

**Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District
Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 22, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD) conducted an annual Board Meeting on Monday, June 22, 2026, 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: Stuart Asay, Rosemary Carroll, Rebie Hazard, John Perusek, Don Sabrowski, Hannah Cranor-Kersting, Brooke Zanetell, Brian Stevens, Camille Richard (via Zoom), and Jeff Writer (via Zoom).

Board member absent: Joellen Fonken

Others present:

Carl Bern, USGS

Sonja Chavez, UGRWCD General Manager

Rachel Gidley, USGS (via Zoom)

Jules Iovino, UGRWCD Water Resources Fellow

Leon Katona, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (via Zoom)

John McCloy, UGRWCD General Counsel (via Zoom)

Beverly Richards, UGRWCD Office/ Senior Program Manager

Corey Williams, USGS

Ari Yamaguchi, UGRWCD Water Resources Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Don Sabrowski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were ten board members present, which constitutes a quorum (six members).

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Director Carroll moved and Director Hazard seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE BY JUDGE KELLIE STARRITT

Judge Starritt administered the oath of office for Stuart Asay, Brian Stevens, John Perusek, and Hannah Cranor-Kersting. All board members were sworn in for a four-year term.

4. APPROVAL OF MAY 19, 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Director Asay moved and Director Perusek seconded approval of the May 19, 2026 board meeting minutes. The motion carried.

5. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2026-01 TO SET POSTING PLACE

Director Hazard moved and Director Carroll seconded approval of Resolution 2026-01 to Set Posting Place. The motion carried.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Perusek stated that he had no other information other than what was provided in the memo included in the board meeting packet.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The current slate of offices includes Don Sabrowski, President; Rosemary Carroll, Vice-President; Rebie Hazard, Secretary; and John Perusek, Treasurer. President Sabrowski asked each officer if they were willing to continue to serve in that capacity and all agreed. The following motions were made:

Director Stevens moved and Director Zanetell seconded appointing Director Rosemary Carroll as Vice-President. The motion carried.

Director Perusek moved and Director Asay seconded appointing Director Rebie Hazard as Secretary. The motion carried

Director Carroll moved and Director Hazard seconded appointing Director John Perusek as Treasurer. The motion carried.

Director Carroll moved and Director Stevens seconded appointing Director Don Sabrowski as President. The motion carried.

8. RE-AUTHORIZATION OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Director Asay moved and Director Perusek seconded re-authorizing the standing committees as presented. The motion carried.

Director Cranor-Kersting will provide staff with the committees she would like to serve on.

9. GENERAL COUNSEL UPDATE

General Counsel McClow said he has been working on administrative items such as contracting for the grant program, contracting for the drill seeder, preparing for and attending the board retreat, reviewing applications for the administrative assistant position, and other planning matters.

Counselor McClow also said there was a 10-year operations plan developed by the Bureau of Reclamation which includes renegotiation every two years. He said there is very little information available about the plan, but many are not in favor of that ongoing process.

10. BASIN WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Senior Program Manager Beverly Richards said she attended the Water Conditions Monitoring meeting the day after her report was prepared. She presented some slides provided by Russ Schumacher, State Climatologist, at that meeting. The slides showed that temperature conditions continue to remain warmer than average as the area moves into the summer months. This has had effects on drought conditions marking 2026 as second only to 2002 in severity. The slides also showed that El Niño is likely for the summer or fall and could potentially be strong. That combined with a potentially active monsoon season could bring some optimism in the long term.

11. PRESENTATION BY RACHEL GIDLEY, CORY WILLIAMS, AND CARLETON BERN, USGS ON AG RETURN FLOW STUDY

USGS provided an update on the AG Return Flow Study. This included background on the study; goals and approach used in the study; ongoing data collection and sampling; continuous and discrete flow measurements; ground water monitoring in the East River Basin; upcoming tasks; and data analysis for 2025 irrigation season. This was an informational item with no Board action required.

12. GENERAL MANAGER, COMMITTEE, AND STAFF UPDATES

- Miscellaneous matters including strategic planning, B2E congratulations from Senator Bennett, and producer thank yous for infrastructure upgrades that have helped during this low water year.
- Administrative management update including construction of deck on Unit A, phase 2 of the Xeriscaping project, 2025 audit completion, insurance renewal, development of credit card use agreement.

- Grant program update included outstanding grants for 2024 and 2025, and the progress for contracting for 2026 grants.
- Wet Meadows quarterly program update included updates of planning and field activities, research, data sharing, and education and outreach.
- Water resources quarterly update including Homestake Pitch Uranium Mine variance status, Water Quality Control Commissions rulemaking schedule, and Temperature Working Group meeting schedule.
- Education and Outreach quarterly update included information about the drought outreach campaign, outreach events, and anticipated activities for the remainder of the summer and into the fall.
- Taylor Local Users Group update provided information about June 9, 2026 meeting. This meeting discussed water supply, CBRFC forecasts, WRF-Hydro forecasts reports, release recommendations, and voluntary fishing closures.
- Gunnison River Festival update included information about the events that occurred as part of the Taylor Down River Race and the Gunnison Whitewater Park events.
- Director Carroll provided scientific endeavors update which included ongoing research in the Upper Gunnison basin.

13. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- Resolution 2026-02 honoring John McClow for 20 years of service to the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District.
Director Hazard moved and Director Carroll seconded approval of Resolution Honoring John McClow for 20 Years of Service. The motion carried.
- Colorado Water Congress, Steamboat Springs – August 18-20, 2026. Board to advise staff if they would like to attend.
- Board members provided updates on matters associated with their divisions.
- Director Asay suggested considering the increase of the current mill levy to address issues associated with water supply conditions. Staff recommendation was to look at this issue once the strategic planning has been completed.

14. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments.

15. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings for the District were provided.

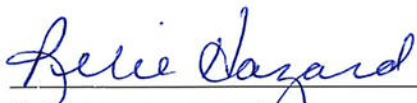
16. SUMMARY OF MEETING ACTION ITEMS

- Provide digital link to USGS Stakeholder Meetings from handout.
- Staff will work on municipal water supply information and messaging around drought to address public questions about security of municipal water supply throughout the community.
- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation on the State Drought Declarations as requested board education.

17. ADJOURNEMENT

Board President Don Sabrowski adjourned the June 2026 Annual Board Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebekah Hazard, Secretary



Don Sabrowski, President