

**MINUTES**  
**MCWA Board Meeting Via Zoom (Due to COVID-19 Concerns)**  
**September 8th, 2020 @ 11:30 a.m.**

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**[www.mohavecountywaterauthority.com](http://www.mohavecountywaterauthority.com)**

**I. Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Clark.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was not said due to a lack of a flag.

**B. Roll Call**

The Chairman took roll. Members present were Chairman Mark Clark, Vice-chairman Charles Sherrill, Lake Havasu City Attorney Kelly Garry, and Mayor Jen Miles.

**II. Approval of Minutes of June 9th, 2020 virtual meeting.**

The minutes were presented for consideration. Upon motion made by Charles Sherrill and seconded by Jen Miles, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**III. Agenda Modifications**

There were no modifications to the agenda.

**IV. Approval of Expenses**

The expenses were presented by Chairman Clark. Tina Moline responded to questions posed by Charles Sherrill. Upon motion made by Charles Sherrill, and seconded by Kelly Garry, the expenses were unanimously approved.

**V. Review and Acceptance of Financial Reports**

The financial reports were presented by Tina Moline. Following discussion, a motion was made by Charles Sherrill, and seconded by Kelly Garry, to approve the expenses. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Review Lake Mead and Lake Powell Levels**

Chairman Clark reviewed the teacup diagrams with the members.

**VII. Discussion and Possible Action to, for year ending June 30, 2020, transfer the sum of \$48,780**

from the contingency account in the General Fund to the Grants Fund.

Tina Moline explained to the board the transfer was necessary to properly budget the expenditure of grant funds paid to the City of Kingman. When the budget for FY20 was adopted, no one anticipated Bullhead would pay all sums owed the Authority. The expenditure was proper as the sums were owed Kingman. Upon motion made by Charles Sherrill, and seconded by Mayor Miles, the transfer of funds was unanimously approved.

## VIII. Updates and Discussion

### A. Legislative Update

Jeff Kros, High Ground general counsel, advised the group that Supervisor Watson introduced the INA and RMA bills at County Supervisors Association again this year. He then made a presentation to the group about statewide election trends this year.

### B. Transfers of Colorado River Water

Director Buschatzke, ADWR, recommended GSC be allowed to transfer 1078.1 A.F. of 4<sup>th</sup> priority water to the Town of Queen Creek. Many board members expressed concern over the precedent established by the recommendation. Next steps in the process to object were also discussed.

### C. MVIDD ICS Program

Chip Sherrill gave a brief description of MVIDD's ICS creation program.

### D. MSCP

The MSP program continues to be a success. It adapts its plans as necessary to incorporate actual experience. In its April meeting, the MSP committee elected its offices. Seth Shanahan of SANWA is the chair and our own Vineetha Kartha is the vice-chair. At that April meeting, the committee also recommended changes to conservation measures for the razorback chub, Yuma Clapper Rail and Western Least Bittrain California Black Rail. The changes primarily pertained to the water levels to be maintained in the habitat areas. The next meeting is in October. Although it is to occur at McCarren Airport, it will likely be a webinar.

### E. Recovery/CAWCD

Recovery refers to the Recovery Planning Advisory Committee, referred to RPAG. The committee continues its work in updating the 2014 Recovery Plan as adopted by ADWR, AZ Water Bank and CAWCD. The committee is working on Chapter 5 and is scheduled to meet the end of September. ADWR, Vineetha Kartha, and CAWCD, Ken Seasholes, presented a webinar on modeling for recovery. This recovery process is of importance to on-River committees as the shortage sharing agreement expires in 2026 and its continued status is very uncertain.

CAWCD recently released a study on water quality for non-project water to be wheeled through the CAP canal. CAWCD may require non-project water, which is any water that is not Colorado River water under the CAP contract, be treated before being introduced into the canal system. This issue is especially important to the Harquahala, Butler and McMullan Valley basins, all of which have been designated as transfer basins. The Harquahala basin has long term storage credits that were created with excess CAP water years ago.

**F. Arizona Water Bank**

Mark Clark advised the water bank had adopted its budget for the ensuring year. It has been limited to purchasing NTSC as there was no excess water available to purchase to bank.

**G. Arizona Agribusiness and Water Council**

Chairman Clark reported the entity was re-evaluating its structure and would likely maintain a focus on agriculture but expand its membership to include rural communities.

**H. Drought Conditions**

Chairman Clark reviewed the drought condition report.

**I. Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council**

The council has not met since our last meeting. It is scheduled to meet on 9/10 for presentations from several tribes followed by a regular meeting on 9/15.

The non-ama groundwater and desalination committees have not met since early 2020. It was directed by the GWAIC to review Representative Cobb's INA and RMA legislation from last year.

The POST 2025 AMA committee has been meeting regularly and has tackled some difficult issues, some of which relate to assured water supply. It has published short issue summaries on the topics. CAGR was the primary topic of the last meeting, with discussion of whether it is a beneficial program or not. It is clear change of some type need to occur. There are several break out groups to this committee, e.g., agriculture, turf, and safe yield.

The long-term augmentation committee received more detailed presentations on weather modification (Chuck Cullom-CAWCD), forest management (Marcos Robles TNC) and invasive plants (Sarah Porter-Kyl Center for Water).

The ARC-Arizona Reconsultation Committee is a stakeholder group to develop Arizona's position on the next set of interim guidelines. It is the DCP committee renamed. The process is being led by Director Buschatzke, DWR and Ted Cooke, general manager for CAWCD. There will also be a strategy committee which will be a small group of 10-20 which will be providing input to Tom and

Ted. The strategy group participants will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement in order to participate. Vineetha Kartha, ADWR, and Chuck Cullum, CAWCD, head the Modeling Advisory Work Group (MAWG), which will model future water use as a part of the reconsultation process. To the extent some of the likely candidates report to boards or elected officials, guidelines will likely be provided relative to the preferred method for the representative to confer with and/or report back to its boards or elected officials. E-sessions will likely be required for those groups that have a representative to the strategy team. The next meeting of the ARC is September 17. Meetings will be streamed and recorded for later viewing.

Anyone that would like to dial in and listen to the meetings is able to do so. The information will be available on DWR's website under the public meeting tab and under the GWICC tab. The meetings are streamed and recorded for later viewing. ARC meetings are also streamed and recorded for later viewing; however, MAWG meetings are not recorded.

J. ADWR Update and Discussion

Vineetha Kartha advised there were two requests to transfer water, one an assignment as a part of the Brooks Water Company transfer to EPCOR and one relative to Desert Lawn Memorial Gardens in the Yuma area. Neither had been posted on the website as preliminary evaluations were still ongoing. Vineetha Kartha also described the federal process for the GSC-Queen Creek transfer.

X. Call to the Public

There was no public input.

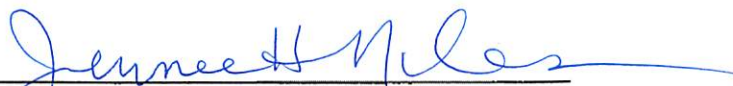
XI. Next Meeting: December 8th, 2020 in Lake Havasu City, Arizona; discuss agenda items for that meeting.

XII. Possible action to convene in Executive Session of the Board pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431-03.A.3 to obtain legal advice from the Authority's attorney on any matter listed on the agenda

No executive session.

XIII. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Secretary-Treasurer  
MOHAVE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY