



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A • Gunnison, Colorado 81230
Telephone (970) 641-6065 • www.ugrwcd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Monday, January 27, 2025

5:30 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqceivpzwqH9WiU89U4Uth_vyREp6z1QB

MISSION STATEMENT

To be an active leader in all issues affecting the water resources of the Upper Gunnison River Basin.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- | | | | |
|------|------|----|--|
| 5:00 | p.m. | | <i>Dinner is served</i> |
| 5:30 | p.m. | 1. | Call to Order |
| 5:31 | p.m. | 2. | Agenda Approval |
| 5:32 | p.m. | 3. | Administration of Oath of Office for Camille Richard, Division 1 Representative for Hinsdale County, by Judge Kellie Starritt |
| 5:40 | p.m. | 4. | Consent Agenda Items: Any of the following items may be removed for discussion from the consent agenda at the request of any Board member or citizen. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of December 9, 2024 Minutes• Monthly Budget Summary for November and December 2024• Consideration of Operating Expenses• Consideration of Non-Operating Expenses• Adoption of UGRWCD Resolution 2025-01 to Set Posting Place |
| 5:35 | p.m. | 5. | Presentation by David Wykoff, Closure Properties Supervisor, Pitch Mine Reclamation Project, Homestake Mining |
| 6:00 | p.m. | 6. | Basin Water Supply Report |
| 6:10 | p.m. | 7. | General Counsel Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy Review• Legislative Update |
| 6:25 | p.m. | 8. | Treasurer's Report |
| 6:30 | p.m. | 9. | General Manager and Committee Reports |

- General Manager's Report
 - Colorado River Water Conservation District Update
 - UGRWCD Draft Comments – Dredge and Fill
 - Adoption of Employee Handbook
- Taylor Local User's Group - Letters of Interest and Appointments
 - Action on 2025 TLUG Representatives' terms
- Watershed Management Planning Committee Report
- Grant Committee Report
- Education and Outreach Report
 - NRCS Funding Opportunity Workshop and Science Symposium
- Wet Meadows Program Report
- Drought Contingency Plan Report
- Water Quality Report
- Gunnison Basin Roundtable
- Gunnison River Festival Update
- Scientific Endeavors

7:40	p.m.	8.	Miscellaneous Matters
7:45	p.m.	9.	Citizen Comments
7:50	p.m.	10.	Future Meetings
7:53	p.m.	11.	Summary of Meeting Action Items
7:55	p.m.	12.	Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Note: This agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items or the deletion of items at any time. All times are approximate. Regular meetings, public hearings, and special meetings are recorded, and action can be taken on any item. The Board may address individual agenda items at any time or in any order to accommodate the needs of the Board and the audience. Persons with special needs due to a disability are requested to call the District at (970)641-6065 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

(Water Activity Enterprise - Continued on Page 3)



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A • Gunnison, Colorado
81230 Telephone (970) 641-6065 • www.ugrwcd.org

WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING Monday, January 27, 2025

- | | | | |
|------|------|-----|---|
| 7:55 | p.m. | 1. | Call to Order |
| 7:56 | p.m. | 2. | Agenda Approval |
| 7:57 | p.m. | 3. | Consent Agenda Items: Any of the following items may be removed for discussion from the consent agenda at the request of any Board member or citizen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of July 22, 2024 Minutes • 2024 Budget Review • Consideration of 2024 Expenses |
| 8:00 | p.m. | 4. | Adoption of Resolution 2025-1 to Set Posting Place |
| 8:05 | p.m. | 5. | Adoption of Resolution 2024-2 Canceled Base Units |
| 8:10 | p.m. | 6. | Adoption of Resolution 2024-3 to Adopt WAE Check Signers |
| 8:15 | p.m. | 7. | General Manager's Report |
| 8:30 | p.m. | 8. | Review and Adoption of 2025 UGRWAE Budget |
| 8:40 | p.m. | 9. | Miscellaneous Updates |
| 8:45 | p.m. | 10 | Citizen Comments |
| 8:47 | p.m. | 11. | Adjournment |

Note: This agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items or the deletion of items at any time. All times are approximate. Regular meetings, public hearings, and special meetings are recorded, and action can be taken on any item. The Board may address individual agenda items at any time or in any order to accommodate the needs of the Board and the audience. Persons with special needs due to a disability are requested to call the District at (970)641-6065 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 3

**Administration of Oath of
Office**

STATE OF COLORADO)
) s.s. OATH OF OFFICE
COUNTY OF GUNNISON)

I, Camille Richard, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Colorado, and laws of the State of Colorado, and will faithfully perform the duties of the office of Director of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District which I am about to enter to the best of my ability.

I do further swear and affirm that I am a citizen of the United States and a qualified elector of the State of Colorado and reside within the confines of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District.

Camille Richard

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of January, 2025 by

Kellie L Starritt, Judge
Gunnison Combined Courts
7th Judicial District

District Court, Gunnison County, State of Colorado Court Address: 200 E. Virginia Ave., Gunnison, Colorado 81230	
<hr/> In Re the Matter of Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District	<hr/> ▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲ <hr/> Case Number: C-6518 Division: 2
Order of Appointment	

Pending before the Court is appointment to the District board for the 1st Division. The term of Michelle Pierce, Division 1 (Hinsdale County), who recently resigned and relocated. The only applicant for the remainder of Michelle Pierce's term is Camille Richard. She worked as Executive Director of the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy and recently as Interim Director since July. She is well qualified for appointment and thanked for her willingness to serve. She is appointed to the remainder of the term (June 2027) in Division 1 (Hinsdale).

After conferring with Chief Judge Amanda Hopkins of the 12th Judicial District and others in the community, the Court appoints Camille Richard for the remainder of the term for Michelle Pierce.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

By the Court:

 Kellie Starritt, District Court Judge

Xc: UGRWCD, Camille Richard, Gunnison Country Times, Crested Butte News, Hon. Amanda Hopkins

AGENDA ITEM 4

Consent Agenda Items

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District Special
Budget Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 09, 2024**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD) conducted a special budget meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. remotely via Zoom video/teleconferencing.

Board members present online: Rosemary Carroll, Joellen Fonken, Rebie Hazard, Stacy McPhail, Julie Nania, John Perusek, Mike Rogers, Don Sabrowski and Brooke Zanetell

Board members absent: Andy Spann

Also Present Online:

Sonja Chavez, UGRWCD General Manager

John McClow, UGRWCD General Counsel

Luke Mecklenburg, Colorado State Attorney General's Office

Camille Richard, Lafe Fork Valley Conservancy District

Beverly Richards, UGRWCD Office Manager/Senior Program Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Stacy McPhail called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director Rosemary Carroll moved and Director Julie Nania seconded approval of the agenda as circulated. The motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 25, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Director Joellen Fonken moved and Director Julie Nania seconded approval of the November 25, 2024 Board meeting minutes. The motion carried.

4. ADOPTION OF 2025 BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

President Stacy McPhail asked if there were any questions regarding the budget message or any questions on the budget itself. Director John Perusek asked if there was an increase in the mill levy percentage for the 2025 budget. Staff replied that "no" there was no increase. There was also discussion about passing all three resolutions under one motion. General Counsel John McClow advised that they be addressed individually.

Director John Perusek moved and Director Rosemary Carroll seconded adoption of Resolution 2024-10 to Adopt the 2025 Budget as presented. The motion carried.

Director Rebie Hazard moved and Director Mike Rogers seconded adoption of Resolution 2024-11 to Appropriate Sums of Money for the 2025 Budget. The motion carried.

Director Joellen Fonken moved and Director Rebie Hazard seconded adoption of Resolution 2024-12 to Set the Mill Levy for the 2025 Budget. The motion carried.

5. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

General Manager Sonja Chavez said the Drought Contingency Planning Committee (DCP) completed their agricultural water user work drought resiliency workshop. There were 13 participants and a lot of good input was received.

President McPhail welcomed Camille Richard to the meeting. Ms. Richard will be sworn in at the UGRWCD January Board Meeting.

6. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments.

7. FUTURE MEETINGS

Information on future meetings was included in the packet. President McPhail reminded Board members to contact Sue Uerling if they are interested in attending the Colorado Water Congress Convention January 29-31, 2025.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Stacy McPhail adjourned the December 09, 2024 special budget meeting at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Don Sabrowski, Secretary

APPROVED:

Stacy McPhail, President

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Monthly Budget Summary 2024

	Nov - Dec 24	YTD 2024	2024 Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Asp Water Sales	2,111.83	26,661.86	21,920.00	121.63%
Rent Income	7,800.00	19,985.00	30,000.00	66.62%
Cloud Seeding Income	23,750.00	141,850.00	120,600.00	117.62%
Interest Income	27,745.78	127,343.40	60,000.00	212.24%
Property Tax Income	34,119.58	2,320,130.39	2,190,598.00	105.91%
Reimbursed Exp Income	10,885.33	34,260.41	38,696.00	88.54%
Watershed Mgmt Income	43,387.94	197,255.97	231,914.00	85.06%
Wet Meadows Income	0.00	200,088.27	320,470.00	62.44%
WQ Monitoring Inc	0.00	42,393.00	42,393.00	100.0%
Water Supply Income	0.00	2,670.56		
Unspent Funds Prev Year	0.00	0.00	210,190.00	0.0%
Vehicle Income	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous Income	2,436.77	8,007.09		
Total Income	152,237.23	3,120,645.95	3,271,781.00	95.38%
Cost of Goods Sold				
CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	6,790.05	20,509.87		
CWCB WMP 2023-3317	13,508.79	14,774.46		
CWCB GBRT-PEPO 2023-2489	-8,505.46	-15,834.26		
CWCB/ NCAR #2023-2377 \$14,998	0.00	4,233.29		
CWCB PO 2023-3158	0.00	-8,731.03		
Total COGS	11,793.38	14,952.33		
Gross Profit	140,443.85	3,105,693.62	3,271,781.00	94.92%
Expense				
1 Op X				
Admin.Travel & Exp.	2,443.21	24,404.01	35,000.00	69.73%
Audit Expense	0.00	6,500.00	10,000.00	65.0%
Accounting & Professional Fees	6,195.00	40,678.08	51,000.00	79.76%
BOD Expenses	4,075.00	10,623.40	15,000.00	70.82%
BOD Mileage	113.90	2,929.91	5,000.00	58.6%
BOD Mtg Fees	1,500.00	11,700.00	13,360.00	87.58%
Bonding and Insurance	0.00	14,567.00	15,000.00	97.11%
Total Building Rep/Maint	472.37	6,637.44	10,000.00	66.37%
CAM	1,497.27	6,704.84	5,400.00	124.16%
Computer Exp	1,381.46	17,042.71	23,300.00	73.15%
Copier Expenses	658.94	3,984.66	5,500.00	72.45%
County Treasurers' Fees	515.24	66,759.63	49,410.00	135.11%
Spencer Bldg Reserve Contrib	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%
Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	3,968.42	14,149.81	16,475.00	85.89%
Legal Publication	1,290.40	4,492.06	10,000.00	44.92%
Manager's Discretionary	3,139.46	10,404.62	25,000.00	41.62%
Meeting Expenses	877.84	4,076.48	5,000.00	81.53%
Office Cleaning	1,507.50	8,077.50	6,500.00	124.27%
Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	2,251.35	12,982.18	12,000.00	108.19%
Payroll Exp	139,228.29	815,670.14	799,151.00	102.07%
Postage	0.00	986.80	1,000.00	98.68%
Telephone	1,675.49	9,162.77	7,110.00	128.87%
Utilities	1,719.96	9,716.58	9,800.00	99.15%
Vehicle Expense	-205.91	2,768.95	7,000.00	39.56%
Bank Service Charges	0.00	-35.00		
Total 1 Op X	174,305.19	1,114,984.57	1,147,006.00	97.21%
2 Non-Op X				

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Monthly Budget Summary 2024

Asp Subordination Report	6,308.50	6,308.50	5,500.00	114.7%
Aspinall Contract Costs	0.00	18,914.22	21,920.00	86.29%
City of Gunnison Cleanup	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
Consulting/Engineering	3,424.88	19,913.18	46,000.00	43.29%
Coal Creek Watershed Coalition	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%
Donation Dust on Snowpack	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	100.0%
Drought Contingency Cont	3,499.54	7,212.36	30,000.00	24.04%
Grant Program	47,062.50	200,707.83	430,190.00	46.66%
Gunnison River Festival	0.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	100.0%
Endanger Fish Recovery Program	0.00	3,750.00	3,000.00	125.0%
Lake Fork Conservancy	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%
LSC Expenses	0.00	13,972.20	13,464.00	103.78%
Public Outreach	4,345.00	46,218.35	61,485.00	75.17%
Regional Water Supply Imp. Exp.	45,179.20	397,273.42	450,500.00	88.19%
Taylor Park Projects Exp	0.00	7,436.00	7,436.00	100.0%
Watershed Mgmt X	134,220.21	433,354.37	379,914.00	114.07%
Wet Meadow X	540.47	98,091.37	330,470.00	29.68%
WQ Monitoring	100,916.55	190,548.15	169,930.00	112.13%
Spencer Ave Res Exp	500.00	500.00		
Total 2 Non-Op X	345,996.85	1,478,699.95	1,986,309.00	74.45%
Capital Outlay Expense				
Computer Asset	0.00	8,680.89	10,000.00	86.81%
Office Equipment	349.99	18,858.40	30,000.00	62.86%
Spencer Unit A Reno	695.65	136,330.07	160,000.00	85.21%
Spencer Unit C Reno	0.00	8,316.84	7,000.00	118.81%
Capital Outlay Expense - Other	0.00	9,616.80	0.00	100.0%
Total Capital Outlay Expense	1,045.64	181,803.00	207,000.00	87.83%
Contingency	0.00	2,429.73	24,000.00	10.12%
Total Expense	521,347.68	2,777,917.25	3,364,315.00	82.57%
Net Ordinary Income	-380,903.83	327,776.37	-92,534.00	-354.22%
Dividend Income	0.00	250.00		
Net Income	-380,903.83	328,026.37	-92,534.00	-354.49%

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Danielle Deschler LLC			
12/09/2024	Danielle Deschler LLC	Spencer Ave Res Exp	500.00
Total Danielle Deschler LLC			500.00
Alan Wartes Media LLC			
11/30/2024	Alan Wartes Media LLC	91739 · Legal Publication	58.08
12/31/2024	Alan Wartes Media LLC	91739 · Legal Publication	492.98
Total Alan Wartes Media LLC			551.06
Andy Spann BOD			
11/30/2024	Andy Spann BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
11/30/2024	Andy Spann BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	4.69
Total Andy Spann BOD			104.69
Anthem			
11/30/2024	Anthem	74166 · Medical Insurance	350.09
Total Anthem			350.09
Applegate Group, Inc.			
11/30/2024	Applegate Group, Inc.	Grant Program	3,060.00
12/31/2024	Applegate Group, Inc.	Grant Program	262.50
12/31/2024	Applegate Group, Inc.	Consulting/Engineering	2,130.88
Total Applegate Group, Inc.			5,453.38
Atmos Energy			
11/30/2024	Atmos Energy	Utilities - Unit A	168.13
11/30/2024	Atmos Energy	Utilities - Unit A	94.01
12/03/2024	Atmos Energy	Utilities - Unit A	96.92
12/31/2024	Atmos Energy	Utilities - Unit A	139.12

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
12/31/2024	Atmos Energy	Utilities - Unit A	239.76
	Total Atmos Energy		737.94
	Beverly Richards		
11/30/2024	Beverly Richards	74166 · Medical Insurance	174.70
	Total Beverly Richards		174.70
	Brooke Zanatell BOD		
12/31/2024	Brooke Zanatell BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
	Total Brooke Zanatell BOD		100.00
	Business Solutions Leasing		
11/30/2024	Business Solutions Leasing	Copier Expenses	242.89
12/17/2024	Business Solutions Leasing	Copier Expenses	242.89
	Total Business Solutions Leasing		485.78
	Cash		
12/03/2024	Cash	USBR Drought Contingency	500.00
	Total Cash		500.00
	CB Nordic Council		
12/31/2024	CB Nordic Council	80514 · Mini-Grants	365.00
	Total CB Nordic Council		365.00
	CEBT		
11/30/2024	CEBT	74166 · Medical Insurance	4,665.27
	Total CEBT		4,665.27
	Chase - United Credit Card		

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Vehicle Expenses - Toyota Tacom	195.63
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Vehicle Expenses - Toyota Highl	146.28
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Computer Software	231.99
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	990.29
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	74180 · Staff Development	249.00
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	91747 · Meeting Expenses	877.84
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	264.99
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Manager's Discretionary	2,721.30
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Office Equipment	349.99
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	USBR Drought Contingency	26.14
11/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Wet Meadow X	16.79
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Vehicle Expenses - Toyota Highl	35.49
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	91730 · Admin.Travel & Exp.	2,443.21
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	91745 · BOD Expenses	3,875.00
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Computer Software	495.55
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	185.04
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	1,156.00
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Manager's Discretionary	458.16
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Watershed Mgmt X	28.94
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	74180 · Staff Development	121.29
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	Drought Contingency Cont	173.71
12/27/2024	Chase - United Credit Card	GRF Receivable	125.00
Total Chase - United Credit Card			15,167.63
Checkr, Inc.			
11/30/2024	Checkr, Inc.	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	121.29
Total Checkr, Inc.			121.29
Chris and Kirsten Dickey			
12/20/2024	Chris and Kirsten Dickey	Local School Involvement	3,000.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Total Chris and Kirsten Dickey			3,000.00
City of Gunnison			
11/20/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	170.69
11/30/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	41.79
11/30/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	105.23
11/30/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	193.88
11/30/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	25.73
12/31/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	41.79
12/31/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	41.79
12/31/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	105.21
12/31/2024	City of Gunnison	Utilities - Unit A	255.91
Total City of Gunnison			982.02
Cold Harbour Institute			
11/30/2024	Cold Harbour Institute	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	1,500.00
Total Cold Harbour Institute			1,500.00
Colin Uerling			
11/30/2024	Colin Uerling	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	175.00
Total Colin Uerling			175.00
Colorado Politics			
11/30/2024	Colorado Politics	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	199.00
Total Colorado Politics			199.00
Crested Butte News			
11/30/2024	Crested Butte News	91739 · Legal Publication	17.48
11/30/2024	Crested Butte News	91739 · Legal Publication	16.56
12/31/2024	Crested Butte News	91739 · Legal Publication	413.10

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Total Crested Butte News			447.14
Delta County School District			
11/30/2024	Delta County School District	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	1,015.63
Total Delta County School District			1,015.63
Don Sabrowski BOD			
11/30/2024	Don Sabrowski BOD	91745 · BOD Expenses	100.00
11/30/2024	Don Sabrowski BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	21.44
12/31/2024	Don Sabrowski BOD	91745 · BOD Expenses	100.00
Total Don Sabrowski BOD			221.44
Field Land and Cattle, LLC			
12/16/2024	Field Land and Cattle, LLC	Grant Program	17,100.00
12/16/2024	Field Land and Cattle, LLC	CFP Multi Project	27,450.00
Total Field Land and Cattle, LLC			44,550.00
Fullmer's Ace Hardware			
11/30/2024	Fullmer's Ace Hardware	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	27.58
Total Fullmer's Ace Hardware			27.58
GL Computer Service, Inc.			
11/30/2024	GL Computer Service, Inc.	Computer Repair/IT Support	400.00
Total GL Computer Service, Inc.			400.00
Go Two HandyMen LLC			
11/18/2024	Go Two HandyMen LLC	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	100.00
Total Go Two HandyMen LLC			100.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Gobins's, Inc.			
11/30/2024	Gobins's, Inc.	Copier Expenses	86.58
11/30/2024	Gobins's, Inc.	Copier Expenses	86.58
Total Gobins's, Inc.			173.16
Golden Eagle Trash Service			
11/30/2024	Golden Eagle Trash Service	84550 · CAM	81.15
12/31/2024	Golden Eagle Trash Service	84550 · CAM	78.12
Total Golden Eagle Trash Service			159.27
Great Escape Landscape			
11/30/2024	Great Escape Landscape	84550 · CAM	443.00
12/31/2024	Great Escape Landscape	84550 · CAM	895.00
Total Great Escape Landscape			1,338.00
Gunnison Bank and Trust			
11/12/2024	Gunnison Bank and Trust	80517 · Accounting & Professional Fees	5.00
12/05/2024	Gunnison Bank and Trust	80517 · Accounting & Professional Fees	5.00
12/18/2024	Gunnison Bank and Trust	80517 · Accounting & Professional Fees	5.00
Total Gunnison Bank and Trust			15.00
Gunnison Radio, Inc.			
11/30/2024	Gunnison Radio, Inc.	Advertising Radio & Newspapers	300.00
Total Gunnison Radio, Inc.			300.00
Halo Ranch			
12/31/2024	Halo Ranch	Grant Program	4,500.00
Total Halo Ranch			4,500.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Hartman Brothers, Inc.			
11/30/2024	Hartman Brothers, Inc.	Cloud Seeding	28.05
12/31/2024	Hartman Brothers, Inc.	Cloud Seeding	28.99
Total Hartman Brothers, Inc.			57.04
Hinsdale County School District RE-1			
11/30/2024	Hinsdale County School District RE-1	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	1,116.97
Total Hinsdale County School District RE-1			1,116.97
Humana			
11/01/2024	Humana	74166 · Medical Insurance	102.00
12/01/2024	Humana	74166 · Medical Insurance	102.00
Total Humana			204.00
Joellen Fonken BOD			
11/30/2024	Joellen Fonken BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
11/30/2024	Joellen Fonken BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	6.70
12/31/2024	Joellen Fonken BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Joellen Fonken BOD			206.70
John McClow			
11/30/2024	John McClow	74166 · Medical Insurance	174.70
Total John McClow			174.70
John Perusek BOD			
11/30/2024	John Perusek BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
12/31/2024	John Perusek BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total John Perusek BOD			200.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Julie Nania BOD			
11/30/2024	Julie Nania BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
11/30/2024	Julie Nania BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	40.20
12/31/2024	Julie Nania BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Julie Nania BOD			240.20
KEJJ Radio			
11/30/2024	KEJJ Radio	Public Ed./Advertising	125.00
12/31/2024	KEJJ Radio	Advertising Radio & Newspapers	125.00
Total KEJJ Radio			250.00
Kowal Construction			
11/30/2024	Kowal Construction	Spencer Unit A Reno	695.65
12/17/2024	Kowal Construction	Building Rep/Maint	472.37
Total Kowal Construction			1,168.02
KVLE FM			
11/30/2024	KVLE FM	Public Ed./Advertising	125.00
12/31/2024	KVLE FM	Advertising Radio & Newspapers	125.00
Total KVLE FM			250.00
Lanny Denham			
11/30/2024	Lanny Denham	Grant Program	12,000.00
Total Lanny Denham			12,000.00
LexisNexis			
11/30/2024	LexisNexis	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	686.38
12/09/2024	LexisNexis	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	686.38
12/31/2024	LexisNexis	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	686.38

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Total LexisNexis			2,059.14
Lightspeed Voice			
11/30/2024	Lightspeed Voice	91275 · Telephone	310.10
11/30/2024	Lightspeed Voice	91275 · Telephone	1.66
12/31/2024	Lightspeed Voice	91275 · Telephone	1.66
Total Lightspeed Voice			313.42
Melinda McCawmedia			
11/30/2024	Melinda McCawmedia	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	79.40
Total Melinda McCawmedia			79.40
Mike Rogers BOD			
11/30/2024	Mike Rogers BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
12/31/2024	Mike Rogers BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Mike Rogers BOD			200.00
New Morning Improvement, LLC			
11/30/2024	New Morning Improvement, LLC	Office Cleaning	787.50
11/30/2024	New Morning Improvement, LLC	Office Cleaning	90.00
12/31/2024	New Morning Improvement, LLC	Office Cleaning	630.00
Total New Morning Improvement, LLC			1,507.50
North American Weather Consultants, Inc.			
12/31/2024	North American Weather Consultants, Inc.	Cloud Seeding	20,444.06
12/31/2024	North American Weather Consultants, Inc.	Cloud Seeding	24,560.56
Total North American Weather Consultants, Inc.			45,004.62
North Fork High School			

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
11/30/2024	North Fork High School	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	926.39
Total North Fork High School			926.39
QuickBooks			
11/04/2024	QuickBooks	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	84.00
12/04/2024	QuickBooks	Dues, Memberships&Subscriptions	84.00
Total QuickBooks			168.00
Rebie Hazard-BOD			
11/30/2024	Rebie Hazard-BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
11/30/2024	Rebie Hazard-BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	39.53
12/31/2024	Rebie Hazard-BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Rebie Hazard-BOD			239.53
RigNet Inc			
11/30/2024	RigNet Inc	Cloud Seeding	38.62
11/30/2024	RigNet Inc	Cloud Seeding	40.47
12/31/2024	RigNet Inc	Cloud Seeding	38.45
Total RigNet Inc			117.54
Rosemary Carroll - BOD			
12/31/2024	Rosemary Carroll - BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Rosemary Carroll - BOD			100.00
Silver World Publishing			
11/30/2024	Silver World Publishing	91739 · Legal Publication	184.40
11/30/2024	Silver World Publishing	Public Outreach - Misc Expenses	100.00
12/31/2024	Silver World Publishing	91739 · Legal Publication	74.80
12/31/2024	Silver World Publishing	Public Ed./Advertising	80.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Total Silver World Publishing			439.20
Stacy McPhail BOD			
11/30/2024	Stacy McPhail BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
11/30/2024	Stacy McPhail BOD	91751 · BOD Mileage	1.34
12/31/2024	Stacy McPhail BOD	BOD Mtg Fees	100.00
Total Stacy McPhail BOD			201.34
Strategic by Nature			
11/30/2024	Strategic by Nature	Drought Contingency Cont	3,325.83
11/30/2024	Strategic by Nature	USBR Drought Contingency	3,195.42
12/31/2024	Strategic by Nature	USBR Drought Contingency	6,521.25
Total Strategic by Nature			13,042.50
Sue Uerling			
11/13/2024	Sue Uerling	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	55.61
Total Sue Uerling			55.61
Sunshine Creatives			
11/30/2024	Sunshine Creatives	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	1,127.00
Total Sunshine Creatives			1,127.00
The Paper Clip			
11/30/2024	The Paper Clip	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	518.18
12/31/2024	The Paper Clip	91735 · Office Supplies & Misc Expenses	199.65
Total The Paper Clip			717.83
The Saguache Crescent			
11/30/2024	The Saguache Crescent	91739 · Legal Publication	33.00

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
Total The Saguache Crescent			33.00
Thomas N Stoeber, CPA			
11/30/2024	Thomas N Stoeber, CPA	80517 · Accounting & Professional Fees	3,180.00
12/31/2024	Thomas N Stoeber, CPA	80517 · Accounting & Professional Fees	3,000.00
Total Thomas N Stoeber, CPA			6,180.00
Trout Unlimited - Vendor			
11/30/2024	Trout Unlimited - Vendor	Watershed Mgmt X	4,950.00
11/30/2024	Trout Unlimited - Vendor	73108 · CWCB WMP 2023-3317	8,491.29
Total Trout Unlimited - Vendor			13,441.29
U.S. Geological Survey			
12/31/2024	U.S. Geological Survey	WQ Monitoring	100,916.55
12/31/2024	U.S. Geological Survey	HAB Phase 2 Expense	8,179.32
12/31/2024	U.S. Geological Survey	HAB Phase 2 Expense	79,190.70
Total U.S. Geological Survey			188,286.57
Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership			
11/30/2024	Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership	73102 · CWCB PEPO 2024-2668	1,024.66
Total Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership			1,024.66
UnitedHealthcare			
11/05/2024	UnitedHealthcare	74166 · Medical Insurance	123.90
12/09/2024	UnitedHealthcare	74166 · Medical Insurance	123.90
Total UnitedHealthcare			247.80
Verizon Wireless			
11/30/2024	Verizon Wireless	91275 · Telephone	422.96
12/26/2024	Verizon Wireless	91275 · Telephone	420.56

9:40 AM
01/15/25
Accrual Basis

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Expenses For Approval (Paid & Payable)
November through December 2024

Date	Name	Account	Amount
12/31/2024	Verizon Wireless	91275 · Telephone	518.55
Total Verizon Wireless			1,362.07
Visionary Broadband			
11/01/2024	Visionary Broadband	Internet	126.96
11/30/2024	Visionary Broadband	Internet	126.96
Total Visionary Broadband			253.92
Western Colorado University			
11/30/2024	Western Colorado University	Grant Program	10,140.00
Total Western Colorado University			10,140.00
Wilson Water Group			
11/30/2024	Wilson Water Group	Consulting/Engineering	847.50
11/30/2024	Wilson Water Group	Watershed Mgmt X	1,970.00
11/30/2024	Wilson Water Group	Asp Subordination Report	446.00
11/30/2024	Wilson Water Group	Consulting/Engineering	446.50
12/31/2024	Wilson Water Group	73108 · CWCB WMP 2023-3317	5,017.50
12/31/2024	Wilson Water Group	USBR Drought Contingency	2,208.44
12/31/2024	Wilson Water Group	Asp Subordination Report	5,862.50
Total Wilson Water Group			16,798.44
Upper Gunn Riv Water Conservancy District			
11/12/2024	Upper Gunn Riv Water Conservancy District	10101 · GB&T General Fund Checking	145,000.00
11/20/2024	Upper Gunn Riv Water Conservancy District	10101 · GB&T General Fund Checking	215,434.63
11/25/2024	Upper Gunn Riv Water Conservancy District	10112 · CO Trust 8001	200,000.00
Total Upper Gunn Riv Water Conservancy District			560,434.63
TOTAL			968,749.10

UGRWCD	Instrument	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Date
Account Name: LPL Bonds	Type	11/30/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	Callable
LPL 28 Freddie Mac CUSIP 3134GXQP2	BOND	198,804.20	200,000.00	3.050%	4/28/2025	7/28/2024
LPL Bond 20 (FHLB) CUSIP 3130AJLA5	BOND	540,531.75	550,000.00	0.760%	5/19/2025	
LPL Bond 21 (Fed Farm) CUSIP 3133EL3P7	BOND	335,799.54	345,000.00	0.540%	8/12/2025	12/6/2024
LPL Bond 29 (Fedl Farm Credit Bank) CUSIP 3133ERJP7	BOND	280,890.96	280,000.00	5.110%	7/1/2026	7/1/2025
LPL Bond 23 (FEDL) CUSIP 3130ALLD4	BOND	239,143.00	250,000.00	0.910%	3/17/2026	9/17/2024
LPL Bond 24 CUSIP Fedl Home Loan Bank 3130AMDY5	BOND	476,393.00	500,000.00	1.050%	5/20/2026	8/20/2024
LPL 26 (Fed. Home Loan Banks) CUSIP 3130APBE4	BOND	150,659.04	160,000.00	1.060%	9/30/2026	9/30/2024
LPL Note (Fed. Home Loan) 3134H1LP6	BOND	350,063.35	350,000.00	5.250%	12/11/2028	12/11/2024
LPL BOND SUBTOTAL:		\$ 2,572,284.84	\$ 2,635,000.00	2.216%		
Account Name: LPL Certificates of Deposit						
LPL 22 Merrick Bank CD thru LPL CUSIP 59013KLR5	CD	248,131.73	249,000.00	0.350%	12/30/2024	
LPL 30 Synchrony Bank CD CUSIP 87165EXB8	CD	243,490.80	245,000.00	3.420%	7/29/2025	
LPL CD SUBTOTAL:		\$ 491,622.53	\$ 494,000.00	1.885%		
Account Name: LPL Money Markets Savings						
LPL Money Market Savings Account	M.M. SAVINGS	104.75	-	1.000%	N/A	
LPL MM SUBTOTAL:		\$ 104.75				

Account Name	INSTRUMENT	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Notes
	TYPE	11/30/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	
Community Banks of Colo. CD 1487	CD	52,781.63		1.05%	12/26/2024	*Updated on an Annual Basis
Community Banks of Colo. Lake City CD 7668	CD	105,015.89		4.01%	11/20/2026	*Updated on an Annual Basis
10520 Gunnison Bank & Trust CD 6637	CD	218,791.75		2.00%	2/26/2025	*Updated on an Annual Basis
10540 Gunnison Bank & Trust MM - Spencer Building Acct. 3589	CHKG	85,386.85		0.50%		
Gunnison Bank & Trust 8756	CHKG	46,430.82				
				Average Mo. Yield		
COLOTRUST PLUS+ 8001	COLO.	1,625,757.14		4.87%	N/A	
COLOTRUST UGRWCD EHOP 8003	COLO.	105,731.56		4.87%	N/A	
COLOTRUST PRIME 4001	COLO.	6,297.20		4.87%	N/A	
10200 Petty Cash	PETTY	239.91		N/A	N/A	
MISCELLANEOUS BANK & COLOTRUST SUBTOTAL:		\$ 2,246,432.75				
TOTAL UGRWCD		\$ 5,310,444.87				

UGRWAE	INSTRUMENT	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Date
Account Name	TYPE	11/30/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	Callable
LPL Bond CUSIP 3134H1RM7 Fedl Home Loan Mtg Corp	Bond	300,131.40	300,000.00	5.15%	2/7/2029	8/7/2024
Gunnison Bank & Trust 8764	CHKG	120,156.29				
COLOTRUST PLUS+ 8002	COLO.	297,757.58		4.87%	N/A	
MISCELLANEOUS BANK & COLOTRUST SUBTOTAL:		\$ 718,045.27				
Account Name: LPL Money Markets Savings						
LPL Money Market Savings Account	M.M. SAVINGS	7,734.48	-	0.250%	N/A	
LPL MM SUBTOTAL:		\$ 7,734.48				
TOTAL UGRWAE		\$ 725,779.75				

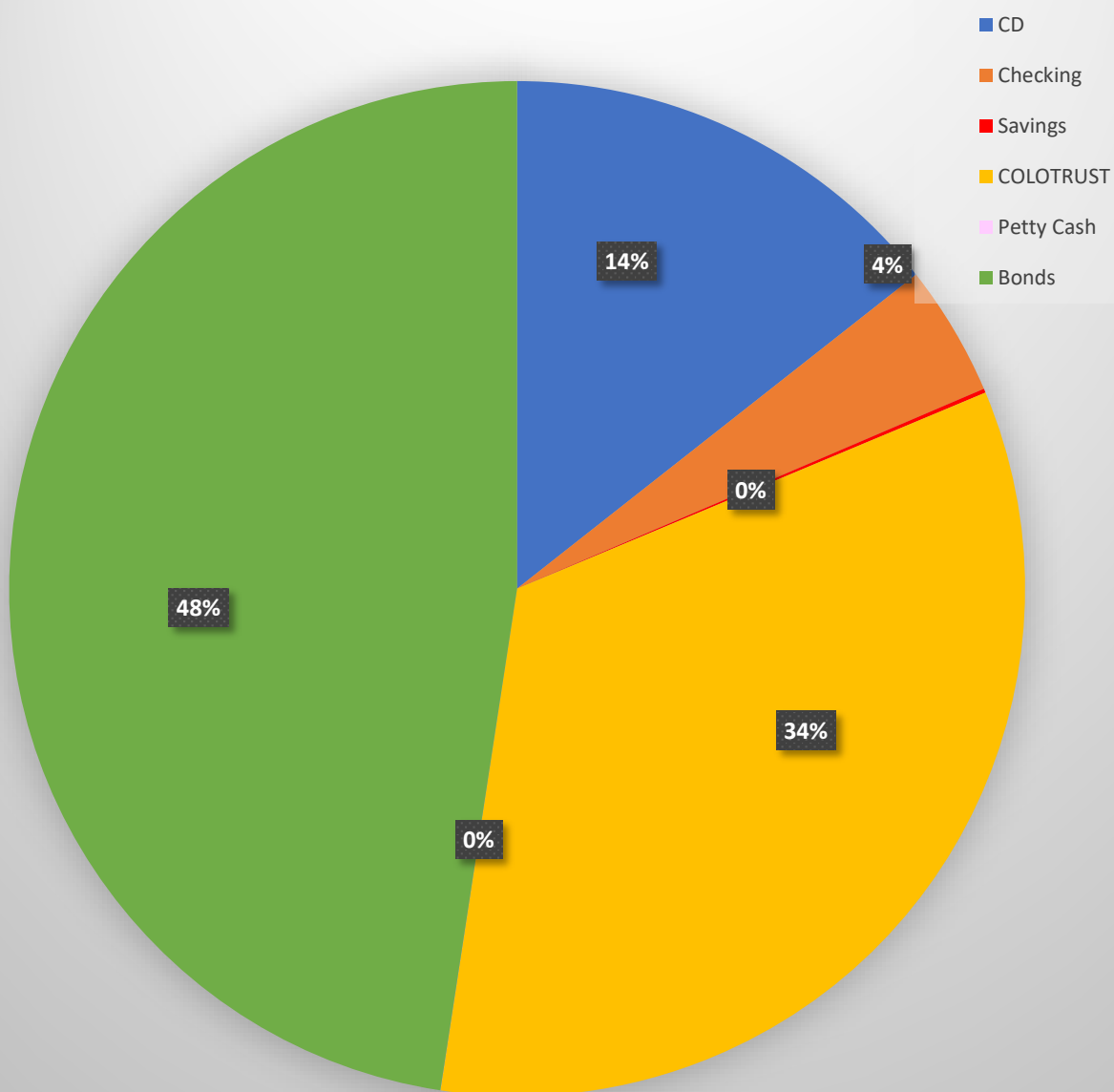
TOTAL UGRWCD + UGRWAE	\$ 6,036,224.62
------------------------------	------------------------

Total UGRWCD and UGRWAE by Bank	Total UGRWCD & UGRWAE by Investment Type
LPL Financial \$ 3,371,878.00 56%	CD 14% 868,211.80
Community Banks of Colo. 157,797.52 3%	Checking 4% 251,973.96
Gunnison Bank & Trust 470,765.71 8%	Savings 0% 7,839.23
COLOTRUST 2,035,543.48 34%	COLOTRUST 34% 2,035,543.48
Petty Cash 239.91 0%	Petty Cash 0% 239.91
TOTAL ALL SOURCES \$ 6,036,224.62 100%	Bonds 48% \$ 2,872,416.24
	Total 100% \$ 6,036,224.62

UGRWCD & UGRWAE INVESTMENTS BY TYPE

CD	14%	\$	868,211.80
Checking	4%	\$	251,973.96
Savings	0%	\$	7,839.23
COLOTRUST	34%	\$	2,035,543.48
Petty Cash	0%	\$	239.91
Bonds	48%	\$	2,872,416.24
Total	100%	\$	6,036,224.62

UGRWCD + UGRWAE INVESTMENTS BY TYPE



UGRWCD	Instrument	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Date
Account Name: LPL Bonds	Type	12/31/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	Callable
LPL Bond 28 Freddie Mac CUSIP 3134GXQP2	BOND	199,081.40	200,000.00	3.040%	4/28/2025	7/28/2024
LPL Bond 20 (FHLB) CUSIP 3130AJLA5	BOND	542,457.30	550,000.00	0.760%	5/19/2025	
LPL Bond 21 (Fed Farm) CUSIP 3133EL3P7	BOND	337,069.48	345,000.00	0.540%	8/12/2025	12/6/2024
LPL Bond 29 (Fedl Farm Credit Bank) CUSIP 3133ERJP7	BOND	280,971.88	280,000.00	5.110%	7/1/2026	7/1/2025
LPL Bond 23 (FEDL) CUSIP 3130ALLD4	BOND	239,992.00	250,000.00	0.910%	3/17/2026	9/17/2024
LPL Bond 24 (FHLB) CUSIP 3130AMDY5	BOND	477,911.50	500,000.00	1.050%	5/20/2026	8/20/2024
LPL Bond 26 (FHLB) CUSIP 3130APBE4	BOND	151,053.60	160,000.00	1.060%	9/30/2026	9/30/2024
LPL Bond 30 (FHLB) CUSIP 3130B4BX8	BOND	353,156.48	355,000.00	4.900%	12/27/2028	6/27/2025
LPL Bond 31(FHLMC) CUSIP 3134HAV34	BOND	249,588.00	250,000.00	5.010%	12/24/2029	6/24/2025
LPL BOND SUBTOTAL:		\$ 2,831,281.64	\$ 2,890,000.00	2.487%		
Account Name: LPL Certificates of Deposit						
LPL 30 Synchrony Bank CD CUSIP 87165EXB8	CD	243,830.12	245,000.00	3.420%	7/29/2025	
LPL CD SUBTOTAL:		\$ 243,830.12	\$ 245,000.00	3.420%		
Account Name: LPL Money Markets Savings						
LPL Money Market Savings Account	M.M. SAVINGS	3,521.11	-	1.000%	N/A	
LPL MM SUBTOTAL:		\$ 3,521.11				

Account Name	INSTRUMENT	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Notes
	TYPE	12/31/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	
Community Banks of Colo. CD 1487	CD	53,476.99		1.05%	12/26/2024	*Updated on an Annual Basis
Community Banks of Colo. Lake City CD 7668	CD	109,228.30		4.01%	11/20/2026	*Updated on an Annual Basis
10520 Gunnison Bank & Trust CD 6637	CD	219,894.70		2.00%	2/26/2025	*Updated on an Annual Basis
10540 Gunnison Bank & Trust MM - Spencer Building Acct. 3589	CHKG	88,533.59		0.50%		
Gunnison Bank & Trust 8756	CHKG	80,930.75				
				Average Mo. Yield		
COLOTRUST PLUS+ 8001	COLO.	1,434,497.57		4.71%	N/A	
COLOTRUST UGRWCD EHOP 8003	COLO.	106,153.80		4.71%	N/A	
COLOTRUST PRIME 4001	COLO.	6,320.51		4.71%	N/A	
10200 Petty Cash	PETTY	239.91		N/A	N/A	
MISCELLANEOUS BANK & COLOTRUST SUBTOTAL:		\$ 2,099,276.12				
TOTAL UGRWCD		\$ 5,177,908.99				

UGRWAE	INSTRUMENT	Balance	Cost	Interest	Maturity	Date
Account Name	TYPE	12/31/2024	Basis	Rate	Date	Callable
LPL Bond CUSIP 3134H1RM7 Fedl Home Loan Mtg Corp	Bond	300,125.40	300,000.00	5.15%	2/7/2029	8/7/2024
Gunnison Bank & Trust 8764	CHKG	141,492.17				
COLOTRUST PLUS+ 8002	COLO.	298,946.62		4.87%	N/A	
MISCELLANEOUS BANK & COLOTRUST SUBTOTAL:		\$ 740,564.19				
Account Name: LPL Money Markets Savings						
LPL Money Market Savings Account	M.M. SAVINGS	7,735.84	-	0.250%	N/A	
LPL MM SUBTOTAL:		\$ 7,735.84				
TOTAL UGRWAE		\$ 748,300.03				

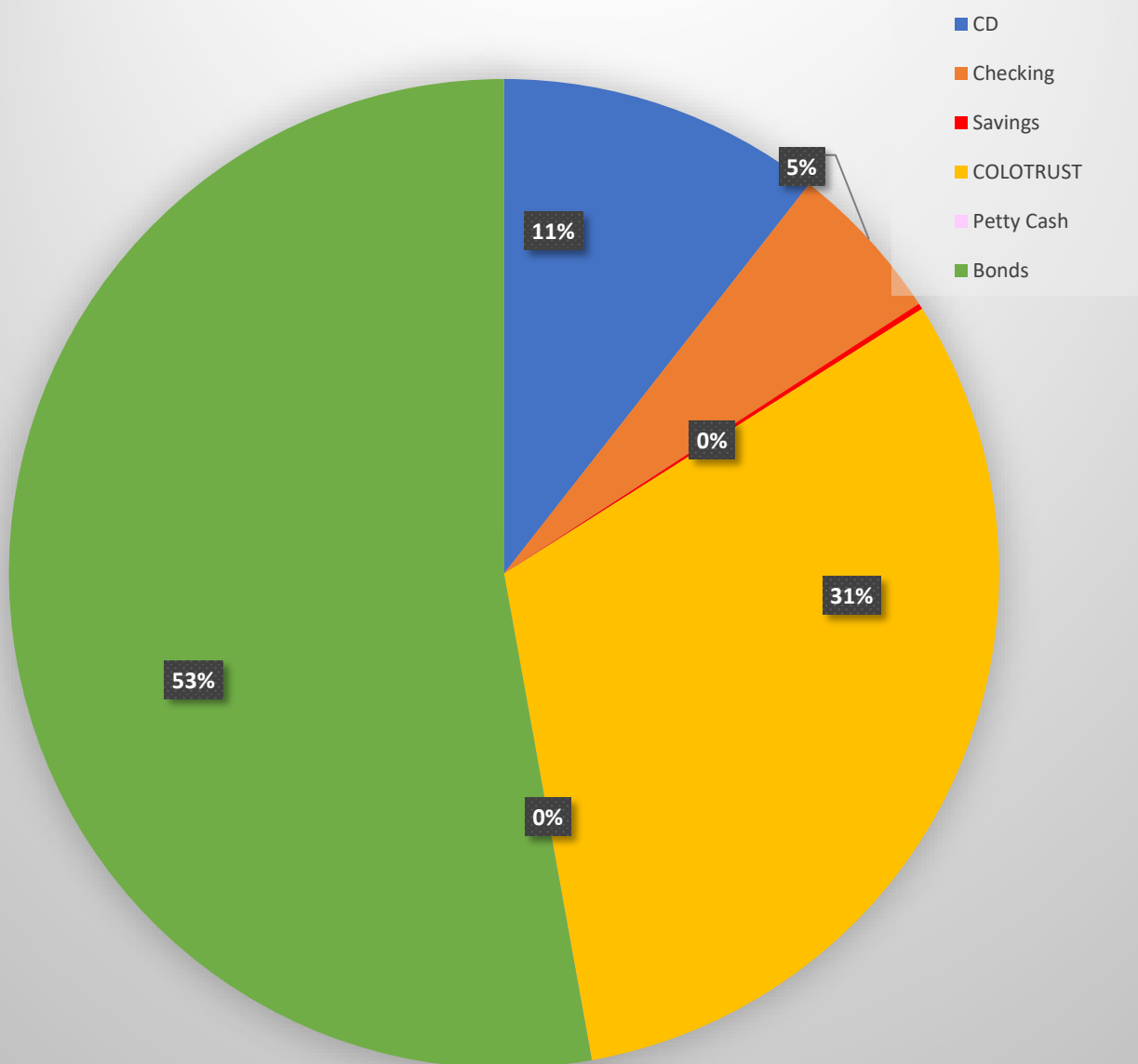
TOTAL UGRWCD + UGRWAE	\$ 5,926,209.02
------------------------------	------------------------

Total UGRWCD and UGRWAE by Bank	Total UGRWCD & UGRWAE by Investment Type
LPL Financial \$ 3,386,494.11 57%	CD 11% 626,430.11
Community Banks of Colo. 162,705.29 3%	Checking 5% 310,956.51
Gunnison Bank & Trust 530,851.21 9%	Savings 0% 11,256.95
COLOTRUST 1,845,918.50 31%	COLOTRUST 31% 1,845,918.50
Petty Cash 239.91 0%	Petty Cash 0% 239.91
TOTAL ALL SOURCES \$ 5,926,209.02 100%	Bonds 53% \$ 3,131,407.04
	Total 100% \$ 5,926,209.02

UGRWCD & UGRWAE INVESTMENTS BY TYPE

CD	11%	\$	626,430.11
Checking	5%	\$	310,956.51
Savings	0%	\$	11,256.95
COLOTRUST	31%	\$	1,845,918.50
Petty Cash	0%	\$	239.91
Bonds	53%	\$	3,131,407.04
Total	100%	\$	5,926,209.02

UGRWCD + UGRWAE INVESTMENTS BY TYPE



AGENDA ITEM 5

Presentation by Homestake Mining

AGENDA ITEM 6

Basin Water Supply Update

MEMORANDUM

TO: UGRWCD Board Members

FROM: Beverly Richards, Office Manager/Senior Program Manager

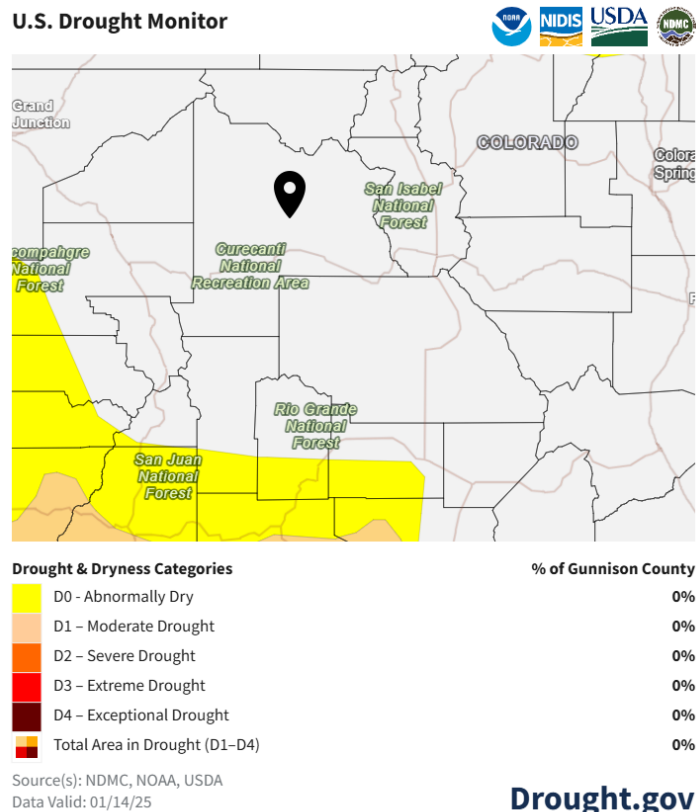
DATE: January 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Basin Water Supply Information

The information supplied as part of this memorandum is a monthly feature and includes information about drought, precipitation, streamflows, and reservoir storage.

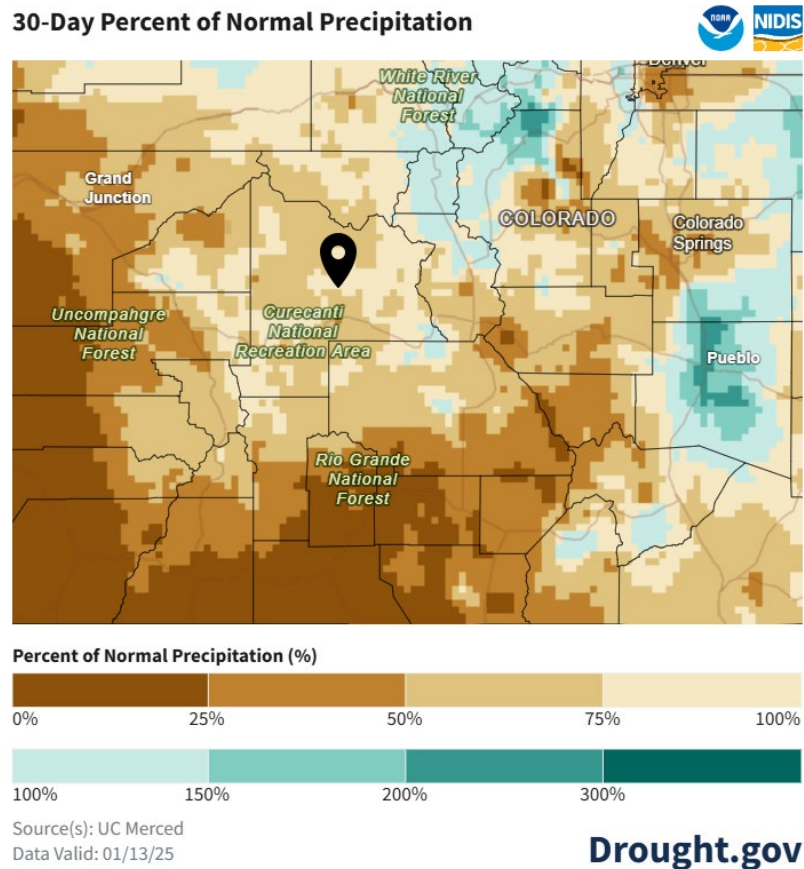
Current Conditions – Drought

According to the *Drought Monitor* dated January 14, 2025, 71% of the entire state is now experiencing no drought conditions. This is an improvement from the October report where only 30% of the state was experiencing those same conditions. The entire Gunnison County has now moved into no drought conditions as well as 100% of Saguache County. The southern portion of Hinsdale County has moved into abnormally dry (D0) conditions similar to a good portion of the southwestern part of the state as shown in the figure below. This is possibly due to dry conditions and low precipitation in those areas. The drought monitor uses precipitation, temperature, and soil moisture to make their determinations for drought conditions.



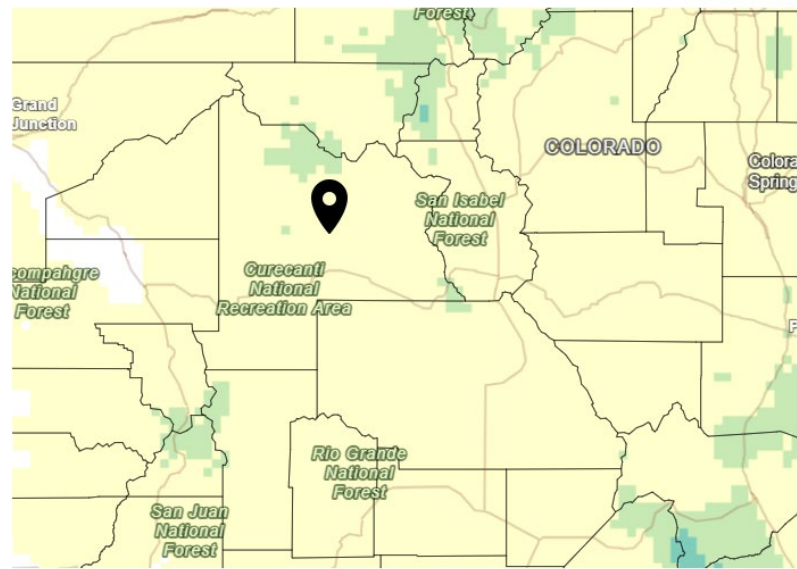
Precipitation

Precipitation in the basin over the past 30 days (December 14-January 13) has been variable with precipitation amounts ranging from 150% in small areas in the eastern and southeastern portions of the District to 75% for the remainder of the District. As shown in the figure below, much of the southwestern part of the state has had little to no precipitation over the past 30 days and could be a contributing fact to the deterioration of drought conditions. (*Drought.gov, January 13, 2025*)



The figure below breaks down precipitation amounts for the past 7 days (January 6-January 13) and highlights very low precipitation amounts, 0.01” to 0.5” throughout all three counties in the basin. (*Drought.gov, January 13, 2025*).

7-Day Total Precipitation (Inches)



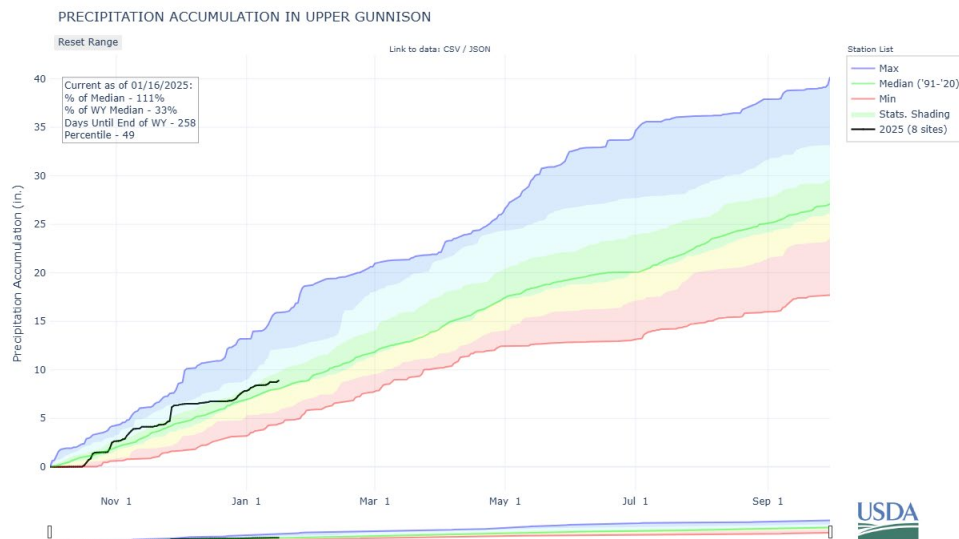
Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): UC Merced
Data Valid: 01/13/25

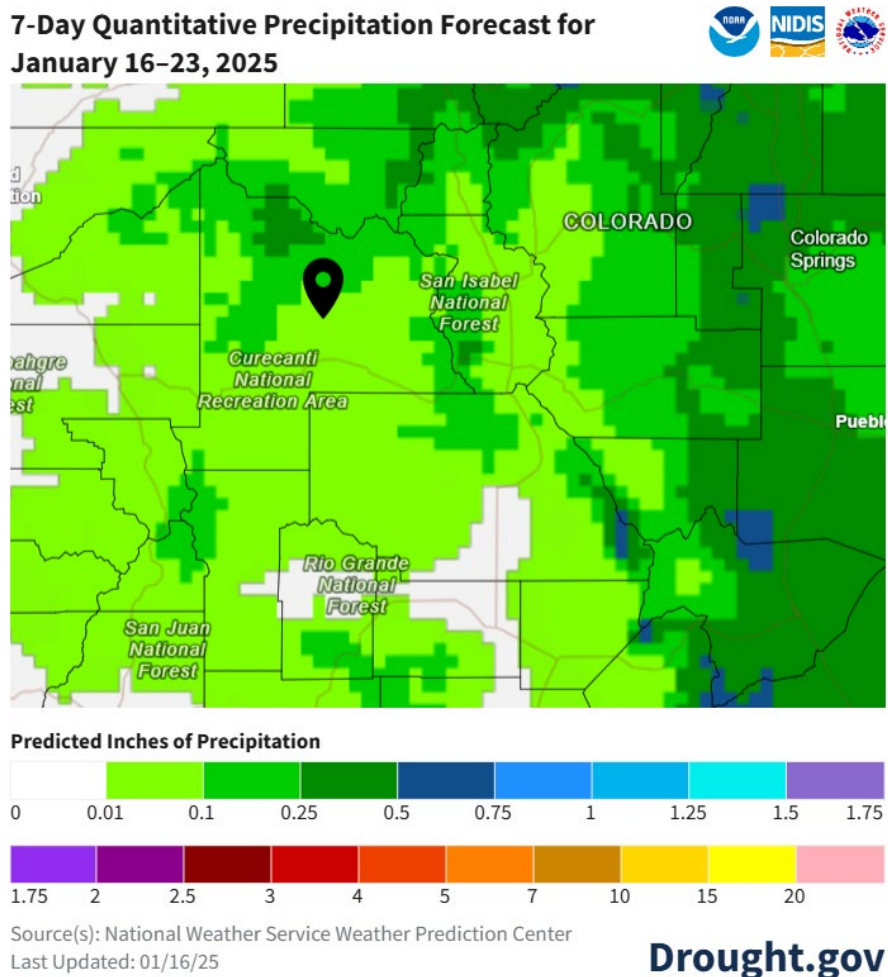
Drought.gov

The precipitation trend graph for the Upper Gunnison Basin for the entire water year to date (NRCS, January 16, 2025) shows that, even though precipitation has decreased, the basin is currently at 111% of the median for the time of year. The total precipitation amount for the water year to date for the Upper Gunnison Basin is 8.9" of accumulation. This information is provided from a compilation of data from eight SNOTEL sites located in the basin where precipitation is measured.



However, the 7-day quantitative forecast (January 16-23) for the Upper Gunnison Basin

(*Drought.gov*, October 17, 2024) indicates that precipitation amounts are forecasted to range on the low side from 0.01” to 0.5” inches in the northern area of the basin.



Soil Moisture

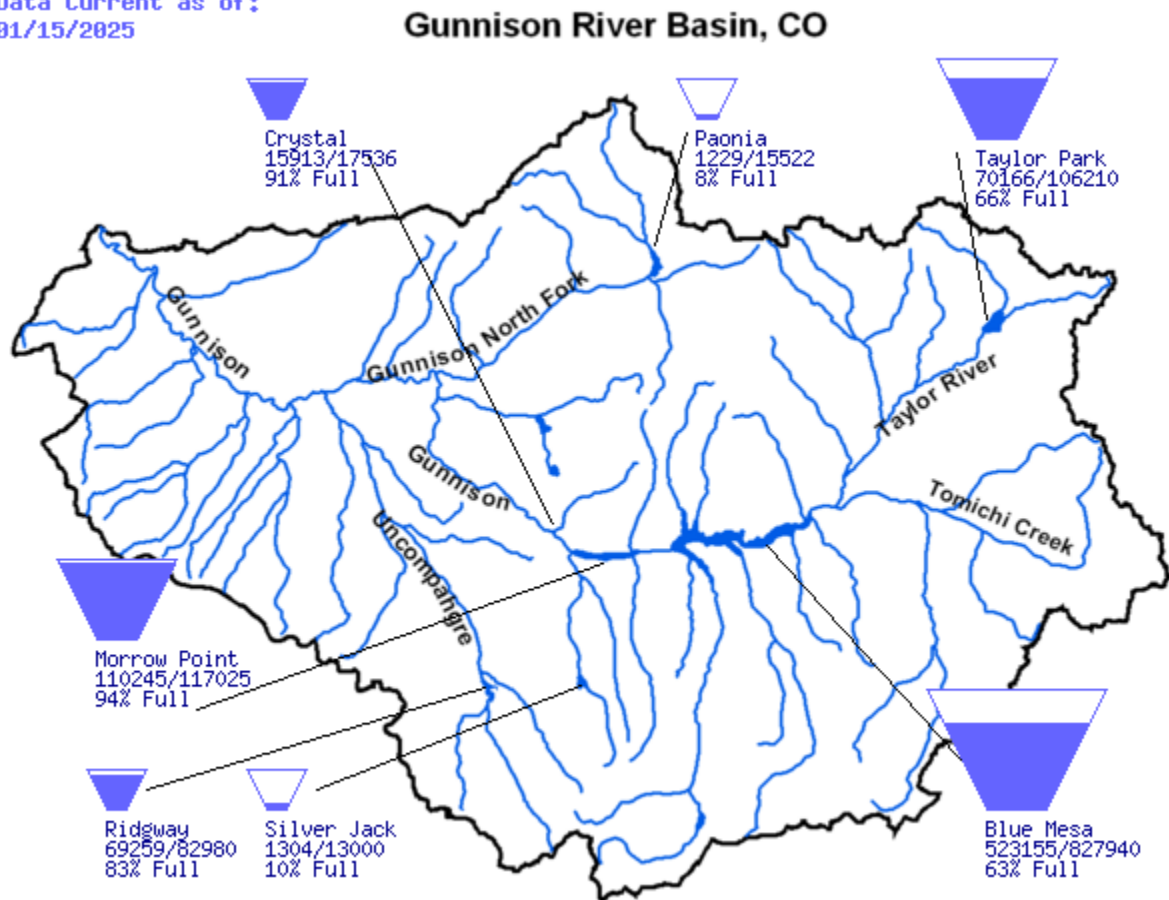
The NRCS website did not include a soil moisture plot for this report. However, the Butte SNOTEL site shows that soil moisture in the top 8” of soil is at 31% saturation. This is a slight increase from the October report where the saturation amount was 26% but the average for this time of year is 59% according to the period of record (*NRCS, January 16, 2025*). Lower soil saturation conditions can impact streamflow.

Reservoir Storage and Operations

Reservoir storage in the entire Gunnison Basin is at 59%. Reservoirs in the Upper Gunnison Basin include Taylor Park and Blue Mesa which are at 66% and 63% full, respectively. Total reservoir storage amount in the Upper Gunnison basin is 65% of full. These amounts are reflected in the tea-cup diagram below dated January 15, 2025 (*USBR, River Basin Tea-cup*

Diagrams).

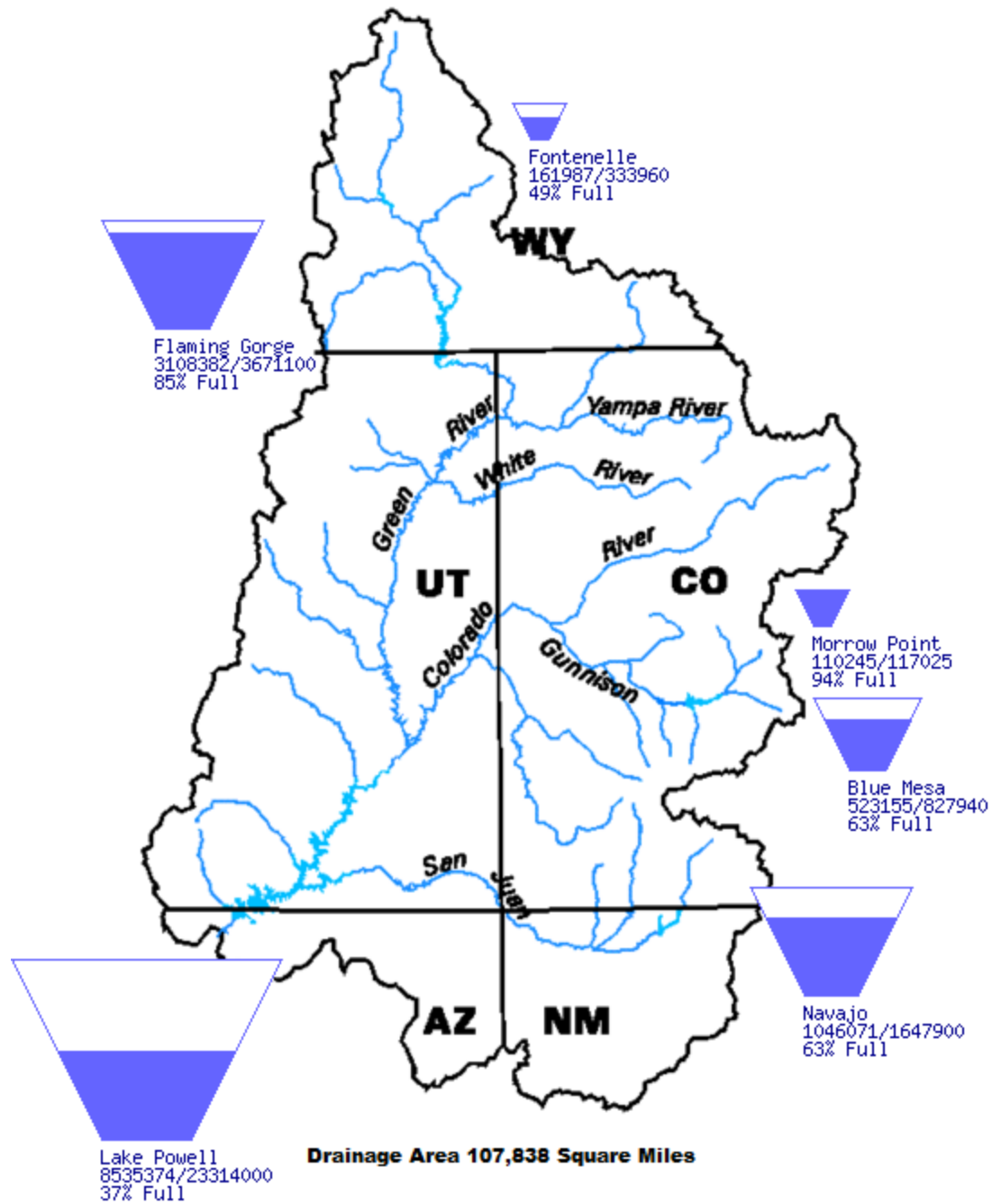
Data Current as of:
01/15/2025



Reservoir storage in the Upper Colorado River Basin is now at 65% full, which is a decrease of 4% from the October report. This is reflected in the tea-cup diagram below dated January 15, 2024.

Data Current as of:
01/15/2025

Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Aspinall Unit Operations

The following information is from the Aspinall Unit Operations webpage (*US Bureau of*

Reclamation dated January 13, 2025).

The December unregulated inflow volume to Blue Mesa was 27,000 acre-feet which is 108% of normal. Unregulated inflow volumes forecasted for Blue Mesa for the next three months (January, February, March) are projected to be: 23,000 acre-feet or 97% of average, 22,000 acre-feet which is 98% of average, and 38,000 acre-feet or 101% of average, respectively.

The forecasted WY2025 unregulated inflow volume to Blue Mesa is projected to be a total of 869,000 acre-feet which is 96% of average. The water supply period (April-July) for 2025 is currently forecasted to have an unregulated inflow volume of 600,000 acre-feet (92% of average).

As of January 12, 2025, releases from Crystal Dam are approximately 550 cfs. The flows in the Gunnison River in the Black Canyon are being maintained at about 550 cfs while the Gunnison Tunnel is intermittently diverting to fill Fairview Reservoir about 1 day every 2 weeks. Flows in the Whitewater Reach of the Gunnison River are at approximately 1,050 cfs.

The next Operations Group meeting will be held January 23, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. and District staff will attend.

Lake Powell Operations

This information is provided by the *Lake Powell Water Database* webpage (lakepowell.water-data.com) and is dated January 16, 2025.

Lake Powell elevation is currently at 3569.40 feet with a content of 8.42 million acre-feet (maf) or 37% full (24,322,000 acre-feet). Total inflow for WY25 to date is 1.31 maf which is 70% of the historical average for January 16th. The total releases out of Glen Canyon Dam for WY25 to date have been 1.96 maf which is 26% of the minimum required 7.5 maf for the water year.

During WY25 to date, storage has fallen by 668,787 acre-feet with total outflows exceeding total inflows by 651,566 acre-feet. The thirty-four tracked reservoirs above Lake Powell are currently at 74% of capacity and the rivers feeding into Lake Powell are running at 88% of the January 16th average. Lake Powell is now 130.6 feet below the full pool.

Cloudseeding

This report comes from the December monthly report from *North American Weather Consultants (NAWC)* dated January 2, 2025.

Seeding operations took place in five storm systems in December and this activity is summarized in the table below. Avalanche conditions were carefully monitored before and during each event in December to ensure that all regulations were honored, and no seeding suspensions occurred.

Generator Usage for December 2024

The following table shows generator hours for the month of December.

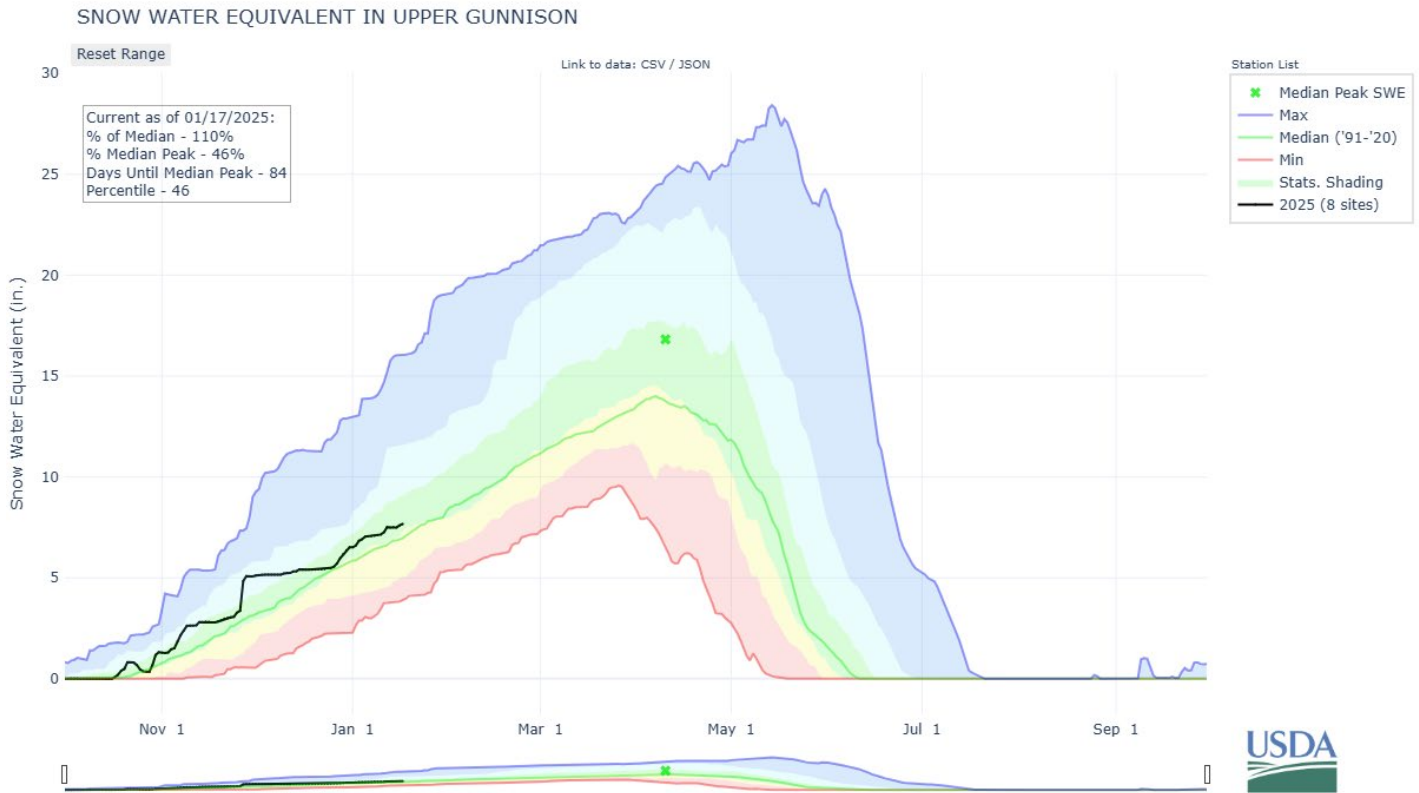
Storm Number	Dates	No. of Manual Generators Used	No. of Manual Hours	Lake Irwin Remote Hours	NAWC Remote (Black Mesa Lodge)
8	December 9	5	22.5	5.75	6.25
9	December 25	---	---	---	5.5
10	December 26-27	5	50	4	4.25
11	December 27	8	36.25	9.25	10
12	December 29-30	5	55	---	13
December Total	---	---	163.75	19	39
Season To Date	---	---	460.50	49.75	123

The table below shows the amount of snow water equivalent (SWE) accumulated at select SNOTEL sites during these seeding events.

SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent Accumulation for Seeded Storm Events

Dates	SNOTEL Site			
	Schofield Pass	Park Cone	Porphyry Creek	Slumgullion
December 9	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
December 25	0.1	0	0.1	0
December 26-27	0.3	0.2	0.1	0
December 27	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.2
December 29-30	0.6	0.3	0.5	0

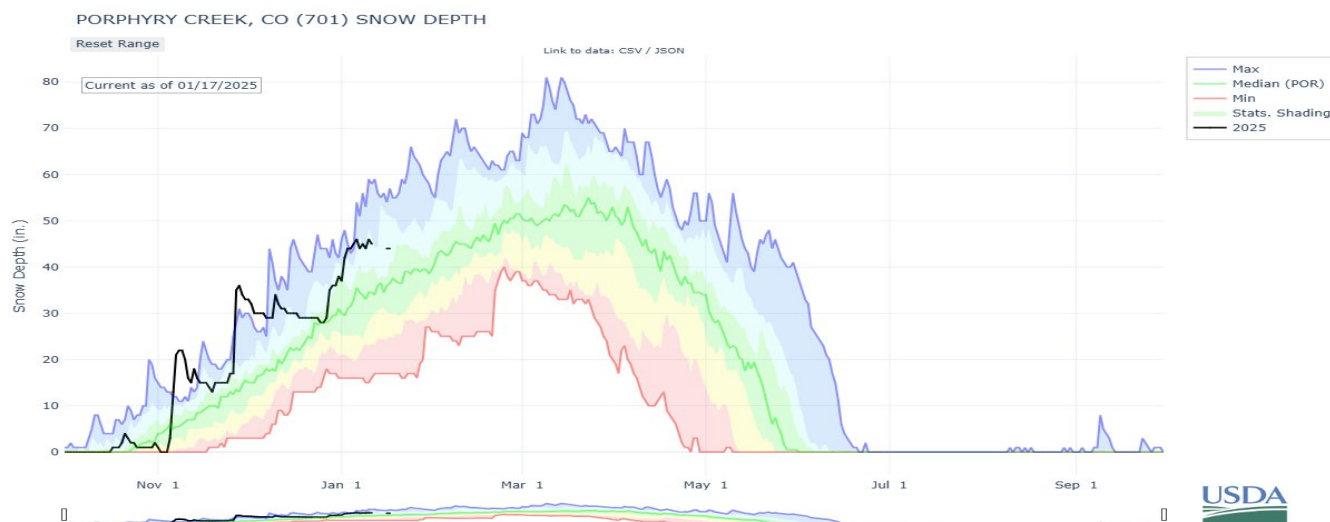
As of January 17, 2025, SWE in the Upper Gunnison basin is above normal, with a basin-wide average of 111% of the median as shown in the SWE plot provided below (*NRCS, January 17, 2025*).



Also provided below are snow depth plots for specific SNOTEL sites (Porphyry Creek and Slumgullion) which show the actual snow depth at these sites which provide a better representation of snow conditions in those areas of the basin.

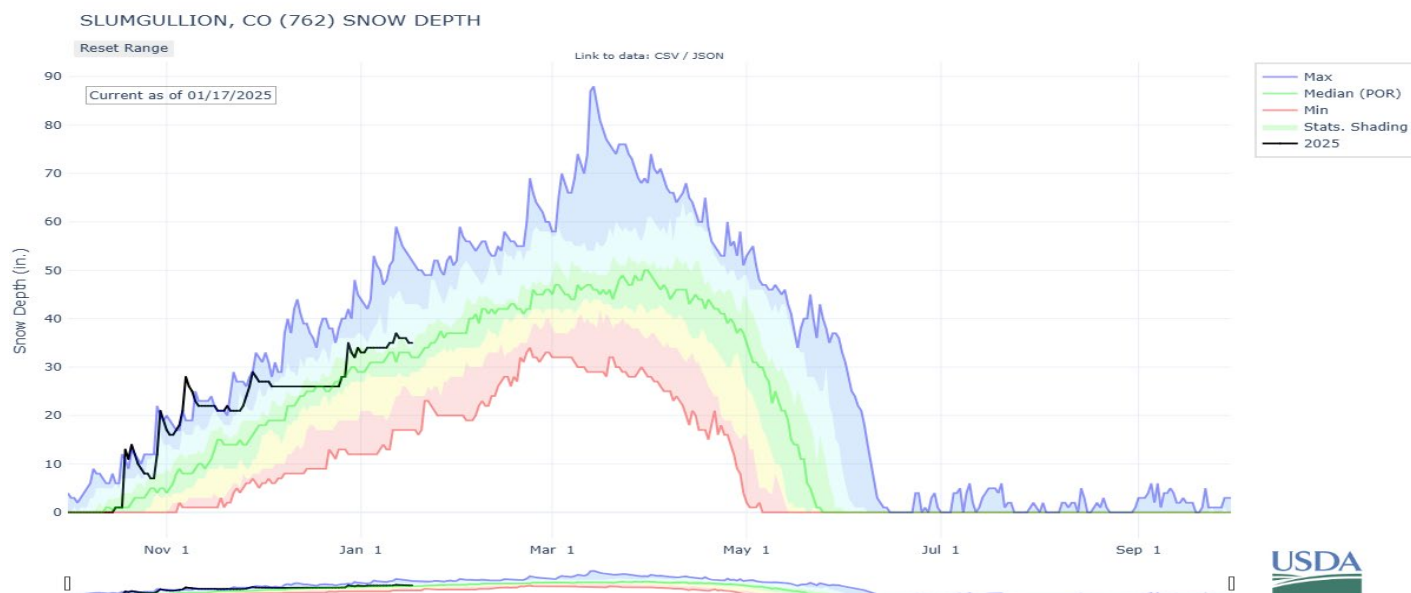
Porphyry Creek

Snow depth at Porphyry is currently at 44" and the median for this site for January 17th is 36.5". Based on these figures snow depth is 120% of the median for the period of record (*NRCS, January 17, 2025*).



Slumgullion

Snow depth at the Slumgullion SNOTEL site is currently 35" and the median for the period of record is 33". Based on these amounts, snow depth at the Slumgullion site is 106% of the median for January 17th (NRCS, January 17, 2025).



AGENDA ITEM 7

General Counsel Update

RESOLUTION 2025-01

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING LOCATION TO POST NOTICES

WHEREAS, Local Public Bodies are required by Section 24-6-402(2)(c)(I), Colorado Revised Statutes, to designate annually at their first regular meeting of each calendar year, the place at which public notice of their meetings will be posted at least 24 hours prior to each meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT (DISTRICT):

Notices of meetings of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District Board of Directors and the meeting agenda shall be posted at least 24 hours before each meeting on the District website at: www.ugrwcd.org/meetings.

If the District is unable to post a notice online in exigent or emergency circumstances that prevent the public from accessing the notice online, meeting notices and the meeting agenda shall be posted at least 24 hours before each meeting at the District Office, 210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A, Gunnison, Colorado 81230.

Stacy McPhail, Board President

Don Sabrowski, Board Secretary

AGENDA ITEM 8

Treasurer's Report

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors
FROM: John Perusek, Treasurer
Sonja Chavez, General Manager
DATE: January 10, 2025
SUBJECT: Treasurer's Report

I. 2024 End-of-Year Jobs Summary

According to Peaks Investment Management (January 10, 2025), U.S. employers added 256,000 jobs in December 2024 which exceeded forecasts from economists. The unemployment rate also dropped to 4.1% with the health care and government sectors driving most of the employment gains. Unemployment claims remain near historical lows and the labor markets remain stable.

II. Investments

The \$50,000 Certificate of Deposit (CD) (1.05% yield) at Community Banks of Colorado matured. Funds were not reinvested in another CD as yields at the \$50,000 level were not attractive (3.5%) and instead the funding was placed in ColoTrust where it is earning approximately 4.6%. An additional CD or bond investment may be made at a later time and at a larger base investment amount which typically sees a higher yield.

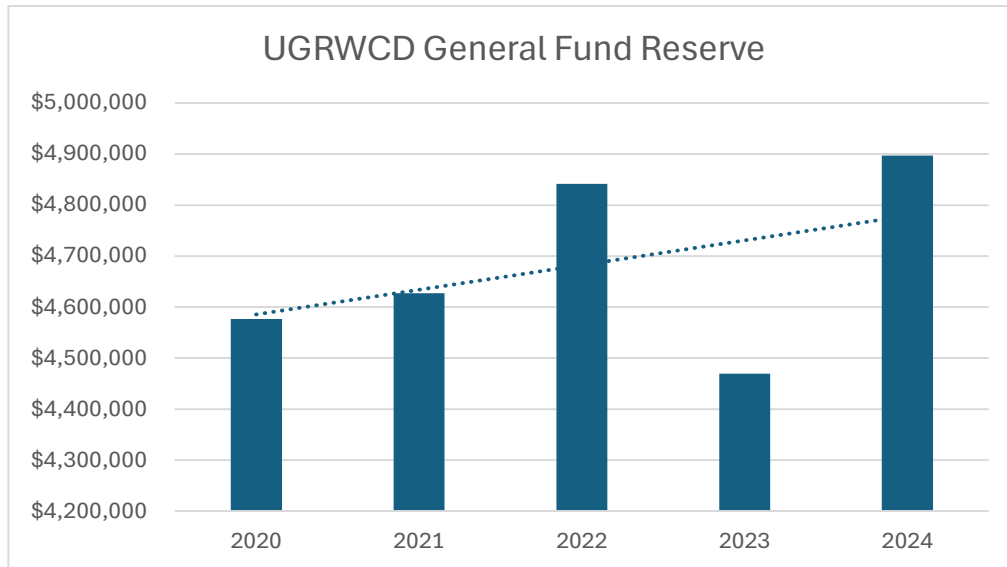
III. UGRWCD Financial Health Summary

At the Treasurer's request, UGRWCD executive management has prepared a summary of the District's General Fund Reserve Balance highlighting for the board that while we are growing and maturing as an organization, we are focused on maintaining a reserve fund that keeps pace with inflationary costs. In the table below, you will see that while the reserve fund can vary slightly from year to year the five-year trend shows a seven percent increase in the reserve balance and on-going stability.

Table 1. General Fund Reserve End of Year Balance

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
General Fund Reserve	\$ 4,576,410	\$ 4,627,196	\$ 4,841,571	\$ 4,469,291	\$ 4,896,909

Figure 1. Graphical Representation of General Fund Reserve End of Year Balance

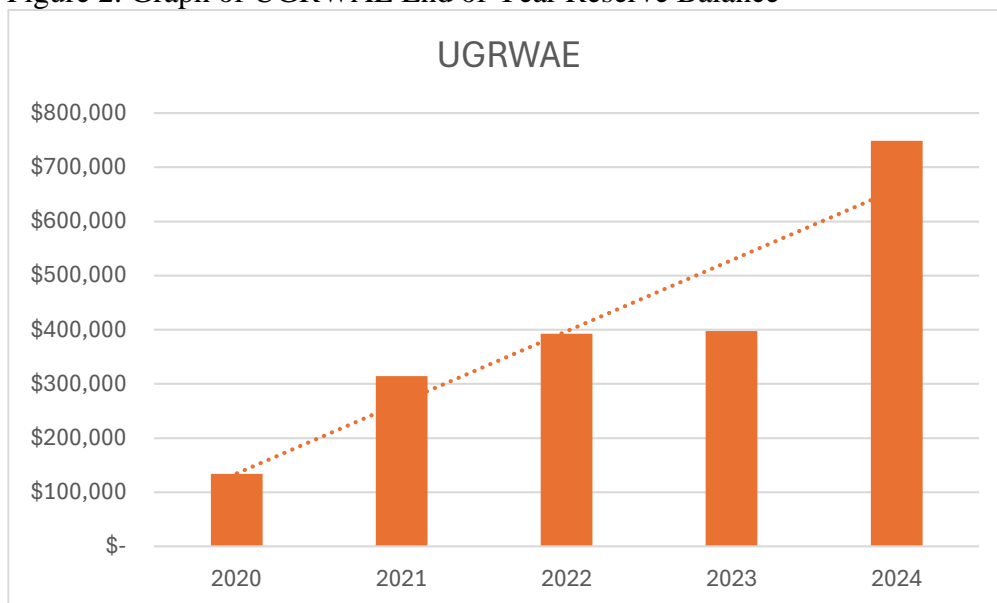


- IV. Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise (UGRWAE):** The UGRWAE has seen a significant increase (over 400%) in the Reserve Balance due to increased activity in the number of base units sold since 2020 (Table 2 below). Executive management will be discussing this growth and the board’s consideration of policy that helps to maintain a healthy reserve balance while minimizing potential interannual reserve assessment swings.

Table 2. UGRWAE End of Year Reserve Balance

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
UGRWAE	\$ 133,810	\$ 314,155	\$ 392,404	\$ 397,736	\$ 748,564

Figure 2. Graph of UGRWAE End of Year Reserve Balance



AGENDA ITEM 9

**GENERAL MANAGER, STAFF AND
COMMITTEE REPORTS**

MEMORANDUM



TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Sonja Chavez, General Manager
DATE: January 19, 2025
SUBJECT: General Manager & Committee Reports (January)

I. General Manager Report

A. Colorado River District

General Manager will be providing a verbal update from the January 21-22, 2025 First Quarter 2025 meeting.

B. Projects & Fundraising

1. Gunnison Conservation District was awarded a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Bucket 2 Environmental (B2E). UGRWCD is the primary subcontractor and will be providing technical expertise, grant administration training and working in partnership with the Conservation District to carry out the project.
2. UGRWCD staff participated in a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Water Management Entity (WME) Webinar. The goal of the District is to better understand NRCS rules, processes and cost-share opportunities in order to be able to assist producers in developing funding portfolios for water resource improvement projects utilizing NRCS funding. For additional information about the NRCS WME webinar, please see the **attached memorandum** from Water Resources Project Manager, Bailey Friedman.

C. Taylor Local Users Group (TLUG): Letters of Interest & Appointments

Background: The Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District is one of four signatories to the Taylor Park Reservoir Operation and Storage Exchange Agreement that was executed in August 1975. The “75 agreement” forms the basis under which the release patterns from Taylor Park Reservoir are determined each year. The other three parties to the agreement are the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Colorado River Water Conservation District, and the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association. Each year, the four signatory parties to the agreement participate in an annual meeting (usually in May) and jointly adopt a plan for reservoir releases for the upcoming year.

Each spring, and as necessary throughout the summer, the UGRWCD seeks input and direction from local users of the Taylor River, Taylor Park Reservoir, and the main stem of the Gunnison River above Blue Mesa as to how the reservoir operations can best be optimized for stream fishery, reservoir fishery, agricultural irrigation, and rafting and boating purposes in the upper Gunnison basin.

The meeting participants are asked to reach a consensus recommendation and present them to the UGRWCD board in order to bring to bear their combined practical experience, to balance as much as possible the potential differing desires of each group of users, and further to prevent any one group from dominating the selection of the recommended flows which accrue to the benefit of all. This is accomplished through appointments of user representatives at the first regular meeting of the UGRWCD Board annually. Appointments or reappointments are made to two year terms for the following user groups:

- Rafting/boating
- Flat water recreation
- Agricultural irrigation
- Wade fishermen
- Property interest

In addition, the Division 4 UGRWCD Director serves as chair and moderator of the TLUG and reports the recommendations of the TLUG to the UGRWCD Board.

At this time, there are two appointments that need to be made for the following user groups: 1) agricultural irrigation, and 2) wade fishermen. To assist the Board in making appointments, please find attached the **letters of interest** submitted by local community members.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTIONS: Appoint an agricultural irrigation and wade fishermen to the TLUG.

D. Watershed Management Planning (WMP) Update

For an update of WMP activities, please see attached **draft meeting minutes** from December 11, 2024 and the **January memorandum of update** from Water Resources Project Manager, Bailey Friedman.

E. Grant Committee Update

Please see attached **memorandum of update** from Grant Program Manager, Beverly Richards.

F. Education & Outreach Committee Update

Please see attached **memorandum of update** from Education Program Manager, Sue Uerling and Water Resource Project Manager, Bailey Friedman.

G. Wet Meadows Restoration Program

Please see attached **memorandum of update** from Wet Meadows Program Director, Amanda Aulenbach.

H. Drought Contingency Planning Update

A verbal update will be given to the Board.

I. Water Quality Update

1. Water Quality Control Division Draft Regulation 87 Dredge & Fill -

Please see attached **memorandum of update** from Water Resources Project Manager, Bailey Friedman.

2. Water Quality Update: Please see attached **memorandum of update** from Water Resources Specialist, Ari Yamaguchi.

RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION: Discussion of District financial and in-kind contributions to ANS management.

J. Gunnison Basin Roundtable

A verbal update will be given by General Counsel McClow and General Manager Chavez.

K. Gunnison River Festival (GRF)

A verbal update will be given by GRF President and General Manager Chavez.

L. Scientific Endeavors

A verbal update will be given by Director Rosemary Carroll.

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors

FROM: Beverly Richards, Office Manager
Sonja Chavez, General Manager
John McClow, General Counsel

DATE: January 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Office Management Update & Request for Action

The following update is being provided to the UGRWCD Board of Directors to summarize important administrative management activities of the District and to seek board action related to the adoption of our 2025 update to the District's Employee Handbook.

ACTIVITIES:

- Identified fraudulent activity on the Gunnison River Festival Gunnison Savings and Loan checking account. Account has been closed and a new one opened.
- Transferred the Spencer Avenue building insurance from American Family to Glatfelter who holds several of our other policies. The District previously insured the building through the Spencer Avenue Business Park Condo Association which has since been dissolved. This change in insurers will result in an annual savings of \$1,800 and maintain the same level of coverage.
- Took advantage of an early renewal membership discount through the Special District Association saving UGRWCD \$400 on our 2025 membership dues.
- Worked with the National Park Service to have them contract directly with USGS for financial contribution to the Upper Gunnison's Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring Program. This will result in a \$350 savings to the District related to charges we had been incurring associated with electronic payments via our Paypal and Square services.
- A decision has been made to move our copy machine lease service from Gobins to Capital Business Systems in Grand Junction. Management has not been happy with machine performance and service response. The current lease expires April 29, 2025. The District has received a quote of \$186.54 monthly lease for five years which would result in a \$3,381 savings over the term of the lease.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION: Approve the January 27, 2025, update to the UGRWCD Employee Handbook.



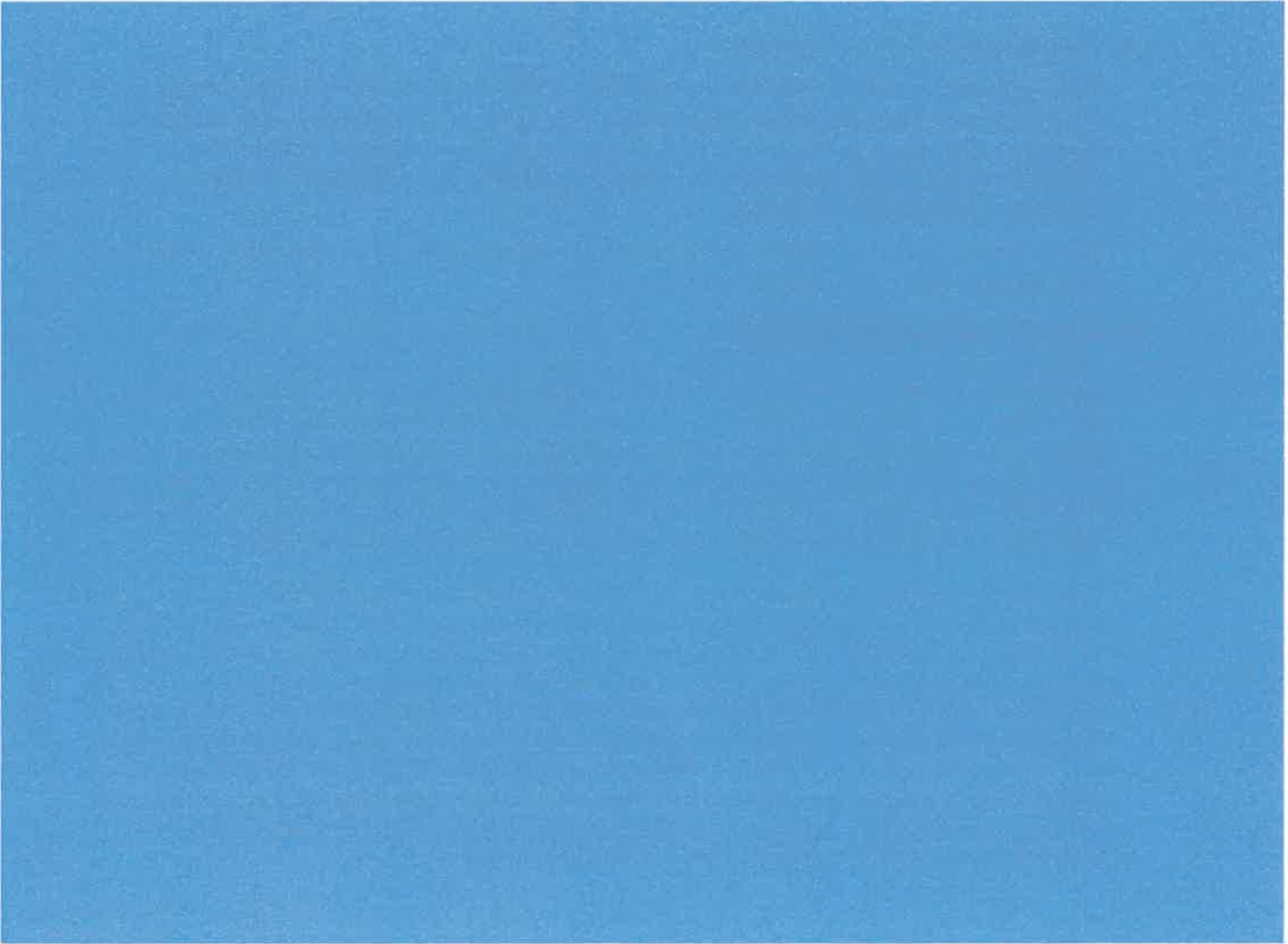
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK OF THE UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

AMENDED & ADOPTED 08/2023

REVISED 08/2024

~~REVISED 12/05/2024~~

REVISED 01/27/2025



1. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. Disclaimer.

IMPORTANT

THE GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK DO NOT REPRESENT A CONTRACT, ARE NOT MEANT TO BE ENFORCEABLE, AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS BINDING, INFLEXIBLE PROMISES MADE BY THE DISTRICT. THE DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE OR RESCIND THESE GUIDELINES AT ANY TIME, AS WELL AS THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR MEANING, PURPOSE, AND EFFECT. THE DISTRICT ALSO RESERVES THE RIGHT, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, TO DETERMINE WHETHER, AND TO WHAT EXTENT, THESE GUIDELINES SHOULD BE APPLIED IN ANY GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES. THIS HANDBOOK SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS AND SINGLE GUIDELINE MEMORANDA ISSUED IN THE PAST.

EMPLOYMENT WITH THE DISTRICT IS “AT-WILL.” ANY EMPLOYEE MAY BE TERMINATED WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE OR A HEARING, JUST AS ANY EMPLOYEE MAY RESIGN AT ANY TIME, FOR ANY REASON. NOTHING IN THIS HANDBOOK IS INTENDED TO MODIFY THE AT-WILL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DISTRICT AND ITS EMPLOYEES.

1.2. Purpose and Scope of Guidelines.

These guidelines are intended to inform employees of the District’s position on basic, employment-related subjects. They are not all-inclusive, but address those general topics most likely to be of interest to employees in the course of ordinary, day-to-day operations of the District. These guidelines serve as a reference source by employees and the General Manager. The District expects that they ordinarily will be followed.

To the extent that these policies are inconsistent with the terms of an individual employment contract, the terms of the contract will control.

1.3. Authority of Board of Directors.

The District Board of Directors reserves the right to adopt, amend, or rescind any guideline, procedure, or benefit. Any modification of these guidelines may be made only pursuant to formal action of the Board of Directors, reflected in the official records of the Board. No employee or agent of the Board is authorized to modify these guidelines by agreement, practice, or otherwise. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to supplement this handbook by written memorandum to clarify its terms and conditions.

Ultimate responsibility for operation of the District is vested in the Board of Directors. The Board retains the right to operate the District consistent with its legal authority, including, but not limited to, the right to direct the work of employees; hire, promote, demote, classify, evaluate, and retain employees in positions with the District; demote, suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline employees; transfer, assign and schedule employees; lay off employees; determine and implement the methods, equipment, facilities, personnel, and other means by which District operations are to be conducted; take steps it deems necessary to maintain the efficiency and safety of operations; determine the budget of the District; determine the level of any activity or service provided by the District; and determine planning or staffing levels. The Board of Directors may exercise its authority to manage the district through its General Manager.

1.4. Equal Employment Opportunity.

The District is an equal employment opportunity employer. These guidelines are to be applied without regard to any otherwise qualified person's race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, religion, disability, or genetic information, subject to such reasonable requirements of the District as may be permitted by law.

2. EMPLOYEE STATUS, BENEFITS, AND LEAVE.

2.1. Employee Status.

All permanent full-time employees are benefitted employees, entitled to the employee benefits described in this Section 2. Part-time employees will receive employee benefits as determined by the General Manager.

2.2. Employee Benefits.

2.2.1. Medical Insurance.

The District will provide health insurance coverage for employees. The District will pay the provider directly for premiums in an amount approved by the Board. Employee is eligible to receive coverage under the District's group health insurance policy on the first day of the month following the date of hire. The terms and conditions of all group insurance plans offered by the District are subject to change from time to time at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

2.2.2. Retirement Plan.

The District is a member of the Colorado Retirement Association (CRA) which maintains a retirement plan for the member organizations of CRA. The applicable provisions of the CRA Retirement Plan and Trust Agreement govern retirement benefits provided to District employees.

All benefitted employees are eligible to participate in the District's retirement plan. Employees must execute all necessary paperwork required for participation. The District's plan includes 401(a) pension, 457(b), and Roth IRA plans. Employees become eligible for the pension upon completion of one year of employment. Employees may elect to make a paycheck contribution to a 457(b) or Roth IRA plan upon employment.

The District will make a contribution to the 401(a) retirement plan for each participant:

Term of Employment	District Pension Contribution
After 1 year of employment	8% of compensation
After 5 years of employment	9% of compensation
After 10 years of employment	10% of compensation

Employees must match the District's contribution. For the purpose of calculating contributions, compensation does not include overtime pay, fringe benefits, expense reimbursements, deferred compensation, or welfare benefits.

2.2.3. Expense Reimbursement.

Employees who incur expenses in the conduct of District business, such as the use of personal car, out-of-pocket miscellaneous expenses, or other travel expenses will be reimbursed subject to review and approval by the General Manager and an Executive Committee member. To be reimbursed, employee must submit a District Expense Report and Request for Reimbursement with receipts to the District within 45 days after incurring the expense.

2.2.4 Education Assistance Program

Under the CARES Act, the District has an education assistance program that remains in effect through 2025. The Act allows the District to provide up to \$5,250.00 annually (through December 31, 2025) toward student loan payments on behalf of employees. Deductions are made from the employee's gross income and the employee does not owe federal income tax on the payment.

2.2.5 Cell Phones.

The District may provide cell phones for permanent full-time employees, exclusively for District business. The phone number must be included in all of employee's District email communication and be printed on the employee's business cards. The District will pay for monthly cell phone service under the District's Verizon plan. If a District-issued cell phone is lost or damaged, employee may be responsible for replacement or repair at the discretion of the General Manager. District-issued cell phones must be turned in to the Office Manager at the conclusion of employment.

2.3 Leave Time.

2.3.1 Paid Time Off

2.3.

Permanent full-time employees earn Paid Time Off (PTO) for each full month of employment at the rate set out in Table 1 below¹. Part-time employees earn PTO at a pro-rated rate. PTO may be used as vacation time, during Employee's own illness, to care for an ill relative, medical or other personal appointments during business hours, or any other purpose. Employees are encouraged to use PTO each year, but if Employees do not, PTO will accrue until Employee has accrued the maximum set out in Table 2 below, at which time accrual will cease until Employee uses an amount of PTO equal to or greater than the amount accruable during one month at Employee's current rate of accrual. Employee will be paid for all accrued PTO as of the effective date of termination at the time of termination of employment, whether termination is with or without cause.

Table 1

Term of Employment	Paid Time Off Accrual
Upon commencement of employment	14 hours per month
After 5 years of employment	16 2/3 hours per month
After 10 years of employment	18 2/3 hours per month
After 15 years of employment	20 2/3 hours per month
After 20 years of employment	22 2/3 hours per month
After 25 years of employment	24 2/3 hours per month
After 30 years of employment	26 2/3 hours per month

¹ In its discretion, the Board of Directors may negotiate a higher initial rate of PTO earning with a new employee. Subsequent increases will be 2 hours per month after each five-year anniversary of employment, consistent with Table 1.

Table 2

Term of Employment	Maximum Accumulation
After 1 year of employment	168 hours
After 5 years of employment	294 hours
After 10 years of employment	360 hours
After 15 years of employment	432 432 hours

2.3.2 PTO Cash Out

The District allows employees to exchange their unused PTO for a cash payment instead of taking the days off twice a year.

Employees may exchange PTO for a cash payment, which is treated as taxable income. The cash payment will be calculated by multiplying the number of PTO hours exchanged times the employee's salary expressed as an hourly rate. ($\$60,000 \div 2,000 = \30.00 per hour.)¹

Employees may also request that the cash value calculated above be treated as an elective deferral deposited to employee's 401(a) pension account or 457(b) plan, or a deposit to employee's Roth IRA plan.

Participation in this benefit must be approved by the General Manager and requires that the employee maintain a minimum balance of 80 hours for full-time employees, or 60 hours for part-time employees, after exchanging PTO hours. Employee must also be able to demonstrate the regular use of time off - before a PTO cash-out exchange will be approved.

2.3.3 Compensatory Time Off

¹ Based on working hours for 2025.

Permanent full-time Wet Meadows Program employees may be awarded compensatory time off by the General Manager. The purpose of compensatory time off is to provide for rest and recovery following intensive field work periods and must be taken immediately following such work periods.

2.3.4 Holidays

In addition to Paid Time Off, Employees are entitled to all paid holidays authorized by the Board of Directors.

~~2.3.1~~ 2.3.5 Unpaid Leave

In addition to PTO, Employee will be permitted, upon reasonable notice to, and approval by, the General Manager, to take unpaid leave for a period not to exceed one month (exception for Family Leave under policy 2.3.4 below), provided that the activities of the District will not be adversely affected thereby. Employee may not take unpaid leave unless Employee has less than 8 hours of accrued PTO available. PTO will not accrue during unpaid leave.

2.3.6 Family Leave

The District has a 12 week family leave policy for new parents. To be eligible, Employee must have completed 12 months of continuous full-time service with the District. Family leave can be taken as paid or unpaid leave. Employee is required to enter into a written agreement and prepare a family leave plan that considers use of their PTO, Colorado Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI), and the District's Paid Family Leave Fund as described below.

The District maintains a Paid Family Leave Fund (Fund) which can be utilized by the District and Employee. Employee must notify the General Manager as soon as possible about their desire to utilize the Fund. The Fund can be utilized to pay the employer participation portion of the Colorado Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program when Employee is not able to reasonably accumulate 12 weeks of paid leave utilizing their District PTO. The General Manager can modify the maximum PTO accumulation limits for employees planning on taking Family Leave.

If Employee is not able to take advantage of FAMLI due to time constraints, the District will provide up to 2 weeks of paid leave in order to help bridge any gaps in financial income during their leave, provided that Employee has depleted their PTO balance. Weekly payments will be equivalent to the Colorado FAMLI weekly payment formula. PTO will not accrue during FAMLI leave.

2.3.7 Bereavement Leave

Employees are eligible for bereavement leave. In the event of a death in employee's immediate family, paid leave of up to five days to manage family affairs and attend the funeral may be approved upon request for full-time and part-time employees. Temporary employees may be granted leave without pay. Requests should be directed to General Manager and Office Manager. The District defines immediate family as spouse, father or step-father, mother or step-mother, sister or step-sister, brother or step-brother, child or step-child, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandparents or grandchildren of either the employee or the employee's spouse. Bereavement days will not be treated as PTO.

2.3.8 Jury Duty, Court Time

An employee who is required to serve or appear as a juror, witness in a criminal case or witness in a case not resulting directly from the discharge of the employee's duties as an employee will be granted court leave with pay for the first five days of service for the hours for which the employee would otherwise have been at work for the District. Any employee who has received fees or payment and has been granted court leave with pay will have such fees deducted from their wages with the exception of pay for travel. After the first five days of court leave the employee may take leave without pay. If an employee is involved in litigation for personal purposes the employee may be granted leave without pay or use any accrued paid time off.

3. EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.**3.1 Pay Periods.**

Employees are paid once each month. The pay period ends on the last day of the month. The District utilizes Direct Bank Deposit for all Employees.

3.2 Deductions.

Federal and state income taxes and social security contributions are automatically deducted from employee paychecks, as is required by law.

Retirement plan contributions are deducted from employees' monthly paychecks in the amounts required for participation in the District's 401(a) retirement plan and in the amounts requested by the Employee for the optional 457(b) or Roth IRA plans.

3.3 Office Hours.

Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Full-time employees are expected to be in the office during those hours. The General Manager may authorize a modified work schedule, provided that the modification does not reduce the full-time work day to less than eight hours.

3.4 Work Breaks

Employees who work more than five consecutive hours are entitled to a 30-minute work-free lunch break. Employees who work four consecutive hours are also entitled to a ten-minute work-free rest break for each four-hour period of work. –

3.5 Remote Working

Remote working arrangements may be granted authorized in limited circumstances and for limited duration and are at the discretion of the General Manager. Employees granted authorization to work remotely must be available during scheduled work hours and be in communication with their team through email, phone, text messaging or video conference calls. Employee must adhere to a schedule that overlaps with other team members. Breaks should be identified in the employee's District calendar and all working time must be reported daily in detail in QuickBooks Time Tracking software.

Employees must have secure high-speed internet and a reliable phone connection and must remain productive. Employees may only conduct District business using their District-supplied computer running a pre-approved VPN and anti-malware software.

3-4.3.6 Reporting Accidents, Workers' Compensation.

Any employment-related accident involving any injury or property damage whatsoever must be reported to the General Manager. Such report must be made at the earliest practicable time. Failure to report promptly any accident involving injury or property damage may result in disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

Employees are covered for employment-related injury or illness by the Colorado Workers' Compensation Act. Under the Act an employee may receive benefits for missing work as a result of an employment-related injury or illness. Delay in reporting a work-related injury or illness may result in a loss of benefits under the Act.

3-5.3.7 Training and Education.

The District supports education and training programs which improve the skills, qualifications, and performance of District employees. The District will pay the fees and costs of education and training programs that are specifically required by the District. In addition, the District may, in its discretion, approve payment of all or a portion of the fees and costs of education or training programs requested by employees. The General Manager must approve the requested program in advance. The District's approval of payment for one segment, portion, or course that is a component of an education or training program does not obligate the District to pay for any additional segment, portion, or course.

Through 2025, full-time permanent employees who have completed one year of service, may request to participate in the District's Educational Assistance Program consistent with the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Under the CARES Act, the District is allowed to provide up to \$5,250 annually (through 2025) toward Employee's student loan payments as a pre-tax deduction from Employee's gross income. Complete terms and requirements of the Program are described in *EXHIBIT B* to this Handbook.

3-6.3.8 Employee Appraisals.

The District expects each of its employees to be appraised concerning his or her job performance at least annually. The appraisal process is intended to provide Employee with information concerning their employment progress and to serve as a means of improving employee performance. The appraisal process is not meant to serve as a substitute for ongoing discussions between the General Manager and employees.

4.4 EMPLOYEE CONDUCT.**~~4-1~~ 4.1 General Rules of Conduct.**

The District expects all of its employees to act in the best interests of the District and its constituents. It is the responsibility of all employees to observe all rules, guidelines, operating procedures and directives of the District. The District further expects that each of its employees will behave with courtesy and respect toward other employees and members of the public.

~~4-2~~ 4.2 Drugs and Alcohol.

The District strictly prohibits the manufacture, distribution, use or possession on District premises of alcoholic beverages of any kind and drugs other than those prescribed by a physician or obtained from a legal over-the-counter source. Employees are expected to use prescription or legal over-the-counter drugs in an appropriate manner and dosage and are expected to know whether the appropriate use of such drugs may impair their ability to perform their jobs safely and competently.

4.3.4.3 Harassment.

The District prohibits any harassment of its employees on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, disability, religion, age, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation (protected classes).

Harassment means any unwelcome physical or verbal other conduct or any written, pictorial, or visual communication directed at an individual or group of individuals because of that individual's or group's membership, or perceived membership, in a protected class which conduct or communication is subjectively offensive to the individual alleging harassment and is objectively offensive to a reasonable individual who is a member of the same protected class.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, petty slights, minor annoyances, and lack of good manners do not constitute harassment unless the slights, annoyances, or lack of manners, when taken individually or in combination and under the totality of the circumstances, meet the standards set forth in the preceding paragraph.

Any employee who believes that he or she has been the victim of prohibited harassment or who has observed such harassment is expected to report the harassment to the General Manager or the Board President. In all events, prohibited harassment should be reported to a person in a position to take corrective action against the harasser, including, if necessary, members of the District's Board of Directors.

Upon notification of prohibited harassment, the General Manager or Board member will immediately investigate, take action to prevent and remedy any harassment, and report his or her findings and course of action to the District Board and the complaining party. Investigations of reported harassment and the results of such investigations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, given the need for a complete and fair investigation.

Employees will not be subject to retaliation for making good faith complaints or reports of prohibited harassment.

If prohibited harassment is found to have occurred, the District will take such disciplinary action against the harassing party as it deems necessary and appropriate, including warning, suspension, or immediate discharge.

4.4.4.4 Conflict of Interest.

District employees may not place their personal interests above the best interests of the District or Board's constituents. Accordingly, employees of the District may not:

- Engage in a substantial financial transaction for private business purposes with another employee whom he or she supervises;
- Take any official action directly and substantially affecting to its economic benefit a business or other undertaking in which he or she has a substantial direct or indirect financial interest or business arrangement;

- Disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of his or her official duties to further substantially his or her personal financial interests; or

Accept a gift of substantial value or a substantial economic benefit which might tend improperly to influence him or her in the discharge of his or her responsibilities, or which could be construed as a reward for action taken in the course of official duties.

5.5 EMPLOYEE RECORDS.

~~5.1~~ 5.1 Personnel Records.

The District retains personnel records concerning all employees. Such records ordinarily include applications, insurance forms, payroll deduction authorizations, performance appraisals, certain pay records, transfer and promotion forms, records of disciplinary action, training records, and any certificates or credentials required for an employee's job. Other information concerning employees may be kept as personnel records, in the discretion of the District.

In order to keep personnel records current, the Office Manager must be notified of any change in any employee's address, phone number, marital status, or military status; any birth or death in any employee's immediate family; any change in the name or telephone number of the person to be notified in case of emergency; any change in insurance beneficiary; or any other information needed to maintain accurate records. Each employee is responsible for providing the District with records concerning any licenses or certificates required for the performance of his or her job, as well as any documents showing that education or training relevant to employment has been completed.

~~5.2~~ 5.2 Release of Information.

Personnel records are considered confidential subject to statutory requirements. Employees may examine their own personnel records, except for letters of reference, by contacting the Office Manager. Employees may authorize the release of specified personnel records by executing a written request designating the record(s) to be released and the person or entity to whom they may be released.

Unless authorized by Employee in writing, no personal information on past or present District employees will be provided by the District via telephone inquiries, except to confirm or deny information presented by a third party. Responses to requests by mail will be limited to confirmation of documented information provided by a third party, unless such requests for information are accompanied by an authorization to release the information requested, signed by the employee.

A copy of any written information sent to a third party concerning a former or current employee will also be sent to the last known address of the employee.

6.6 MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES.

~~6.1~~ 6.1 Employee Use of District Computer Resources.

All District computers and other devices, including cellular phones, must be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner.

Employee use of District computers and other devices, including cellular phones, must be consistent with the objectives of the District. Transmission or access of any material in violation of any U.S. or state law or regulation is prohibited. Internet transactions and e-mail and text messages are not private.

Security on the District's computer network is a high priority. The District is to be notified of known or suspected security problems.

6.2- 6.2 Employee Use of Electronic Mail.

Electronic mail is an electronic message that is transmitted between two or more computers or electronic terminals, whether or not the message is converted to hard copy format after receipt and whether or not the message is viewed upon transmission or stored for later retrieval. Electronic mail includes all electronic messages that are transmitted through a local, regional, or global computer network.

Electronic messages are not for private or confidential matters. Because there is no guarantee of privacy or confidentiality, other avenues of communication should be used for such matters.

Electronic mail sent or received by the District or the District's board of directors and employees may be considered a public record subject to public disclosure or inspection under the Colorado Open Records Act.

6.3- 6.3 District Credit Card.

A District credit card is available for use by District employees for travel and business related to the District under the following conditions.

The District credit card may only be used for District-related expenses and for purposes relating to Employee's job commitments. The District credit card may not be used to receive cash advances, bank checks, traveler's checks, or electronic cash transfers. A receipt must be obtained for all purchases made with the District credit card and promptly provided to the Office Manager. All District credit card purchases are subject to review and approval by the General Manager and District Treasurer.

Employee may not give the District credit card to unauthorized individuals, including other employees.

6.4 District Vehicle.

The District owns vehicles for Employee use while conducting District business. Employee use of District vehicles is permitted under the following conditions.

Employee must possess a valid driver's license, a copy of which must be kept on file with the District. Employee must report revocation of the driver's license to the General Manager. Employee must obey all traffic laws and promptly report any violations or accidents to the General Manager through a written report. Traffic violations may lead to suspension of Employee's use of the District vehicle, in the discretion of the General Manager. Employee is responsible for paying any traffic or parking fines incurred while using the District vehicle. If the District vehicle is damaged due to Employee negligence, Employee will be required to reimburse the District for any costs incurred in repairing the damage.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK OF THE UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Employee must reserve use of District vehicles using the shared Vehicle Calendar. Travel log and expense information must be completed accurately and completely in the Travel Log maintained by the District in the vehicle binder at the time of vehicle use including date of use, Employee's initials, trip destination and purpose, mileage driven, and any fuel purchased. A receipt must be obtained for vehicle related purchases made with the District gas credit card and placed in the "Receipts" envelope in the vehicle binder. Receipts for vehicle-related purchases made by other means must be submitted to the General Manager for approval and reimbursement.

While conducting District business, Employee may utilize District vehicles for reasonable incidental personal use (e.g., going to dinner or going to a nearby shopping mall when conducting business out of town, etc.), but Employee should minimize personal use. The District reserves the right to seek reimbursement from Employee for excessive personal use.

Except in the case of an emergency where Employee cannot drive, only District employees may drive the District vehicle. Emergency drivers must possess a valid driver's license.

2-3-16.4.1 Other Entity Vehicles.

In the course of employment, a District employee may not, even briefly, operate a vehicle owned or controlled by another entity.

6-4-6.5 Smoking.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the District office or within fifteen feet of any doorway leading into the District office.

6.6 Dogs in the Workplace.

The District embraces a pet-friendly workplace. With prior written approval of the General Manager, employees may bring personal pets to the office. Approval will require execution of a pet policy agreement by employee.

I certify that I have read and received a copy of this Handbook.

Employee signature

Date

Printed name:

AGENDA ITEM 9

**Taylor Local User's Group -
Letters of Interest and Appointments**

From: [Sonja Chavez](#)
To: [Beverly Richards](#)
Cc: [Sue Uerling](#)
Subject: FW: TLUG letter of interest - Roark
Date: Monday, December 23, 2024 11:41:19 AM

Sonja Chavez, General Manager
Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A
Gunnison, Colorado 81230
Office: 970-641-6065
Mobile: 970-596-4066
Website: www.ugrwcd.org

PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Under Title 24, Colorado Revised Statutes, this email and responses, unless otherwise made confidential by law, may be subject to the Colorado Open Records Act and may be subject to public inspection under § 24-72-203.

-----Original Message-----

From: Roark Kiklevich <roarkkik@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 21, 2024 9:06 AM
To: Sonja Chavez <schavez@ugrwcd.org>
Subject: TLUG letter of interest

Please accept this email as my letter of interest to continue as the wade fishing representative on the TLUG committee. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely
Roark Kiklevich
Sent from my iPad

From: [Dave Fisher](#)
To: [Sonja Chavez](#)
Cc: [Sue Uerling](#)
Subject: TLUG Representation - response to letter
Date: Tuesday, December 17, 2024 12:14:33 PM

Sonja,

I am interested and available to serve another 2-year team on the Taylor Local Users Group representing property interests. Please let me know if you need anything else from me regarding this opportunity.

Thanks,
Dave

Dear Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District Board,

Please regard this letter as my interest for continuing to be the Agricultural representative for the Taylors Local Users Group. There are many different uses of water in the Gunnison Valley, and the water that is held back or released from Taylor Reservoir is vital to the agricultural community. Being part of the discussions that leads to the decision making on releases is important, and having the knowledge of the timing and understanding the forecasts is one reason I would like to continue being on the TLUG.

I do realize there are many more water uses than agriculture that come from the releases on the Taylor River. Fishing, Homeowners, Recreation, and the fish themselves are all depending on it. I look forward to working with these other users for a better water situation in the future.

Sincerely,

Andy Spann

January 13, 2025

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
210 W. Spencer Ave. Suite A,
Gunnison CO 81230

RE: Letter of Interest – To Serve as a Representative of the
Taylor Local Users Group

My name is Patrick Plumley and I would like to be considered to serve as a representative for the Taylor Local Users Group (TLUG). I am a full-time resident and homeowner within the UGRWCD. My property is located at 311 Riverwalk Drive on the bank of the Gunnison River (approximately 2-miles north of Gunnison).

I am an avid fly fisherman that spends many days in the spring, summer and fall engaged in wade fishing and float fishing on both the Taylor River, and upper Gunnison River. I have fished and floated these rivers on a regular basis for the past several years. As part of these recreational activities, I typically track flows in both the Taylor and Gunnison Rivers on a daily basis. I am the current vice-president of the Gunnison Angling Society, the local chapter of Trout Unlimited. I have a strong interest in the in the maintaining and improving the ecological health of this Gold Metal trout fishery.

I am a recently retired Consulting Engineering Geologist / Hydrogeologist with over 40 years of professional experience. I have a B.S. and M.S. in Geology, and prior to retirement was a Registered Geologist and Certified Engineering geologist. I conducted hydrogeologic and groundwater investigations and analysis of potential impacts to water resources for a series of major hard rock, open pit and underground mines. I also have extensive experience performing engineering geologic and geotechnical investigations for the design and construction of large civil engineering projects, such as dams, pipelines, mines and power plants.

If you have any questions regarding my interest to serve on the TLUG, or background experience, please call me at 970-420-8223

Very truly yours.

Patrick S. Plumley

Patrick S. Plumley
311 Riverwalk Dr.
Gunnison CO 81230
970-40-8223

AGENDA ITEM 9

Watershed Management Planning Committee

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board or Directors
FROM: Bailey Friedman, Water Resources Project Manager
DATE: January 8, 2025
SUBJECT: Watershed Management Planning Committee (WMP) Update

The following is a summary of WMP activities completed in 2024 and planned in 2025.

A. 2024 TASKS COMPLETED

- GEI Wetland Assessment
 - i. Put together a report from information provided in a Technical Memorandum and requested a revision of the memorandum to increase accessibility to more readers
 - ii. Worked with GEI on creating a new Scope of Work to refine the Machine Learning (ML) Model interface so UGRWCD can collect more data in the future and increase wetland prediction accuracy
- Watershed Science & Design Geo-Fluvial Assessment
 - i. Established contact with WSD to bring assessment to a conclusion
 - ii. Created a draft report of assessment findings
- Watershed Management Plan
 - i. Created a timeline to complete the WMP report
 - 1. Final draft expected by May 2025
 - a. Public comment period on draft and public outreach period to identify local project opportunities from May 2025 – October 2025. This time is subject to change
 - ii. Began drafting final WMP
 - 1. Began combining information from Phase 1 and Phase 2 reports
 - 2. Assigned assessments and sections of WMP to responsible parties to write
 - 3. Identified sections of previous WMP reports for update
 - iii. Developed a template PowerPoint Presentation for consultants and UGRWCD staff to use during outreach. Staff will review presentations developed by consultants.
 - iv. Sent out first working draft to WMP Committee for review and comment. Will continue to send out drafts to committee monthly.

B. 2025 FIRST QUARTER TASKS

- GEI Wetland Assessment
 - i. Finalize new scope of work
 - ii. Will continue to work with GEI staff and contracted computer programmer to create an interface software for ML model for UGRWCD staff to enter data to refine model accuracy

- iii. Will attend training from GEI staff on ML model and field data collection
 - iv. Will create a final report of initial GEI Wetland Assessment
- Watershed Science & Design (WSD) Geo-Fluvial
 - i. Will work with WSD to finalize a report on assessment findings
 - ii. Will create a presentation on assessment and key findings
- WMP
 - i. Final draft expected to be completed by May 2025
 - 1. Will incorporate committee comments
 - 2. Will incorporate updated data into WMP
 - ii. Will work with committee on a plan on how to perform public outreach to identify local projects and create a “living” document list so projects can be brought to UGRWCD on a continual basis
- UGRWCD Funding Workshop
 - i. Planning a workshop hosted by UGRWCD in February 2025 to present funding opportunities (UGRWCD, USDA, CWCBC, CRWCD CFP, etc) for local constituents interested in implementing water resource improvement projects.

WMP Minutes

To: Watershed Management Planning Committee
From: Bailey Friedman, Water Resources Project Manager
Date: December 11, 2024
Subject: **December 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the WMP Committee was held on December 11, 2024, at 1:30 PM.

Board members present were Stacy McPhail, and Mike Rogers. Julia Nania was present via Zoom. Staff present were Sonja Chavez, Beverly Richards, Bailey Friedman, and Amanda Aulenbach. Others in attendance included Jesse Kruthaupt from Trout Unlimited.

Agenda topics included:

- Updates since the November meeting regarding a new scope of work from Wilson Water Group (WWG) for updates, a new scope of work from GEI regarding the Wetland Assessment, on the Geo-fluvial assessment from Watershed Science & Design (WSD), and an agricultural assessment with Jesse.
- A review and walkthrough of the current WMP Draft that will be distributed for committee, partner, and District staff for review and comment.
- A review of the budget (Balances on the purchase order, Scope of Work cost from WWG, expected estimates from GEI and WSD).

As a result of these discussions, the following tasks were identified:

- Changes to the distribution of topics in the WMP draft
- Additions to the draft:
 - Descriptions of ASO flights
 - Linking the division map to the website for readers to find their UGRWCD representative
 - Inclusion of discussion on Lake San Cristobal
 - Inclusion of Private Instream Flow rights in the Taylor and East river sub-basins
- Including topics from basin assessments into respective sub-basin sections

Actions to be taken:

- Bailey will send out the of the WMP to the committee, District staff, and Partners for review and comment.
- Bailey will distribute calendar invitations for the deadline to have comments back and the next committee meeting
- Bailey will send an email in early January 2025 to remind everyone of deadline to finish draft review

- Review of initial draft is due by February 3, 2025, to Bailey for incorporation of comments and changes prior to the next committee meeting.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2025, at 1:30 PM. District Board Room and a Zoom Link to be distributed.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM by WMP Committee Chair, Stacy McPhail

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board or Directors

FROM: Bailey Friedman, Water Resources Project Manager
Sonja Chavez, General Manager

DATE: January 8, 2025

SUBJECT: NRCS Water Management Entity (WME) Webinar

The following is a summary of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Water Management Entity WME webinar put on by NRCS on December 11, 2024, as the UGRWCD staff understood the information presented. Staff are engaging more closely with NRCS in order to better understand programs that the District or District constituents may be able to access in support of various water resource improvement projects.

Water Resources Specialist, Bailey Friedman, was an NRCS partner biologist for five years and UGRWCD will be drawing off her experience as we work with the community on various water resource improvement projects. Management has also directed Ms. Friedman to work through the local NRCS process to pursue becoming a Technical Service Provider (TSP). A TSP certification will improve UGRWCD's ability to assist producers in planning water resource improvement projects.

A. A WME must meet this definition to be eligible for a NRCS EQIP contract

- Definition:
 - i. A state, irrigation district, groundwater management district, acequia, land grant-merced, or similar that has jurisdiction or responsibilities related to irrigation water delivery or management on eligible lands
 - ii. WME is a public or semi-public agency or organization with the purpose of assisting individual agricultural producers
 - iii. Purpose is to assist private agricultural producers with managing water distribution or conservation systems
- Applications from WMEs for an EQIP contract may be determined ineligible if the state conservationist determines that the conservation practices encompassed by the proposed EQIP contract are better suited under the RCCP or the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 566 or PL566).
 - i. When making this determination, the state conservationist may consider the following factors:
 1. Whether the estimated contract cost for the minimum area required for the EQIP contract greatly exceeds the EQIP payment limitation for water conservation practices
 2. Whether the project requires a site-specific EA or EIS because its potential adverse impacts have not been adequately analyzed under a NEPA review, or the proposed contract practices have not been

adequately analyzed in the EQIP programmatic EA or other existing NEPA document prepared or adopted by NRCS

B. WME EQIP Projects

- Water conservation or irrigation practices support a water conservation project that will effectively conserve water, provide fish and wildlife habitat, or provide for drought relation environmental mitigation

C. Land Eligibility

- Water conservation or irrigation practices that are subject of a water conservation project must be implemented
 - i. On the eligible land of a producer
 - ii. On land that is under the effective control of water management entity; or
 - iii. Adjacent to the eligible land of a producer, provided by the state conservationist determines the adjacent land is necessary to support the installation of a conservation practice or system on eligible land

NOTE: Land that is under the effective control of a WME may be eligible even if it is not agricultural land or nonindustrial private forest land.

D. FSA Business Types

- i. Joint venture (3)
- ii. Corporation (4)
- iii. State/Local Government (9)
- iv. Non-profit or tax-exempt organization (10)
- v. Limited liability company (22)
- Tax documentation on business type will be required

E. Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Eligibility and Payment Limitations

- Should not make more than \$900,000 averaged over the last 3 years preceding EQIP application
- Payment limitations are not applicable to contracts during FY 2025. (The application deadline has passed as of writing this memo).
- Contracts obligated in 2025 have a contract limit up to \$900,000. A waiver may be required to increase this limit to \$1,800,000.
- AGI requirement for the entity and members. If not all the members qualify, the payment will be reduced by the percentage that particular share the member has.

F. Comparison Summary Table

Requirements	Individual EQIP Applicant	WME Applicant
Irrigation project location	On-farm projects	Off-farm and farm delivery projects
Common practices (not exclusive)	Irrigation systems, irrigation water management	Pipelines, structures for water control
Eligible business type	Many	Limited to types 3, 4, 9, 10, or 22

Required to serve a public purpose?	No	Yes
Contract limit without waiver	\$450,000	\$900,000
Contract limit with approved waiver	\$450,000	\$1,800,000
Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Compliance (WC) required?	Yes	If implemented on non-ag land HEL & WC may not apply (talk with local office), otherwise is required

If you have any questions regarding NRCS programs, please reach out to Bailey Friedman who served as an NRCS Partner Biologist for 5 years.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Grant Committee

MEMORANDUM



TO: Grant Committee Members
FROM: Beverly Richards, Grant Program Manager
DATE: January 27, 2025
SUBJECT: Grant Program Update

Following is a summary of grant program activity including completed projects, projects with extensions, and funding awards which have been returned to the District.

2023 Grant Program

Total awards – 18 for a total of \$288,487

Total awards declined – 5 for a total of \$72,017

- Almont East River Improvement - \$2,150
- Coal Creek Dam Project - \$50,000
- Riverbank Erosion Project - \$16,000
- Rozich Ditch Improvements - \$1,200
- Hannah J. Winters Ditch Project - \$2,667

As of January 27, 2025 the District has ten completed projects under the 2023 Grant Program. There are three project still ongoing and all have project extensions to 2025. The amount rolled over into the 2025 budget from the 2023 Grant Program was approximately \$46,670.

2024 Grant Program

Total awards – 17 awards for a total of \$260,606

Total awards declined – Two awards for a total of \$14,750

- Marshall No. 1 Wing Inlet Project - \$7,750
- Marshall No. 1 Ditch Reshape Project - \$7,000

As of January 27, 2025 the District has three completed projects under the 2024 Grant Program. There is one completed project which we are waiting for additional information for the reimbursement, and eleven ongoing projects that will continue into 2025. The amount rolled over into the 2025 budget from the 2024 Grant Programs was approximately \$208,330.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Education and Outreach Committee

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors
FROM: Sue Uerling, Adm. Asst./Comm. Support Specialist
DATE: January 21, 2025
SUBJECT: Education and Outreach Report

The following is an update on 2024 and 2025 Education and Outreach action items since the previous report:

2024 Action Items:

- **ADVERTISING:**

The District ran classified ads and display advertisements in *Gunnison Country Times*, *Crested Butte News*, *SilverWorld* and *Saguache Crescent*. We also ran some employment advertisements and RFP's in Montrose and Grand Junction. We also ran color ads in the *Gunnison Country Magazine* and *Crested Butte Summer Guide*.

The District ran 13 different radio spots in rotation eight times a day on both KEJJ and KVLE radio stations, as well as a rotation of spots through a "Sports Package" contract when KEJJ was broadcasting Western Colorado University and Gunnison High School sporting events.

The District was also an underwriter on KBUT Public Radio with an informational ad that ran during the morning edition news in conjunction with the local river and snow reports.

- **65th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**

The District held a successful 65th Anniversary Celebration on June 24, 2024 with over 200 attendees. The celebration included three food vendors, a beer vendor, a wine vendor, live music, anniversary cake, face painting and other activities for the kids. Planning included creating an original 65th Anniversary logo, procuring special permits for the party to serve alcohol and have amplified sound, notifying the neighborhood, making arrangements for additional parking areas, securing a tent, stage and seating and getting volunteers for set-up, tear down and security. In addition, the District assembled goodie bags for VIP's which included ordering custom-designed vests, wine glasses, pint glasses, magnetic clips, and stickers, as well as banners and feather flags for marketing the event. The District also wrote, designed and professionally printed a "65 Years of Impact" color magazine which was distributed to attendees and other gatherings.

- **SPONSORSHIPS:**

The District helped with Ag Venture Day at the Fred Field Center in April 2024 and helped teach water-related educational games and trivia.

In conjunction with the Gunnison Waves organization, the District sponsored the Spring River Clean-Up Day on May 4, 2024. There were over 75 participants who filled three trailers and two dumpsters with logs, branches, trash and other debris from in and around the river at the Gunnison Whitewater Park.

The District paid for breakfast burritos and coffee and provided UGRWCD t-shirts and water bottles for the volunteers.

The District sponsored Free Swimming Lessons at the City Rec Center at the end of May 2024 for preschoolers and young children who have not yet learned to swim. Our sponsorship was noted on all of their marketing materials.

The District brought the newly painted water trailer to the 4th Grade Water Festival at Gunnison Elementary School on May 24th and provided educational programming for the participants.

The District sponsored the 24th Annual Pike Fishing Derby at Taylor Reservoir in June 2024 and the 32nd Annual Rotary Fishing Tournament at Blue Mesa Reservoir in September 2024. There were over 200 participants total between the two tournaments. In addition to social media advertisements, emails, banners and flyers advertising our sponsorship, the District handed out rack cards, water bottles, stickers and magnetic clips at both tournaments.

The District helped with marketing and volunteers for the Gunnison River Festival events.

The District sponsored the 4-H barbecue at the Cattlemen's Day's Livestock Auction.

The District provided scholarship monies and transportation funding for 125 eighth-grade students, teachers and volunteers at the Taylor Challenge August 28-30th. The students were also given reusable shopping bags, magnetic clips, stickers and water bottles with UGRWCD logos and the District provided water sampling kits.

The District sponsored 180 third and fifth-grade students from Gunnison Elementary School to attend water science field trips at RMBL in September 2024. With the District's sponsorship, RMBL also provided a water curriculum for a science activity at Lake San Cristobal for students from the Lake City Schools.

- **MINI-GRANTS:**

In 2024, the District awarded four Mini-Grants totaling \$1,865.00 as follows: \$500 to Gunnison Angling Society for the Kids Fishing Derby and Student Invertebrate Sampling Kits; \$500 for the Headwaters Conference at Western Colorado University; \$500 for the Ute Mountain Dance Program in Lake City; and \$365 to the Nordic Center for a Porta-Potty.

2025 Action Items:

- **ADVERTISING:**

The District is currently running four new radio spots that run in rotation eight times a day on KEJJ and KVLE radio. The District is also taking part in the "Winter Sports Package" which provides for additional airing of these spots during broadcasted sporting events for the university and high school.

The District also has a "winter" message running for KBUT Public Radio as an underwriter.

The District has published two display ads multiple times in the *Gunnison Country Times* and *Crested Butte News* advertising the TLUG representative openings and the 2025 District Grant Program

- **SPONSORSHIPS**

The District is sponsoring the “Ice Masters” Fishing Tournament at Taylor Park Reservoir on February 22, 2025. In addition to providing sponsorship funds, the District will also be providing new knit stocking caps with the UGRWCD logo on the front flap. There will be some extras for the Board and staff.

- **FIRST GRADE WATER BOOK**

The District has contracted with Chris and Kirsten Dickey to develop an Upper Gunnison Basin Water Book that has locally relevant educational content and emphasizes water resource issues of importance to our headwater community. The book will include illustrations and other graphics and will feature a water champion character who will explain water in the Upper Gunnison basin in a manner that is understood by first graders and meets the school’s curriculum requirements. It will include both English and Spanish text and will be published in time for distribution before the end of 2025.

- **GENERAL OUTREACH (FROM BAILEY FRIEDMAN)**

Workshop:

The District will host a Funding Workshop sometime in February (exact date is pending) 2025 at the Fred Field Center. The estimated length of the workshop will be from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM with lunch provided. The purpose of this workshop is to educate agricultural producers and other entities on available funding resources to implement water projects. For the first part of the workshop, UGRWCD plans to partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Gunnison Conservation District and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to highlight program opportunities like EQIP, RCPP, CRP, etc., and encourage sign up. We will then shift to other funding resources like the Colorado Water Conservation Board CO Water Plan Grants and Water Supply Reserve Funding, the Colorado River District and the Community Funding Partnership Program, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART, etc. The goal of the workshop is that attendees walk away with a better understanding of these programs and local funding opportunities for water and land management.

Science Symposium:

UGRWCD will be hosting a Science Symposium in April 2025 to present local and relevant science topics to professionals working in natural resources in the Gunnison Country and other high-elevation watersheds. Topic areas will include snow science, climate science, water quality and quantity studies, process based restoration, forest health, wildfire, etc. The current draft schedule has three days planned (Day 1 afternoon, Day 2 full day, & Day 3 morning).

AGENDA ITEM 9

Wet Meadows Program

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors
FROM: Amanda Aulenbach, Wet Meadows Program Coordinator
DATE: 23 January 2025
SUBJECT: Wet Meadows Program 2024 Summary & 2025 Priorities

2024 Season Metrics: The Wet Meadows Restoration Project (Project) completed its twelfth year working across the basin and utilizing simple and effective low-tech, process-based restoration tools for restoring and increasing resilience of wet meadow and riparian habitats. In 2024, the project built 71 structures, restoring 2.82 stream miles, 4.76 acres of wetland habitat, and 62.1 acres of Gunnison Sage-grouse (GUSG) habitat. The 2024 season brings the total amount of work done by Project partners to 2,673 structures, 48.5 stream miles, 121.6 acres of wetland habitat and over 2,170 acres of GUSG habitat. Additionally, maintenance work was done on 67 restoration structures, maintaining restoration on 1.53 stream miles, 1.92 acres of wetland habitat, and 38.2 acres of GUSG habitat.

2024 Project Areas: Restoration and assessment sites for the 2024 season included Centennial, Cabin Creek, and Miller Ranch State Wildlife Areas (CPW); two reaches on Flat Top (Teachout & Yogi), Lick Park, and Black Sage Pass (USFS); Long Gulch and Gold Basin (BLM); and Eagles Nest Ranch and Eagles Ridge Ranch (private). UGRWCD, CPW, BLM, USFS, and NPS crews worked together to build structures and ensure successful projects throughout the District boundary. Volunteers from Wildlands Restoration Volunteers, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA), and Western Colorado University (WCU) contributed greatly to projects as well, contributing over 900 volunteer hours.

2025 Site Prioritization Modeling: The Project partnered with University of Denver graduate researcher Joslyn Hays to refine the stream prioritization model provided by The Nature Conservancy in 2017. Parameters incorporated into the model include GUSG lek locations, NDVI data, slope, channel type, road locations, power line locations, and wildfire hazard zones. Updating and refining the model will narrow the subset of “high priority” reaches, allowing the Project to continually create strategic plans on a 1-5 year timescale. This project is anticipated to be completed by September 2025.

2025 Field Season Planning: Project partners met on January 22, 2025 at the UGRWCD Office to plan for the upcoming field season. Staff anticipate advertising the announcement for two Restoration Technicians in February 2025, and have candidates selected by April 2025. Staff will purchase the UTV and trailer before May 2025 to be ready for the field season.

2025 Outreach & Education: UGRWCD and WCU are in the process of planning a community screening of “Thinking Like Water”, a docuseries about Bill Zeedyk, the restoration guru, and wet meadow and riparian restoration, anticipated for April-May 2025. The second episode is about the Wet Meadows Program. Another BHA Volunteer Event is scheduled for July 19, 2025 at Centennial SWA.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Drought Contingency Plan

AGENDA ITEM 9

Water Quality Update

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors
FROM: Ari Yamaguchi, Water Resources Specialist
DATE: January 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Water Quality Update

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS)

On Thursday, 15 Nov 2024, staff (Ari Yamaguchi) participated in a public meeting of the Hinsdale County Commissioners where Colorado Parks and Wildlife ANS lead Robert Walters presented on the need for ANS efforts on Lake San Cristobal and detailed some proposed actions.

Following the UGRWCD Board of Director's previous decision to support such efforts, Ari Yamaguchi laid out some avenues through which the District may be able to assist, including the Board's set aside of \$20,000 in the 2025 District budget. Potential opportunities for areas that the District might consider allocation of resources include: 1) the installation of a gate at the Lake San Cristobal launch point, ensuring more effective enforcement of existing CPW inspection requirements; 2) placement of boulders at four strategic locations along the shoreline that are currently being used as unofficial launch points, thereby redirecting users to the official launch point where inspection can occur; 3) public outreach within the Lake City community regarding the nature and necessity of items 1 & 2; 4) purchasing materials for inspection stations; 5) contributing to inspector staff pay, as there is an expectation that there will be an expansion of the daily hours of operation, as well as the duration of the operating season, for the inspection station.

Questions following this meeting on which staff is seeking Board input include: 1) Will the \$20,000 allocation remain in the District budget in future years? 2) How much and what kind of in-kind contribution is the UGRWCD Board comfortable with (e.g., public outreach, staff time for monitoring for ANS, etc)?

In addition, the commissioners mentioned that it may be helpful to receive a letter of support from the LSCWAE if they are so inclined. Initial impressions are that the County Commissioners and the community are very supportive.

RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD DISCUSSION: Discuss ongoing annual funding set aside and UGRWCD outreach engagement and in-kind contribution of staff time for potential enhanced monitoring of ANS in the Upper Gunnison District boundary.

Lithium mining on Quartz Creek

According to staff conversation with United Lithium's geologist, "the company is on hold for all projects." When asked what that would mean specifically for the Quartz Creek project, he responded, "it might mean United would sell the project to another explorer."

Uranium loading on Marshall Creek via Indian Creek

See the attached visuals for the uranium concentrations and sampling locations related to the Pitch Mine. The data is sourced from Homestake (“HMST”, blue) and state & federal agencies (“Govt”, yellow). Note that plot 2 (Outfall to Indian Crk) has a higher y-axis scale than the rest of the plots. The dotted red lines on the Marshall Creek plots show the Reg. 35 limit of 30 µg/L on Marshall Creek. Indian Creek’s limit is 2000 µg/L, which is higher than the scales shown for those graphs.

As expected, uranium concentration decreases (i.e., is diluted) as one moves downstream. The water in the unaffected area (Marshall Crk above Indian Crk) is consistently below the 30 µg/L limit, except for one outlier event. Indian Creek shows much higher values, but the legal threshold is not exceeded because it has a different Use Designation and therefore a higher limit. The three Marshall Creek locations downstream of the confluence with Indian Creek are fairly consistent with one another—again, with a dilution effect as one moves downstream. Of those three locations, plot 4 (Marshall Crk immediately below confluence with Indian Creek) shows some sensitivity to concentration spikes in the outfall, especially around 2020-2024. The Homestake dataset and the Government dataset are generally in agreement with each other, with a slight caveat in plot 6 (Marshall Crk @ Sargents); while the temporal trends agree, the government data shows slightly higher uranium concentrations than the Homestake data (generally <10 µg/L; see additional plot, MarAtSarZoomed.jpg); there are no events where the datasets disagree on whether or not the Reg. 35 limit was exceeded.

The WQCC’s Temporary Modification for uranium concentration on Marshall Creek is set to expire in December 2025. Homestake is seeking to establish a Discharger-Specific Variance through the EPA, which would loosen the uranium limit on this portion of Marshall Creek. Additionally, Homestake has generated an Alternatives Analysis detailing potential mitigation measures that would work to decrease uranium loading from the outfall on Indian Creek. As such, the UGRWCD Board of Directors will have an opportunity to provide an opinion on the proposed alternatives for Homestake’s mitigation efforts by seeking party status either independently or as a joint party with other entities like North West Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) Water Quality and Quantity Committee (a.k.a. QQ).

UGRWCD is anticipating a formal presentation from representatives of the Pitch Uranium Mine at its January regular meeting.

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board or Directors

FROM: Bailey Friedman, Water Resources Project Manager

DATE: December 4, 2024

SUBJECT: Water Quality Control Division Draft Reg. 87 – Dredge and Fill

Background: UGRWCD staff have been actively participating in Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) dredge and fill stakeholder engagement meetings for the purpose of ensuring that the development of the regulation is based on sound science, is reasonable and efficient, captures differences in wetlands based upon elevation and ecoregions, does not unnecessarily interfere with or delay the implementation of on the ground agricultural irrigation or other water resource improvement projects, and does not interfere or conflict with Colorado water law.

A. Regulation 87 Development Summary

The following is a summary of UGRWCD summary meeting notes from the December 4, 2024, WQCD Reg. 87 – Dredge and Fill Stakeholder Meeting. For complete information, interested parties can utilize the following link for meeting materials:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tVyzlhUtmz_Yg0WRvDwt7DPLhThuBHkI

- Draft regulation is ready for review and comment
 - Link to draft regulation:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yAH76hzpfl_m01WPibt5D9PI0HI0g82V4IIKOo40JP0/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.34g8lnnn2c0f
 - Notes from the Division can be found at:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ldpUbtBvmmXbZ4JpABOpt1qVedfirTpHDTnjN74hjw/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.5g9gfhg5oude>
 - **Division must have first round of comments back by Monday January 13, 2025:** <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/dredge-and-fill-engagement>
 - Email list sign up:
https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001Q_ndHWbkVNy7dcf4E0Z8SqE68ekcZcrNAIWDdfLgl18ka7MOqF8KbWkoXG5A3oweDR0Ri2MvDmKbL8bsLy6tMu_jfdN4hxQjs8jm2wjY9LG25EwbOIIEd2h3hAM-IpqfXZkceKcG35x1d8ICS6HapyEBbh0Tj076Qd9GSjPOKFPi_30CCjsCK1_ZBfcm5JJGuiwXc2fzoJQ%3D
- Legal definitions and statute wording cannot be changed but can be clarified if needed.
- Temporary authorizations for dredge and fill activities will be required starting January 1, 2025.
- Renewal of authorizations will be required every 5 years.
- Until the WQCD issues its own general authorizations, they will recognize all federal and regional permits (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) where applicable in Colorado on non-WOTUS state waters.

- The division has authority to create new authorizations and change terms in existing general authorizations when they don't make sense for Colorado. General authorizations are considered "final determinations".
- Section "87.10 Compensatory Mitigation" was intentionally left blank as detailed discussions on this topic will begin in January 2025. The division is still disseminating feedback received from mitigation workshops. This section will be highly technical.

Specific topics the WQCD is looking for feedback on include:

- How to accomplish public notice when umbrella authorizations are issued?
- Section 10 Time Period for Division Issuance: Two-year deadline for issuance of individual authorization. The statute allows for a shorter timeframe for projects that have minimal costs and impacts. Looking for feedback on a better way to accomplish this, such as a tiered approach.
- Is a Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) approach appropriate for defining a watershed (e.g., 8 vs 12 digit, or other ideas the group may have)?

Next steps:

- Next meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, | 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
 - Will provide a summary of stakeholder priorities, present a schedule of meeting topics for the next 7 meetings, and continue to adjust the schedule as needed.
- Anticipate submitting a proposal to Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) in July 2025
- Anticipate formal rulemaking process to begin in August 2025.
- Will continue stakeholder discussions to fine-tune the proposal from August 2025 through formal prehearing submittals.

To register for meetings, follow this link for 2025 Meetings:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufumprDMuEtLyTxuRd57_4iuPix_NQUFa#/registration

B. UGRWCD Regulation 87 Public Comments

Attached as Exhibit XX are UGRWCD staff comments on the current regulations.

Action Item: Staff is seeking additional board and public input at our January 27th, 2025, regular board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Ag Return Flow Update

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWCD Board of Directors
FROM: Ari Yamaguchi, Water Resources Specialist
DATE: January 27, 2025
SUBJECT: USGS Agricultural Return Flow Study Update

Background: On April 15, 2024, the District entered into an initial Joint Funding Agreement (JFA) to conduct a water resources investigation study entitled *Upper Gunnison Basin Agriculture Irrigation Return Flow Study* (Amended December 10, 2024 to appropriate sums of money in 2025). The objective of the study is to characterize surface-water and groundwater interactions in the Upper Gunnison River Basin *with a higher-resolution focus on agricultural return flows in a reach of the East River* and improve our understanding of the potential effects from future changes in water administration or climate. This study effort will contribute to the understanding of less visible characteristics of flood irrigation practices in high-elevation snowmelt-dominated systems, benefitting Coloradans and others who depend on the Colorado River system. Knowledge gained from this project will help guide the development of sound water policy that fairly and accurately considers impacts of water administration and climate change/drought on rural flood irrigated agricultural headwater communities; it will also increase the accuracy of water quantity forecasting models which have largely ignored the importance of groundwater.

2024 Water Mass Balance Assessment Update: General Manager Chavez and Water Resources Specialist Ari Yamaguchi met with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) partners on December 12, 2024, to review and discuss preliminary data results and findings of the mass balance assessment, and to discuss next steps for the project.

USGS partners published an Open-File Report characterizing the water mass balance assessment in the East River study reach (available at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2024/1075/ofr20241075.pdf>). The purpose of the mass balance assessment was to gain a preliminary understanding of return flow dynamics. By comparing upstream inflows to downstream outflows utilizing stream gage data from 1994 to 2023 at the East River at Cement Creek and East River at Almont, the mass balance assessment found a two-part multi-decadal cycle where from 1997 to 2012 the river appears to be in a deficit condition where there is noticeable loss of streamflow from April to July and then a second hydrologic condition from 2014 to 2023 when there is a net gain in streamflow or general surplus condition (see graphs below). The authors hypothesize that these periods may reflect *interactions among irrigation water, available capacity to store additional shallow groundwater, and streamflow. However, deciphering the causes for the shifts between the two general hydrologic conditions was beyond the scope of this report.*

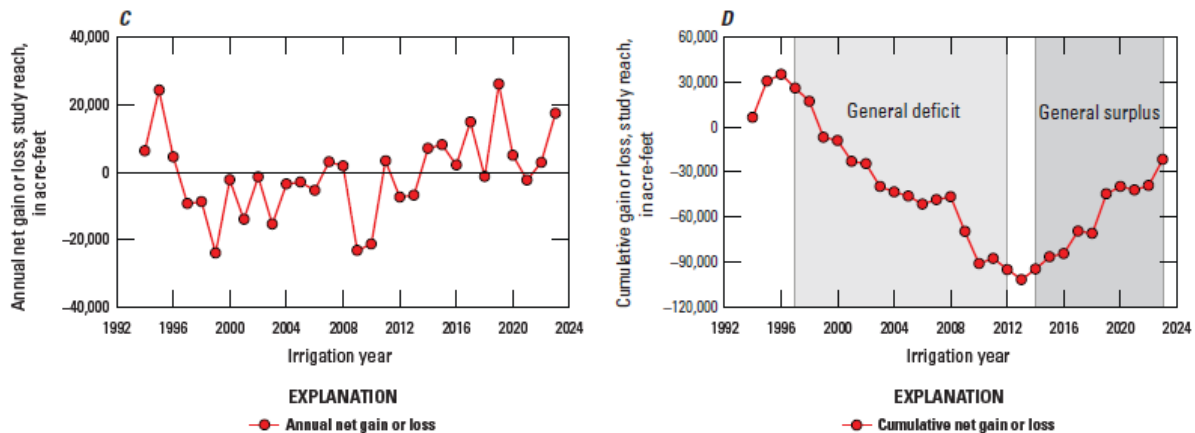


Figure 2. Graphs of components of the annual water balance for the study reach including *A*, combined inflows and annual total streamflow at the downstream U.S. Geological Survey streamgage (East River at Almont, Colorado); *B*, annual total diversions of water by the 19 irrigation diversions within the study reach; *C*, annual net gain or loss of streamflow in the study reach; and *D*, cumulative net gain or loss of streamflow in the study reach, all plotted by irrigation year (November 1 through October 31; Colorado Division of Water Resources, 2024; U.S. Geological Survey, 2024).

Next Steps: The next two phases of the study will focus on the End Member Mixing Analysis and Groundwater Model Development. This includes staff working with the USGS to obtain landowner permission to access preferred groundwater sampling sites—possibly drilling new wells or reactivating old wells. More details on this will be provided by the USGS when they present study results and next steps at the February regular board meeting.

Winter stream flow sampling on the East River is continuing on a monthly basis until irrigation season begins at which time sampling efforts will return to weekly. The 2025 field season will also encompass additional streamflow and groundwater sampling efforts in the Tomichi Creek sub-basin.

The District recently submitted a Colorado Water Plan grant application to the Colorado Water Conservation Board for \$345,347 to help off-set the District’s significant multi-year financial investment in the Ag Return Flow Study. The funds are intended to support the endmember mixing analysis and groundwater model development stages of the project. It is our understanding that grant applications are undergoing staff review at this time. CWCB staff recommendation and CWCB awards will be made public at the March CWCB Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Gunnison Basin Roundtable Update

AGENDA ITEM 9

Gunnison River Festival Update

AGENDA ITEM 9

Scientific Endeavors

AGENDA ITEM 10

Miscellaneous Matters

AGENDA ITEM 11

Citizen Comments

AGENDA ITEM 12

FUTURE MEETINGS

FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

- ▶ Colorado Water Congress Annual Convention in Aurora-January 29-31, 2025
- ▶ Lake San Cristobal WAE Special Meeting - February 4, 2025 at 11 a.m.
- ▶ New Board Member Onboarding Meeting - February 10, 2025 at Noon
- ▶ Watershed Management Planning Committee-February 12, 2025 at 1:30 PM
- ▶ UGRWCD Grant Applications are due by 5 PM-February 14, 2025
- ▶ President's Day Holiday - Offices Closed-February 17, 2025
- ▶ UGRWCD Sponsors "Ice Masters" Fishing Tourney - Saturday, February 22, 2025
- ▶ UGRWCD Board of Directors Meeting - February 24, 2025 at 5:30 PM
- ▶ Grant Committee meets for grants review - early March 2024
- ▶ UGRWCD Board of Directors Meeting-March 24, 2025 at 5:30 PM
- ▶ CRWCD's "State of the River" Dinner - April 17, 2025 at 5:30 at Fred Field

AGENDA ITEM 13

Summary of Meeting Action Items

AGENDA ITEM 14

Adjournment



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A • Gunnison,
Colorado 81230 Telephone (970) 641-6065 •
www.ugrwcd.org

WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING Monday, January 27, 2025

- | | | | |
|------|------|-----|---|
| 7:55 | p.m. | 1. | Call to Order |
| 7:56 | p.m. | 2. | Agenda Approval |
| 7:57 | p.m. | 3. | Consent Agenda Items: Any of the following items may be removed for discussion from the consent agenda at the request of any Board member or citizen <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of July 22, 2024 Minutes• 2024 Budget Review• Consideration of 2024 Expenses |
| 8:00 | p.m. | 4. | Adoption of Resolution 2025-1 to Set Posting Place |
| 8:05 | p.m. | 5. | Adoption of Resolution 2024-2 Canceled Base Units |
| 8:10 | p.m. | 6. | Adoption of Resolution 2024-3 to Adopt WAE Check Signers |
| 8:15 | p.m. | 7. | General Manager's Report |
| 8:30 | p.m. | 8. | Review and Adoption of 2025 UGRWAE Budget |
| 8:40 | p.m. | 9. | Miscellaneous Updates |
| 8:45 | p.m. | 10. | Citizen Comments |
| 8:47 | p.m. | 11. | Adjournment |

Note: This agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items or the deletion of items at any time. All times are approximate. Regular meetings, public hearings, and special meetings are recorded, and action can be taken on any item. The Board may address individual agenda items at any time or in any order to accommodate the needs of the Board and the audience. Persons with special needs due to a disability are requested to call the District at (970)641-6065 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

WAE AGENDA ITEM 3

Consent Agenda Items

UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise (WAE) conducted a semi-annual meeting on Monday, July 22, 2024 at 7:33 p.m. in the District offices, 210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A, Gunnison, CO, 81230 and via Zoom video/teleconference.

Board members present: Rosemary Carroll, Joellen Fonken, Rebie Hazard (via Zoom), Stacy McPhail, Julie Nania, John Perusek, Mike Rogers, Don Sabrowski and Andy Spann.

Board members absent: Michelle Pierce and Brooke Zanetell

Others present:

Bella Biondini, Gunnison Country Times (via Zoom)
Sonja Chavez, UGRWCD General Manager
Raquel Flinker, Colorado River Water Conservation District
Lucy Harrington, GEI Consultants
John McClow, UGRWCD General Counsel
Luke Mecklenburg, Colorado Attorney General's Office (via Zoom)
Alana Nichols, UGRWCD Fellow
Beverly Richards, UGRWCD Office/Senior Program Manager
Robert Sakata, Ag Water Policy Advisor, Colorado Department of Agriculture
Sue Uerling, UGRWCD Admin. Asst./Communications Specialist
Bruce Walters, Colorado River Water Conservation District
Melissa Wills, Colorado River Water Conservation District
Ari Yamaguchi, Water Resources Technician

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Stacy McPhail called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director John Perusek moved and Director Rosemary Carroll seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Director Mike Rogers moved and Director Julie Nania seconded approval of the consent agenda items as presented. The motion carried.

4. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Sonja Chavez referred to her memorandum included in the packet and noted that Applegate Group had completed their assessment of the dam and outlet gate at Meridian Lake as requested at the last WAE meeting and the good news is that the WAE has sufficient funds to do a repair of the outlet structure or even replace the dam if it were necessary.

General Manager Chavez reported that the Crested Butte Water and Sanitation District (CBWSD) has still not proceeded with their proposal to pursue a project that would potentially pipe water from Washington Gulch into the reservoir for their operations. The initial agreement was submitted over nine years ago. An amendment was made in 2019 to modify deadlines identified in the 2015 agreement related to initiation of permitting requirements until the Crested Butte Land Trust could complete the 120-acre land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service encompassing Meridian Lake Reservoir. Ms. Chavez noted that the agreement would need to be revised again as several of the original deadlines included in the proposal have passed. Counselor John McClow said he did speak with their attorney recently and while they do intend at some point to move forward with the proposal, nothing new has transpired. Mr. McClow suggested that perhaps the Board would want to schedule a special WAE meeting following next month's Board meeting to go over the original proposal and the amendment. He did review the basic concept of the proposal as it was submitted but noted that a lot of the information is now out of date. General Manager Chavez noted that the land exchange was completed in February of 2020.

Mr. McClow recommends that the District ask for the latest information to be updated and advised that he recommends that a professional should review the technical aspects of the proposal. He also reminded the Board that this proposal will not cost the District anything unless the District chooses to help share in the cost of the new outlet works. He noted that the agreement proposes that the parties share the cost of dam maintenance, so the District could save money on maintenance although so far there has been minimal maintenance required. He also said that if the District chose to participate in the cost of the new outlook works, it would be beneficial in that we would have a more accurate measure of the amount of water we are sending down the river, unless the cost is outrageous. Mr. McClow said that nothing has changed and whether they proceed or not, it really has no impact on our operations of the reservoir.

General Manager Chavez said she would feel more comfortable with the project if the District contracted with an engineer to look at the proposal and outline any concerns for the District.

Director Rosemary Carroll said she wondered if the delay had to do with the amount of time and resources the CBWSD has put into redoing their own pumphouse in the last year. She also asked if the CB Land Trust or private property owners would have a say in the project as she assumes the reservoir level would go up and down. Counselor McClow replied that the total storage in the reservoir would not change as a result of the project. He said that right now we have plenty of yield left for augmentation purposes.

Senior Program Manager Beverly Richards reported that the District still has a little over 300 base units for sale at Meridian but that she has received a preliminary inquiry from someone wanting to purchase 66 units for irrigation. Director Carroll questioned the hydrology of the project saying it seems like they are robbing Peter to pay Paul. Mr. McClow said the District has an easement for maintenance of the dam but that it does not include digging a canal.

Vice President McPhail asked that when the proposal begins to move forward, could the District ask them to complete their due diligence again since the information in the proposal is not current. There was a consensus that this could be recommended.

7. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

No matters were brought forward for discussion.

8. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

There were no citizen comments.

9. ADJOURMENT:

Vice President Stacy McPhail adjourned the July 22, 2024 Water Activity Enterprise Board meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Don Sabrowski, Secretary

APPROVED:

Stacy McPhail, Vice President

Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise
Profit & Loss
January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
91100 · Water Contract Sales	81,943.42
91105 · Annual Assessments	293,588.92
91110 · Interest on Investments	8,176.43
Total Income	383,708.77
Gross Profit	383,708.77
Expense	
Operating Expenses	
Workers' Compensation Insurance	203.64
Bank Services Charges	10.45
Administrative Salaries	17,079.31
Staff Salaries	12,695.82
Payroll Taxes	2,167.11
Employee Benefits	4,026.85
Audit & Accounting	1,960.40
Utilities and Association Dues	672.51
Bonding and Insurance	649.68
Office Telephone	379.48
Administrative Travel & Expenses	1,059.73
Office Expenses	1,046.63
Board of Directors' Expenses	354.28
Meeting Expenses	139.60
Board of Directors' Fees	186.21
Board of Directors' Mileage	109.21
General Engineering Services	2,087.50
Total Operating Expenses	44,828.41
Total Expense	44,828.41
Net Ordinary Income	338,880.36
Net Income	338,880.36

WAE AGENDA ITEM 4

**Adoption of Resolution 2025-1
to Set Posting Place**

UGRWAE RESOLUTION 2025-01

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING LOCATION TO POST NOTICES

WHEREAS, Local Public Bodies are required by Section 24-6-402(2)(c)(I), Colorado Revised Statutes, to designate annually at their first regular meeting of each calendar year, the place at which public notice of their meetings will be posted at least 24 hours prior to each meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE (UGWAE):

Notices of meetings of the Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise and the meeting agenda shall be posted at least 24 hours before each meeting on the District website at: www.ugrwcd.org/meetings.

If the UGRWAE is unable to post a notice online in exigent or emergency circumstances that prevent the public from accessing the notice online, meeting notices and the meeting agenda shall be posted at least 24 hours before each meeting at the UGRWAE Office, 210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite A, Gunnison, Colorado 81230.

Stacy McPhail, Board President

Don Sabrowski, Board Secretary

WAE AGENDA ITEM 5

Resolution 2025-02

Canceled Base Units

UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

RESOLUTION 2025-02

ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR REFUNDS FOR CANCELED BASE UNITS

WHEREAS, the Enterprise maintains a capital reserve funded by assessments of Base Unit holders for repair or replacement of structures at Meridian Lake Reservoir; and,

WHEREAS, the amount of annual assessments is determined by comparing the balance of the capital reserve fund to the current estimate of the replacement cost of structures at Meridian Lake Reservoir; and,

WHEREAS, the January, 2025 balance in the capital reserve fund is greater than the current estimate of the replacement cost of those structures as a result of the sale of a large number of Base Units, such that capital reserve assessments can be waived; and,

WHEREAS, the Enterprise has no formal policy regarding the refund of the purchase price for canceled Base Units;

The Board of Directors has determined that it is necessary to protect the capital reserve fund balance and avoid sudden and significant increases in capital reserve assessments. The following policy is adopted regarding the refund of the purchase price of a canceled Base Unit:

A full refund will be paid upon cancellation if the total purchase price is \$49,000.00 or less.

The refund will be prorated over two years if the total purchase price is \$50,000.00 - \$100,000.00

The refund will be prorated over four years if the total purchase price is \$101,000.00 - \$200,000.00.

The refund will be prorated over six years if the total purchase price is \$201,000.00 - \$300,000.000.

The refund will be prorated over eight years if the purchase price exceeds \$300,000.00.

This policy shall be included in all future purchase agreements for Base Units.

ADOPTED this 27th day of January 2025.

Stacy McPhail, President

Don Sabrowski, Secretary

WAE AGENDA ITEM 6

**Resolution 2025-3 to Adopt
WAE Check Signers**

Resolution 2025-03

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am duly elected and qualified Secretary of the Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise and the keeper of the records and seal of said Enterprise and the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Enterprise held on the 27th day of January, 2025.

“Whereas, the Board desires to designate those persons authorized to sign and countersign checks, drafts, notes or orders for the payment of money in the name of the Enterprise.

“Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that all the checks, drafts, notes, or orders drawn against the Enterprise’s accounts with said Bank be signed by any two of the following:

NAME	TITLE
Stacy McPhail	Board President
Rosemary Carroll	Board Vice-President
Don Sabrowski	Board Secretary
John Perusek	Board Treasurer
Sonja Chavez	General Manager

whose signatures shall be duly certified to said Bank, and that no checks, drafts, notes or orders drawn against said Bank shall be valid unless so signed.

“Be It Further Resolved, that said Bank is hereby authorized to honor and pay any checks, drafts, notes or orders so drawn, whether such checks, drafts, notes or orders be payable to the order of any such person signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or any of such persons in their individual capacities or not, and whether such checks, drafts, notes or orders are deposited to the individual credit of the person so signing and/or countersigning said checks, drafts, notes or orders, or to the individual credit of any other officers or not. This resolution shall take effect January 27, 2025 and will continue in force until further written notification to said Bank.

ADOPTED this 27th day of January, 2025.

Stacy McPhail, President

Don Sabrowski, Secretary

WAE AGENDA ITEM 7

General Manager's Report

WAE AGENDA ITEM 8

**Adoption and Certification of
2025 WAE Budget**

MEMORANDUM



TO: UGRWAE Board of Directors
FROM: Beverly Richards, Office Manager
Sonja Chavez, General Manager
DATE: January 27, 2025
SUBJECT: 2025 Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise Budget

Purpose: The following information is being provided to the Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Activity Enterprise (Enterprise) in order to review, discuss and approve the 2025 Enterprise Budget.

Summary of Information: Attached is a draft of the 2025 Enterprise Budget and associated 2025 Cost Allocation worksheet. The Cost Allocation sheet is used to calculate the Enterprise reimbursement to the District for managing Enterprise activities. The reimbursement rate in 2024 was 4.46 percent of the District's 2024 Operating Expense Budget. This percentage reimbursement has been used since 2012. Staff had to conduct some research to determine why the rate was set at this amount. We found minutes from January 30, 2012, WAE Regular Meeting which states, *The 4.46% figure has been in effect since 2009. In 2007 and 2008, the cost share was at 15%, when more staff time was being spent on the acquisition of the reservoir and the dam rehabilitation. Actual staff time spent was subsequently tracked, resulting in the figure of 4.46% (See meeting minutes attached).*

Other budgetary items of importance to note for the Enterprise Board are that previous reimbursement calculations were based on operational expenses associated with four full-time staff from 2007 through 2019, five full-time staff members from late 2020 through the majority of the third quarter of 2024, and seven beginning October of 2024.

It is the recommendation of executive management that the 2025 reimbursement amount associated with payroll expenses be based on the four staff positions (General Counsel, General Manager, Office Manager, and Administrative Assistant) that work on Enterprise activities rather than our full-staffing number. This is reflected in the attached draft Enterprise budget for 2025.

Enterprise board members will also notice that the capital reserve amount at the end of 2024 was \$606,808. This is an increase of \$216,038 over the 2023 reserve balance. This was due to the sale of 91 base units in 2024 at \$3,500 per base unit: Gunnison County – 68, CBFD – 17, Doug Kroft – 6. The estimated capital reserve fund balance at the end of fiscal year 2025 is estimated to be \$770,084. This is based on estimated interest earnings of 4.87% on \$403,946 of funds in ColoTrust reserve, estimated interest earnings of \$19,672 on the \$300,000 bond earning 5.15% with LPL Financial, and the estimated revenue over expenses for 2025.

For the Meridian Lake Reservoir Augmentation Plan, the recommendation of executive management is that the annual assessment rate for 2025 be set at \$80.55 per base unit. The assessment rate is calculated as 2024 assessment rate on base units plus the needed capital reserve amount. The capital reserve amount is determined based upon the cost of replacement, the age of the structure and its remaining useful life (See attachment 2025 Capital Reserve Analysis). The row highlighted in yellow shows the cost of replacement in 2025 dollars and the estimated reserve balance needed. Given the 2024 end of year actual balance in our reserves of \$606,808, staff is recommending that there be no capital reserve assessment levied in 2025.

UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE
BUDGET January 1 - December 31, 2025 - Final Draft

		2024		2024		2025	
		BUDGET		ACTUAL		BUDGET	
REVENUE							
1	Water Contract Sales	\$	-	\$	318,500	\$	- Sold 91 Base units 2024
2	Annual Assessments	\$	53,000	\$	52,656	\$	64,302 749 Base Units X 85.85 last years amount
3	Interest on Investments	\$	20,000	\$	23,626	\$	35,129 Includes interest on \$105,000 moved to ColoTrust
4	Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$	73,000	\$	394,782	\$	99,431
EXPENSES							
Operating Expenses							
5	Administrative Salaries	\$	16,900	\$	17,079	\$	18,505
6	Staff Salaries	\$	5,400	\$	12,696	\$	5,911
7	Payroll Taxes	\$	2,100	\$	2,167	\$	1,508
8	Employee Benefits	\$	4,500	\$	4,027	\$	2,319
9	Audit & Accounting	\$	4,564	\$	1,960	\$	2,475
10	Utilities and Cleaning	\$	900	\$	673	\$	549
11	Bonding and Insurance	\$	700	\$	650	\$	698
12	Office Telephone	\$	320	\$	379	\$	405
13	Common Area Maintenance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	338
14	Computer Expenses	\$	1,338	\$	841	\$	1,449
15	Administrative Travel & Expenses	\$	1,540	\$	1,060	\$	1,575
16	Office Supplies and Expenses	\$	935	\$	565	\$	765
17	Postage	\$	106	\$	139	\$	68
18	Legal Publication	\$	50	\$	170	\$	225
19	Board of Directors' Expenses	\$	660	\$	540	\$	675
20	Meeting Expenses	\$	587	\$	239	\$	225
21	Board of Directors' Mileage	\$	150	\$	109	\$	248
22	Vehicle Expenses	\$	312	\$	358	\$	158
23	Reservoir Insurance	\$	563	\$	563	\$	563
24	General Engineering	\$	5,000	\$	760	\$	2,500
25	Dam Operations and Maintenance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	Total Operating Expenses:	\$	46,625	\$	44,976	\$	41,155
Non-operating Expenses							
26	Water Supply Acquisition	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
27	Capital Improvements	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
29	Other Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	Total Non-Operating Expenses:	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	Total Operating & Non Operating Expenses	\$	46,625	\$	44,976	\$	41,155
Other Expenses							
30	Capital Reserve Contribution	\$	5,173	\$	5,173	\$	- None suggested for 2025
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	51,798	\$	50,149	\$	41,155
	Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$	21,202	\$	344,633	\$	58,276
	Capital Reserve Balance			\$	606,808	\$	770,084 Bond and ColoTrust plus \$105,000 from checking account

UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

January 1 – December 31, 2025

We, the undersigned officers of the UPPER GUNNISON RIVER WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE (ENTERPRISE), do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the 2025 Budget for said District as adopted by the Board of Directors on January 27, 2025.

Stacy McPhail, President

ATTEST:

Don Sabrowski, Secretary

Cost Allocation Worksheet: Enterprise Reimbursement to UGRWCD Done

UGRWAE Share of Expenses is: 2025
4.46%

Operating Expenses	2025 UGRWCD Budget	2025 UGRWAE Cost Share
Administrative Travel	\$ 35,000	\$ 1,561
Audit & Accounting	55,000	2,453
Bonding & Insurance	15,500	691
Board of Directors' Expenses	15,000	669
Board of Directors' Mileage	5,500	245
Computer Expenses	32,200	1,436
Legal Publications	5,000	223
Meeting Expenses	5,000	223
Office Supplies and Expenses (Copier)	17,000	758
Administrative Salaries	411,213	18,340
Staff Salaries	131,345	5,858
Payroll Taxes	33,500	1,494
Employee Benefits	51,527	2,298
Vehicle Expenses	3,500	156
Postage	1,500	67
Telephone	9,000	401
Utilities and Cleaning	12,200	544
Total	\$ 733,485	\$ 37,419

WAE AGENDA ITEM 9

Miscellaneous Matters

WAE AGENDA ITEM 10

Citizen Comments

WAE AGENDA ITEM 11

Adjournment