



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

ARIZONA MUNICIPAL WATER USERS ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT BOARD

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

September 9, 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 August 12, 2026 Meeting
 - 2. Next Meeting Date: October 14, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.
 - 3. Post-2026 Colorado River Operations and Impacts for Arizona
 - 4. Wet-Credit Water Exchange
 - 5. Secure Water Arizona Program
 - 6. AMWUA Communication Update
- 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
August 12, 2026
HYBRID MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kirk Beaty, Avondale, Chair
David Burks, Peoria, Vice Chair
Jeremy Abbott, Chandler
Jessica Marlow, Gilbert
Megan Sheldon, Glendale
Barbara Chappell, Goodyear
Joe Giudice, Mesa
Brandy Kelso, Phoenix
Thyra Ryden-Diaz, Scottsdale
Craig Caggiano, Tempe

AMWUA STAFF PRESENT

Michelle Barclay, AMWUA	Dr. Caitlyn Hall, AMWUA	Sheri Trapp, AMWUA
Paul Bergelin, AMWUA	Rhett Larson, AMWUA	Warren Tenney, AMWUA
Tyenesha Fields, AMWUA	Aly Slobodzian, 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 June 10, 2026, Meeting

Upon a motion by Brandy Kelso, seconded by Joe Giudice, the AMWUA Management Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 10, 2026, meeting.

2. [Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.](#)

3. [Post-2026 Colorado River Operations](#)

Warren Tenney, AMWUA's Executive Director, provided an update on Colorado River conditions, noting continued uncertainty surrounding post-2026 operations and emphasizing that Arizona should prepare for reduced Colorado River supplies.

Mr. Paul Bergelin, AMWUA's Water Policy Advisor, reported that Lake Mead and Lake Powell remain at historically low levels and that CAP municipal and industrial users could face significant reductions under continued poor hydrologic conditions. He emphasized the need for AMWUA members to prepare for less Colorado River water through demand management, using banked resources, coordinated messaging, and investment in alternative water supplies.

Kirk Beaty asked about the rate of decline in Lake Mead and Lake Powell as reservoir elevations continue to fall. Mr. Tenney responded that although the exact rate was uncertain, total system storage had declined by more than 3 million acre-feet over the past year, demonstrating how quickly reserves are being depleted.

Mr. Bergelin added that the Bureau of Reclamation's monthly 24-Month Study provides the most reliable projections under a range of hydrologic scenarios. Mr. Tenney noted that current projections indicate Lake Powell could reach an elevation where water releases become severely limited as early as February.

4. [Arizona Water Banking Authority's Firming of M&I Subcontracts](#)

Mr. Tenney reported that, given anticipated Colorado River reductions, AMWUA has focused on ensuring Arizona Water Banking Authority resources are available to support M&I subcontractors.

Mr. Bergelin reported that the Water Banking Authority has adopted policies to fully firm CAP M&I subcontractor reductions in 2027 and provide long-term storage credits for certain system conservation contributions. He noted that implementation details are still being developed and that the Bank's role beyond 2027 remains uncertain. Mr. Tenney provided an update on AMWUA's advocacy efforts, noting that greater certainty has now been established for 2027 regarding firming and the use of available credits.

Joe Giudice asked about the Bank's future policies and use of available revenue. Mr. Bergelin explained that the Bank's funding sources have specific allowable uses and must be balanced with its other legal and water-supply obligations.

5. Conservation and Demand Management Update

Dr. Caitlyn Hall, AMWUA's Water Conservation & Demand Management Coordinator, reported on efforts to prepare for anticipated Colorado River reductions through increased demand management. She highlighted the development of regional outdoor watering guidance, water waste resources, commercial water efficiency tools, and coordinated messaging among AMWUA members. Dr. Hall noted that these efforts are intended to reduce water demand while providing municipalities flexibility to implement strategies that meet their individual needs.

Mr. Beaty asked whether future watering guidance would include recommended water volumes in addition to watering frequency. Dr. Hall responded that future resources would provide simplified tools and guidance to help customers better understand appropriate watering amounts.

Mr. Tenney added that collaboration between conservation and water resources staff has helped develop consistent regional guidance while maintaining flexibility for individual municipalities. He noted that educating customers now with the watering guidelines will help prepare them for potential voluntary or mandatory measures under future drought stages.

C. Member Reports

Jessica Marlow reported on the presentation given to the Gilbert Council on the city's water resources portfolio, shortage impacts, and potential Stage Two drought planning.

Barbara Chappell asked whether other cities were experiencing water quality concerns related to TTHMs. Brandy Kelso noted a correlation between higher temperatures and increased TTHM formation, and Ms. Chappell shared similar concerns regarding changing source water conditions.

Mr. Beaty reported that ADWR approved their redesignation to move into the 30-day public comment period. Mr. Giudice added that Mesa postponed its upcoming Council presentation until the Colorado River Record of Decision is issued so that a more meaningful update can be provided.

D. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tenney reported that SRP's total reservoir system was at approximately 49% capacity, compared to 57% at the same time last year, due in part to limited monsoon activity.

Mr. Tenney also reminded members that AMWUA's Colorado River reduction messaging remains available as a communication tool for both internal and public use. He emphasized the importance of communicating that, while Colorado River shortages remain a serious

concern, they do not currently translate to shortages at customers' taps. He added that AMWUA will continue updating conservation and shortage messaging as conditions evolve.

E. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

F. Adjournment

Mr. Beaty adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

AMWUA Management Board

INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 9, 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.

Fortunately, Reclamation has adopted most of the Lower Basin Proposal for operating the river in 2027 and 2028. Arizona, California, and Nevada would share a 1.25 million acre-feet annual reduction 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 Lower Basin States now must put together the implementation agreement to formalize sharing the 1.25 million acre-feet cut in 2027 and 2028. To complicate the matter, Nevada filed a lawsuit against the federal government to halt the implementation of any post-2026 operational measures due to various flaws in Reclamation's process. Despite the lawsuit, the three states are working to finalize the agreement for 2027-2028 operations. This also includes formalizing the contributions from each state for leaving water in Lake Mead through 2028.

AMWUA staff will provide an update about the Colorado River situation and its impact to Arizona at the September 9, 2026 Management Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

The AMWUA Management Board is requested to ask questions and discuss the Colorado River situation including its hydrology, the Record of Decision, the 2027-2028 operations, and post-2026 impacts to Arizona.

AMWUA MANAGEMENT BOARD

INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 9, 2026

Wet-Credit Water Exchange

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.
- Pursue policies that allow flexibility for municipal providers to utilize supplies and meet demands during Colorado River shortages while protecting the aquifer.

SUMMARY

To help its members continually meet demands in a post-2026, AMWUA has been exploring possible revisions to water exchanges requirements. Many AMWUA cities have established water exchanges with other water providers that rely on recovering stored water. Although these exchanges can help cities weather Colorado River shortages in the coming years, implementing such exchanges proven difficult primarily due to the required recovery well permits.

Based on a suggested solution from the Cities of Phoenix and Tucson that would provide more flexibility, AMWUA has been developing a new option for water exchanges. Under this option, a participant would be able to directly exchange long-term storage credits for certain types of “wet” water, such as Central Arizona Project water, surface water not considered Salt River Project water, and effluent. Enacting this option would relieve cities of the burden of obtaining recovery well permits and create more flexibility for moving “wet” water supplies around. It may additionally facilitate recovery of Arizona Water Banking Authority firming credits.

AMWUA would like to pursue this exchange concept as legislation for the 2027 regular session. AMWUA would like to work with other stakeholders interested in this concept, including the State. To do that, we would like support from the Management Board and Board of Directors.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the AMWUA Management Board recommend that the AMWUA Board of Directors support this exchange concept as presented in this Board packet and discussed at the September 9, 2026 meeting.

AMWUA Management Board

INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 9, 2026

Secure Water Arizona Program

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.
- Pursue policies that allow flexibility for municipal providers to utilize supplies and meet demands during Colorado River shortages while protecting the aquifer.

SUMMARY

At the June 10, 2026 meeting, the Management Board received an overview about the Secure Water Arizona Program (SWAP). Phoenix and Tucson developed SWAP as a means for allowing municipal providers and others to mutually aid each other during severe Colorado River reductions that will be more likely post-2026. SWAP is a voluntary program that would enable participants to reduce the impacts of shortage based on their individual water supply portfolios. SWAP includes an emergency reserve to prevent wet-water emergencies that Phoenix and Tucson are willing to stand up. The program could also facilitate opportunities for user-funded arrangements such as conservation programs with on-river irrigation districts.

Based on the overall benefits that SWAP would give to municipal providers, it would be positive for AMWUA to be able to formally advocate for SWAP. This could include explaining it to the business community to encouraging ADWR and CAWCD to complete necessary administrative hurdles to make SWAP work.

AMWUA and Phoenix staff will give an update about SWAP.

RECOMMENDATION

The AMWUA Management Board is requested to recommend to the AMWUA Board of Directors support for the Secure Water Arizona Program.

MANAGEMENT BOARD

INFORMATION SUMMARY

September 9, 2026

AMWUA Communications Update

ANNUAL PLAN REFERENCE

Strategic Outreach & Communications

Simplify complex water issues and clearly link policy impacts to residents' daily lives to strengthen AMWUA's influence.

- Leverage strategic media partnerships to proactively inform the public and decision-makers about long-term water security.
- Develop post-2026 Colorado River messaging and coordinate with members and partner agencies to present a unified front to a broader audience.
- Collaborate with business organizations and other stakeholders on policies that protect water security and support the economic foundation that municipal water systems provide.
- Expand AMWUA's influence by securing speaking opportunities to ensure the municipal perspective shapes the narrative beyond digital platforms.

SUMMARY

With increased attention from the media, public, and elected officials about water and the Colorado River, AMWUA has been stepping up its communication efforts. AMWUA staff will provide an update on communications efforts, including current Colorado River messaging, expanded conservation messaging and materials, and the strategy for moving forward.

RECOMMENDATION

The AMWUA Management Board is requested to ask questions and provide feedback regarding AMWUA's communication efforts.