

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy
District Annual Meeting Minutes of the
Board of Directors Monday, June 30, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD) conducted their annual meeting on Monday, June 30, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, 210 West Spencer, Suite A, Gunnison, Colorado and via Zoom video/teleconference.

Board members present: Rosemary Carroll, Joellen Fonken, Rebie Hazard, John Perusek, Don Sabrowski, Andy Spann, Brian Stevens, Jeff Writer, and Brooke Zanetell.

Board members absent: Camille Richard

Others present:

Amanda, Aulenbach, Wet Meadows Restoration Project Manager
Stacy Beaugh, Drought Contingency Planning Consultant
Sonja Chavez, UGRWCD General Manager
Bailey Friedman, UGRWCD Projects Manager
Julia Iovino, Wet Meadows Restoration Program Technician
John McCLOW, UGRWCD General Counsel
Ryan Outler, Wet Meadows Restoration Program Technician
Carrie Padgett, Drought Contingency Planning Consultant
Beverly Richards, UGRWCD Office/Senior Program Manager
Sue Uerling, UGRWCD Administrative Asst./Communications Specialist
Ari Yamaguchi, Water Resources Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Rosemary Carroll called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director Rebie Hazard moved and Director Joellen Fonken seconded approval of the agenda as circulated. The motion carried.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE FOR BRIAN STEVENS AND JEFF WRITER

Kellie Starritt, Gunnison County Court Judge, administered the oath of office for Board members Brian Stevens and Jeff Writer. Brian Stevens applied for the vacancy in Division 8, City of Gunnison, that was vacated by Mike Rogers and Jeff Writer will begin a new term representing Division 5, Crested Butte.

Vice President Carroll welcomed Director Stevens and Director Writer and invited them to

introduce themselves. Both gave an overview of their extensive experience in working within and for the Upper Gunnison watershed.

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Director John Perusek moved and Director Andy Spann seconded approval of the consent agenda. The motion carried.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer John Perusek referred to the Treasurer's Report included in the packet and noted that he didn't have anything to add to the report. Director Fonken asked if there were some investments maturing soon. It was noted on the Bank and Bond Balances report included in the packet that there will be three investments reaching maturity soon, two treasuries with LPL, one on July 1, 2025 and one on August 12, 2025 and a CD with Synchrony Bank on July 29, 2025. The District will work with its financial advisor to find appropriate replacements.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice President Rosemary Carroll asked for nominations for 2025-26 District officers. Motions were made as follows:

Director Andy Spann moved and Director Rebie Hazard seconded approval of the election of Director Don Sabrowski for the role of President. The motion carried.

Director Joellen Fonken moved and Director Andy Spann seconded approval of the election of Director Rosemary Carroll for the role of Vice President. The motion carried.

Director Joellen Fonken moved and Director Rosemary Carroll seconded approval of the election of Director Rebie Hazard for the role of Secretary. The motion carried.

Director Rosemary Carroll moved and Director Rebie Hazard seconded approval of the election of Director John Perusek for the role of Treasurer. The motion carried.

Director Rosemary Carroll thanked former Directors Stacy McPhail and Julie Nania for their expertise and many hours of service on behalf of the District.

7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2025-02 APPOINTING FINANCIAL OFFICERS

Director Joellen Fonken moved and Director John Perusek seconded approval of Resolution 2025-02 appointing financial officers for the District. These include Don Sabrowski,

Rosemary Carroll, Rebie Hazard, John Perusek, and Sonja Chavez. The motion carried.

Staff will provide a copy of the signed resolution to the appropriate financial institutions and the financial officers will sign new signature cards as required.

8. RE-AUTHORIZATION OF STANDING COMMITTEES

President Sabrowski referred to the list of current sub-committees provided in the board packet. Vacancies and committee chair vacancies were noted and all Board members were asked to consider serving. After some discussion, the committees included the following members and chairs:

Education and Outreach Committee: Chair – Brooke Zanetell, Rosemary Carroll, Joellen Fonken, Camille Richard, Sonja Chavez, Beverly Richards, Sue Uerling

Executive Committee: Chair Don Sabrowski– President; Rosemary Carroll – Vice President; John Perusek – Treasurer; Rebie Hazard – Secretary

Finance Committee: Chair – John Perusek, Rebie Hazard, Brooke Zanetell, Sonja Chavez, Beverly Richards, Accountant

Grant Committee: Chair – Joellen Fonken, Rebie Hazard, Andy Spann, Rosemary Carroll, Sonja Chavez, Beverly Richards

Legislative Committee: Chair – Rebie Hazard, Don Sabrowski, Andy Spann, John McClow, Sonja Chavez

Watershed Management Planning Committee - Chair – Camille Richard (tent.) Brian Stevens, Jeff Writer, Sonja Chavez, Beverly Richards, Bailey Friedman

Director Rebie Hazard moved and Director John Perusek seconded approval of the re-authorization of the standing committees with the changes noted above. The motion carried.

9. DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANNING (DCP) PRESENTATION BY STACY BEAUGH AND CARRIE PADGETT

DCP Consultants Stacy Beaugh of Strategic by Nature and Carrie Padgett with Harris Engineering presented a Power Point about the DCP process and outcomes to date. The following is a list of major points from the presentation:

- Funded by the Bureau of Reclamation -follows their framework.
- Focuses on the Upper Gunnison River Basin, above Blue Mesa Reservoir (not the same as the

Colorado River Drought Contingency Plans which focus on the seven basin states).

- Considers all water sectors -municipal, agricultural, environment and recreation.
- Embraced a collaborative planning approach engaging many diverse stakeholders.
- Creates an actionable plan that enables drought projects to be eligible for future funding opportunities.
- Led by a Task Force of 30 diverse water users, community agencies, and organizations; engaged 79 unique stakeholders total.
- The Drought Contingency Plan requires six (6) elements: Drought Monitoring; Vulnerability Assessment; Mitigation Actions (which were prioritized); Response Actions (of which a Communications Plan is of the highest priority); Operational & Administrative Framework (including the roles and responsibilities of the District and area partners); and, Plan Development & Update Process (which includes the Evaluation Process and Frequency of Updates)
- Public Comment Period is open from July 1-30, 2025 by visiting the website, using the QR code, or using this link: <https://uppergunnisondroughtplan.org/>
- Board approval of the final plan will be in August 2025

Follow-up questions from the Board included Director Brooke Zanetell asking more about how wildlife was considered during the DCP process. The consultants and General Manager Chavez responded that under the “High Priority” Mitigation Actions, wildlife and bird species were discussed as part of the “Natural meadows and riparian habitat resilience” actions. Ms. Chavez noted that extensive outreach was conducted with Colorado Parks and Wildlife representatives to address such issues.

Director Rosemary Carroll asked if the official data from the U.S. Drought Monitor will be used within the Drought Monitoring Dashboard and whether or not any other sources will be accessed for the most comprehensive data. General Manager Chavez answered that Senior Program Manager will be inputting data from the U.S. Drought Monitor and other sources for the dashboard but that the goal was to keep the dashboard easily understandable for the general public.

Director Andy Spann asked if the “average” for the dashboard is using the last 30 years of data. The response was that some sources of data like CBRFC use the 30 year historic average but the District would be putting emphasis annual hydrologic data. There was agreement that in our assessment of drought conditions it might be better to look at the “median impact.” Director Brian Stevens asked if soil moisture content would also be included in the dashboard’s data. Ms. Padgett answered that it would be difficult for some of the DCP groups to digest and interpret some of the scientific data, noting that the dashboard is designed for the general public’s use but that soil moisture is considered where that data is available and that it is definitely a gap. General Manager Chavez said that links to the scientific data used as part of our regular assessment of local drought stages are available to those who may have an interest in diving further into the data and that UGRWCD would be working in coordination with local agencies when declaring drought and soliciting community support in the implementation of actions.

Director Rosemary Carroll asked if there was representation at the meetings from all of the seven sub-basins of the District and if there was a consensus across the board about the DCP plan. The consultants explained that they did reach out to all sub-basin constituents and at least talked to representatives individually if they could not attend meetings in person. They noted that while there was a consensus

overall for the plan, it was reported at the meetings that each sub-basin could customize the plan to better fit their region.

Director Joellen Fonken asked if there was any group that elected not to participate that they really wanted at the table. General Manager Chavez said that no one elected not to participate but that there were some groups who were just unable to regularly attend the meetings so the consultant made a concerted effort to follow up with them individually as the plan was progressing, so she felt there was a good cross-section of stakeholder and basin input. The consultants commended the District on the community participation level, stating that our significant and regular community turnout stood out from many other planning processes they've been involved in.

10. "NEON" SCIENTIFIC ENDEAVORS PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR ROSEMARY CARROLL

Director Carroll explained that "NEON" stands for National Ecological Observation Network under the National Science Foundation (NSF) and includes gathering data from automated sources, ground campaigns and airborne observatory platforms. This includes High Resolution Cameras for Visual Context; Lidar for 3D Laser Mapping of the Landscape; Hyperspectral data or "Nature's Fingerprints" and Mapping Across Landscapes. She explained that this provides for a comprehensive Multi-Scale Analysis.

Director Carroll reported that within the District, NEON has focused on the East and Taylor basins as follows: \$1M was obtained through Congressionally Directed Spending in the 2024 NASA budget for this project and Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) is the lead on the project., This leverages and expands upon the 2018 airborne observatory platforms campaign. It also leverages >\$2.5M in other resources in the region (ASCC, DOE: SFA, RENEW, SAIL; NSF CZCN, NOAA SPLASH, RMBL long term ecologic data and spatial micromet network.)

Director Carroll explained that NEON benefits the District as follows:

- Drives innovation and career development – Data feeds into national datasets and informs NASA missions; local institutions (RMBL, WSCU), along with many early career scientists who gain critical experience.
- Tracks environmental change– uses advanced sensors to monitor forests, rivers, and ecosystems, helping detect early signs of drought, wildfire risk, and disease.
- Provides open data– anyone—from students to scientists to policymakers—can use the data to understand and protect resources.

General Manager Chavez asked if at some point it will be possible to just use the satellite data to provide regular and ongoing data/information on the progression of drought. Director Carroll replied that "yes," this is possible, and she explained how such data and funding is directed by NASA.

Director Brian Stevens noted that while he was with the Bureau of Land Management, there was mapping of cheatgrass and he wondered if NEON would address cheatgrass. Director Carroll answered that while she understands cheatgrass is a universal problem, NEON currently does not include cheatgrass mapping in

their study.

11. BASIN WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Senior Program Manager Beverly Richards referred to her memorandum in the packet and noted that since she prepared the memo, conditions have further degraded due to warmer and dryer weather. Now, most of the District falls into the moderate to severe drought categories with the exception of a small portion of Saguache County. She noted that all streams in the basin reached peak runoff on June 3rd and have since been dropping. She reported that precipitation is trending towards the 2022 water year, which was a “dry” category year, and that although the monsoon season should begin in the next week or so, it is questionable whether or not the monsoonal flow will actually reach into Colorado, other than maybe the Four Corners region. She also said that streamflows are currently registering at about 50 percent or lower than the average for this time of year (exception Lake Fork area). She also noted that reservoir storage has peaked as well.

12. GENERAL COUNSEL UPDATE

General Counsel John McClow referred to the Bureau of Reclamation contract governing the updated operations of the Taylor Reservoir Storage Exchange Agreement included in the packet and ready for signature. He noted that this contract updates the 1975 Agreement and that it basically is the same agreement with updates to current conditions and operations and omits some of the outdated provisions which are no longer valid after 50 years.

Director Jeff Writer asked John if the updated contract still “fully protects our water,” and John replied, “Yes.” Counselor McClow gave the following examples of changes that were made: 1) the 1975 agreement says that the Upper Gunnison District is authorized to obtain a water right and we’ve already done that; and 2) we updated the payment schedule for the Colorado River and Upper Gunnison River Districts’ contributions to annual dam operation and maintenance expenses. The updated agreement is valid for 40 years.

Counselor McClow noted that the Board must authorize General Manager Chavez to sign the new contract on behalf of the District.

Director Brooke Zanetell moved and Director Andy Spann seconded approval of the motion to accept the updated agreement and authorize General Manager, Sonja Chavez to sign Contract No. 25-WC-40-1021 on behalf of the District, with such contract superseding the 1975 Taylor Park Reservoir Operation and Exchange Agreement. The motion carried.

Counselor McClow also provided an update on the Colorado River Negotiations among the Seven Basin States and noted that the “good news” is that there is now agreement on a framework for operations which will be based on supply rather than demand. That is the three preceding years of natural flow on the Colorado River and an average of this natural flow would be released from Powell every year with the Lower Basin States having to figure out how to divide that supply amongst themselves. The point of discussion among basins now is what percentage will be released from Lake Powell every year. Modeling

being done by USBR is that the sweet spot is between 55 and 62% of the natural flow to sustain the system. Arizona is demanding 85% but the Upper Division States' models show that "this will run the system into the mud in about three years".

At the UCRC meeting held last Thursday, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Water & Science said USBR would like to see a seven states solution but if it doesn't come to fruition, he will exercise his authority as river master in the lower basin and whatever authority he has in the upper basin (which by the way is not undisputed). He wants to see a draft by November of this year but if there is a consensus reached after that it can still be dropped into the NEPA process no later than Valentine's Day 2026. This provides enough time to have a plan in place by the end of Water Year 2026. If Reclamation steps in and manages the process, General Counsel McClow suggests that the Lower Basin states will suffer more because the Secretary, as water master, can shut off the valves at Hoover Dam (their sole source of supply). If the reductions need to be 2 to 3 million-acre feet per year (what current modeling shows us) the bulk of that will fall on Lower Basin because the Secretary has no authority beyond the major CRSP Reservoirs to do anything in the Upper Basin. Counselor McClow said the Lower Basin States do not have a similar contract. The Seven States meeting was not productive, and he doesn't think they will have another one. The Upper Division States have presented the Secretary with an alternative that they think is best for the system and will rest on this alternative and hope that the Lower Basin States will come around. The Draft EIS will come out in December of this year.

He said that the Bureau of Reclamation has determined that 3,525 feet is the critical elevation for Lake Powell to protect the infrastructure. USBR does not want to get to the minimum power pool. Releases for next year won't be presented until August.

Director Spann asked if the Bureau could demand releases from the CRSP Reservoirs. Counselor McClow said that the Upper Division States have a contract with the Bureau for Drought Operations of Upper Division CRSP Reservoirs that the Bureau has promised to adhere to before they make any agreements for releases. Whether they honor this is yet to be seen.

President Sabrowski asked where we are at in regard to the ten-year rolling average non-depletion agreement to not cause the flows to be depleted below 7.5MAF over any ten consecutive years. Right now, we are at about 8.1 MAF average. The projections for how long we will stay about 7.5 MAF is somewhat intimidating.

Director Writer asked if there had been any calls in the Upper Gunnison. No calls have been made to date but staff anticipate they will happen this year, given the poor hydrology.

13. GENERAL MANAGER, COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

General Manager Chavez reviewed the **Budget & Administrative Matters** memorandum included in the Board packet and asked if there were questions. None were raised.

Senior Program/Office Manager Beverly Richards reviewed the **Annual Funding Contribution to Gunnison Conservation District** memorandum included in the Board packet. She explained that staff

have been meeting with the Gunnison Conservation District to develop a proposal for an annual funding contribution in the amount of \$10,000. The 2025 funding proposal will be aimed primarily at education and outreach in the areas of wildfire and drought mitigation and the development of an Upper Gunnison Basin Targeted Conservation Plan. It was noted that the District has supported Coal Creek Watershed Coalition and the Lake Fork Valley Conservancy with such annual contributions depending on their requests and the budget. Future funding contributions to the Gunnison Conservation District will be subject to approval of their proposal request and budget availability.

Director Joellen Fonken asked if, in future years, this would become a regular line item in the District's budget, and the answer was "Yes."

Director Rosemary Carroll asked how there was so much unallocated funds left in the Grants line item. It was explained that there are three reasons driving that number: 1) some grant projects came in under budget; 2) \$300,000 was set aside in 2025 for the District Grant Program but only \$235,000 was awarded leaving a surplus, 3) and some previously awarded projects were declined.

President Sabrowski asked for a motion to re-allocate \$10,000 in 2025 Grant Program Funding to the 2025 Gunnison Conservation District agreement and authorize an ongoing annual contribution subject to UGRWCD budget availability.

Director John Perusek moved and Director Rosemary Carroll seconded approval of the motion to reallocate \$10,000 in 2025 Grant Program Funding to the Gunnison Conservation District agreement and authorize an ongoing annual contribution subject to UGRWCD's budget availability. The motion carried.

Employee Home Ownership Program (EHOP)

General Manager Chavez reported that last year, the Board asked staff to develop a Home Ownership plan for first-time home buyers that could be used to attract and retain District employees. As the EHOP was being developed, the housing market surged so it was decided to put the program on hold until the market cooled down some. Staff have now prepared the draft plan, utilizing samples from several organizations in the area, and would like the Board to authorize the General Manager and General Counsel to move forward with preparing a final draft for review. It was noted that mortgage lenders like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will require staff utilizing the EHOP to at make interest only payments at a minimum during their mortgage period.

Director Brooke Zanetell said she was "highly in favor" of this program and asked about percentages based on years of service and whether or not the District's plan is modeled after the Electrical Association's plan. She said it would be helpful for the Board to see how much money the District would lay out for this program based on a couple of the scenarios. Ms. Chavez replied "yes" she was aware of the program and had contacted GCEA to discuss the program and that in addition, the District researched other programs, including the Colorado River District's and Eagle County's. She offered that staff could share the spreadsheet that shows the breakdown of percentages and interest

rates, as well as sharing some of the sample plans the District utilized in developing the EHOP.

Director Rosemary Carroll asked if the EHOP could be used for deed-restricted housing. Ms. Chavez said the District received a presentation previously from Gunnison Valley Housing Authority, and they reported that the EHOP could be used for deed-restricted housing with the District likely holding the second or third deed of trust. General Counsel John McClow explained how the EHOP would work for the District to recoup the loan amount should a staff member using the program default on the loan.

Director Jeff Writer asked how many current employees might be interested in the EHOP. Ms. Chavez answered “two.”

Director Rosemary Carroll moved and Director John Perusek seconded directing the General Manager and General Counsel to update and finalize a draft Employee Home Opportunity Program (EHOP) concurrently with IDF and present it to the Board for consideration and approval at the July 28, 2025, regular Board Meeting.

Water Quality Dashboard Update

Water Resource Specialist Ari Yamaguchi gave a presentation about an ArcGIS water quality data dashboard tool developed by SGM Engineering, Surveying and Consulting which would assist the District in being able to visualize where water quality data exists across the Upper Gunnison which is important for future Total Maximum Daily Load development and regulatory compliance. The tool also includes the ability to easily download and query data from the WQX portal in a clean and useable format as well as add data being collected by the District and other entities. The dashboard tool also offers a point-and-click interface to produce simple graphs to streamline identification of locations with existing or potential future compliance issues.

SGM has provided a draft scope of work and anticipates that tool development will cost approximately \$41,000. Recurring monthly costs of \$20 per month will be charged by SGM to host the dashboard and support up to 10 custom URLs and password protection. There would be additional costs associated with acquiring the URL address for the dashboard, ranging from \$50-\$100 per year and there could be similar costs for Mapbox usage.

Director Rosemary Carroll asked if other municipalities or agencies in the region might be interested in using this tool and whether or not the District would consider asking them to share in the costs. General Manager Chavez replied that she had not thought about that option but that the District could certainly reach out to them.

General Manager Chavez said that because Director Jeff Writer has a relationship with SGM, he would be refraining from commenting and voting on this matter to avoid a conflict of interest.

Director Rebie Hazard asked if the District knows what the annual fee to update the dashboard will be. General Manager Chavez replied that at this time these fees are unknown but she said that it would likely be a triennial fee as the CRPHE data calls occur every three years.

After further discussion, General Manager Chavez said the Board does not need to take any formal action on the dashboard at this time, but just wanted to gauge the Board's interest and reaction to the concept. She offered that at the next meeting, staff could present a full scope of work, cost estimations of all fees, and SGM could be invited to provide a presentation on the dashboard.

Ag Return Flow Study

Mr. Yamaguchi also reported that through the fall and winter, surface water sampling was conducted on a monthly basis. In May, sampling returned to a weekly schedule which will continue through the end of irrigation season, at which time it will return to a monthly schedule.

He said the USGS staff began the second phase of data collection for the study, placing data loggers in wells in the East River Basin. Of the six existing wells selected, five have data loggers deployed, providing high-resolution data for the duration of the season. A seventh well was also installed. These wells will be physically sampled starting in late July. In other drainages, the USGS is still reviewing options for groundwater sampling sites. They did install flow measurement devices on the East River No. 1 and Slide Ditches in May.

Water Quality Update

Mr. Yamaguchi reported that staff attended a presentation from CDPHE on the Water Quality Roadmap being developed. Information included a review of the most up-to-date version of the Clean Water Policy 8 draft and updates on the Feasibility and Implementation Subgroup's efforts. Currently, the Roadmap working group is gathering concerns and input from stakeholders regarding implementing new standards, which could take up to 25 years. Of the several standards on the radar for redevelopment arsenic, cadmium and temperature will be most salient for the Upper Gunnison watershed and staff will mainly focus on these analytes.

Turf Replacement Update

Landscape Architect Margaret Loperfido of SCJ Studio Landscape Architecture was on Zoom to present an overview of the concept and design for the Turf Replacement and Demonstration Garden funded by the grant received last year from the state. To date, approximately 2,000 square feet of nonfunctional turf was removed and plant kits are being planted which include 615 drought-tolerant native plants, delivered in 41 boxes with 15 plants per box. These plant species were selected by Resource Central to support biodiversity while requiring minimal water, in line with the water conservation goals of the grant. Ms. Loperfido has incorporated these specific plants into her design.

Wet Meadows

Wet Meadows Program Director Amanda Aulenbach reviewed her memorandum included in the packet, which gave an overview of first quarter activities and activities scheduled for the next quarter. She noted that two technicians were hired and completed their training in May. They are Julia Iovino and Ryan Outler.

Ms. Aulenbach highlighted that UGRWCD and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe representatives will tour wet meadow restoration projects and assess agriculture infrastructure needs at Pinecrest Ranch with Colorado River Water Conservation District staff on Tuesday, July 22nd.

Education and Outreach

Administrative Assistant/Communications Specialist Sue Uerling referred to her memorandum included in the packet and said the spring and summer has been very busy with several Mini-Grant activities and events. She commended Director Zanetell for leading the Blessing of the Ditches ceremony and picnic, thanked Director Fonken for participating in the Art Flags project and thanked staff for their help with several of the activities.

A slide show of photos from the 12 outreach events supported by the District ran during the dinner hour prior to the meeting.

Water Resources Project Manager Update

Water Resources Project Manager Bailey Friedman reviewed her memorandum included in the packet. Highlights included: the Field Safety Guide, which has been updated to include guidance and procedures when working in snow and water bodies as recommended at the April meeting; Watershed Management Plan (WMP) currently under review by senior staff; wetland field assessments; Geo-fluvial final report which awaits the General Manager's approval and possible development of a story map; Colorado River District (CRD) – Community Funding Partnership (CFP) in which staff submitted an application for the Sargents No. 2 Ditch improvement; Strategic Planning, where staff has prepared an RFP for a consultant and will assist with planning a Board Retreat in late fall or early winter; updating the Basin Implementation Plan (BIP); working on the Source Water Protection (SWP) Program to identify local projects to submit to the NRCS; working with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies (BCR) providing local input for a new guide; assisting the University of Nebraska with collection of data from the Eddy Covariance (EC) Tower near Parlin; working in partnership with Jesse Kruthaupt of Trout Unlimited to develop a Conservation Action Plan; and completing a variety of training components on water law, water fluency and CPR/First Aid.

After some discussion on the Field Safety Guide, including a recommendation and offer of assistance from Director Brian Stevens regarding reliance on Montrose Dispatch for emergency protocol, it was recommended that the Board approve the Field Safety Guide with the understanding that it will

continue to be updated with timely, relevant safety measures.

Director Jeff Writer moved and Director Brian Stevens seconded approval of the 2025 May edition of the Field Safety Guide with the understanding that the guide will be updated with the latest safety measures. The motion carried.

Taylor Local Users Group (TLUG)

TLUG Chair Don Sabrowski reported that during the June meeting the River Forecast Center's forecast showed a reduction in runoff to 60,000 acre-feet, which is just 64 percent of average. The TLUG representatives decided to be more conservative and reduce projected releases from Taylor Reservoir to 275 cfs until the first of July, instead of jumping to 300 cfs as was originally proposed. The hope is that this will conserve some of the storage in Taylor in order to be able to help the rafting and agricultural interests have some higher flows in late August and early September. Chairman Sabrowski said he really appreciated that these entities were willing to reduce releases at a critical time for their operations. Director Andy Spann said he is really glad the TLUG group is also getting data from Airborne Snow Observatories, as this has been very useful in helping the group make recommendations for operational releases. The next TLUG meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. on July 10, 2025.

General Manager Sonja Chavez also reported that she and Counselor McClow will be meeting with the Four Parties on July 2, 2025, to confirm recommendations for releases from Taylor for Water Year 2025.

Gunnison River Festival (GRF)

General Manager Sonja Chavez reported that the 2025 festival was a great success with over 70 participants in the Taylor Down River races on June 20th and over 300 attendees at the Whitewater Park on June 21. She commended Hayden Daiber, the new director of the GRF for a job well done and noted that she was successful at attracting some new sponsors this year.

Gunnison Basin Roundtable (GBRT)

General Manager Sonja Chavez reported that she and General Counsel John McClow attended the GBRT meeting on May 19th. She gave a brief overview of several activities the GBRT. She talked about Savannah Nelson who is both the DCP Planning Group public outreach coordinator and the GBRT coordinator. Ms. Nelson will be coordinating three public information meetings, likely to be held at Gunnison Basin libraries on topics such as Colorado Water Law, Water Administration for the Non-Irrigator and general water use information. In addition, Ms. Nelson submitted a PEPO grant to the state to continue outreach efforts of the roundtable (approximately fall 2025-2026).

Ms. Chavez said the group also heard about a new row crop irrigation technique that is being used in Israel that could help with water conservation, and which will be piloted in the Lower Gunnison.

14 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

General Manager Chavez reminded the Board that the Colorado Water Congress Summer Conference is August 19-21 in Steamboat Springs. Director Brian Stevens was added to the list of attendees and Director Jeff Writer noted that the January conference would work better for his schedule.

15. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

16. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings were included in the Board Packet. It was noted that the next TLUG meeting is July 10th not July 8th as was stated in the meeting listing.

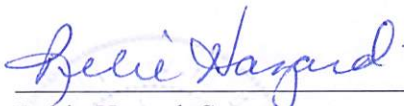
17. SUMMARY OF MEETING ACTION ITEMS

- A copy of the Drought Contingency Planning link will be shared with the Board
- EHOP – staff will share a copy of the spreadsheet with interest rates and percentages, as well as samples of other programs
- The Field Safety Guide will be updated to edit the section regarding Montrose Dispatch emergency protocol with assistance from Director Brian Stevens

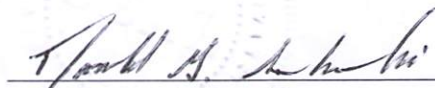
18. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Don Sabrowski adjourned the June 30, 2025 regular Board Meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebie Hazard, Secretary



Don Sabrowski, President