- Understand that successfully navigating a post-2026 Colorado River world requires bringing new water supplies online within the next 10 years while taking actions to ensure water providers can continue meeting their communities' demands in the interim.

AMWUA supports legislation that:

Empowers Municipal Water Providers

- Protects municipal water providers' ability to manage their water resources and infrastructure to reliably serve their customers.
- Allows municipal providers the regulatory flexibility to meet demands during Colorado River shortages while protecting the aquifer.
- Protects cities' access to their water supplies, including stored water and Arizona Water Banking Authority firming credits.

Invests in Arizona's Water Future

- Establishes a revenue source dedicated solely to funding the acquisition and development of new water supplies and infrastructure.
- Supports municipal water providers' water supply and infrastructure projects, including Bartlett Dam expansion and Advanced Water Purification.

Supports Sustainable Water Management

- Effectively manages existing and new state water resources to strengthen Arizona's long-term water security.
- Promotes aquifer sustainability in a post-2026 Colorado River world.
- Advocates for state agencies to efficiently and proactively manage state water resources in partnership with municipal water providers.

Promotes Water Conservation

- Advances practical, effective water efficiency and conservation efforts.

Ensures Safe Drinking Water

- Preserves and enhances the quality of members' water supplies, including proposals to improve watershed management.
- Appropriates funding to remedy water quality issues.

AMWUA MANAGEMENT BOARD

INFORMATION SUMMARY

October 14, 2026

Overview of New Water Supplies

ANNUAL PLAN REFERENCE

Sustainable Water Management

Promote policies and actions to sustain and safeguard members' water resources by preparing for Colorado River reductions and managing a stressed aquifer.

- Support efforts for development of new water supplies and necessary infrastructure and advocate for establishment of a dedicated revenue source to ensure Arizona's long-term water security.

SUMMARY

Developing new water supplies will be critical for offsetting Colorado River reductions to meet current and projected demands, not relying on long-term groundwater pumping, and demonstrating Arizona's long-term water security. Advanced Water Purification (AWP) and expansion of Bartlett Dam have been the most discussed water projects, but other projects are also at play.

AMWUA staff has compiled an overview of various water projects that have either been proposed or are under development. This overview will include information on potential costs and timelines for implementation and is intended to increase awareness about the range of new supplies that our members can pursue while facilitating discussion about those projects that would be most viable.

RECOMMENDATION

The AMWUA Management Board is recommended to discuss and ask questions about the overview of new supplies presented by AMWUA staff.