

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
**Colorado River Authority of Utah**  
**June 18, 2024 --1:00 p.m. MT**

1. **Call to Order – Gene Shawcroft, Chair**

Mr. Shawcroft called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm stating there was a quorum. Each attendee briefly introduced themselves. A list of attendees is included in Attachment I.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of May 21, 2024, Colorado River Authority of Utah Meeting – Gene Shawcroft**

There being no comments on the May 21, 2024 minutes a motion was made by Mr. Humphrey and seconded by Ms. Hasenyager to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

3. **Public Comment Pursuant to the Public Comment Policy of the Authority (limit of 2 minutes per person) – Gene Shawcroft**

There were no public comments.

4. **Report of the Chair – Gene Shawcroft**

Mr. Shawcroft reviewed recent happenings beginning with sharing that a Basin States meeting was held on June 5, 2024 in Denver, and explaining the states are committed to work something out. Mr. Shawcroft noted there are many things discussed that never come to fruition, so he doesn't want to share many details. Mr. Shawcroft shared there was a Getches-Wilkinson Center conference and Basin States panel held in Boulder, Colorado June 6-7, 2024. Mr. Shawcroft then explained the Upper Division States had the opportunity to meet with Commissioner Touton on June 6, 2024 where the major topic of discussion was Bucket 2. Mr. Shawcroft stated the Upper Division States sent a letter to Commissioner Touton regarding the no action alternative and how that relates to the 602a storage that is required for the Upper Division States to continue to meet obligations under the 1922 Colorado River Compact without impairing the Upper Basin's ability to use water. Mr. Shawcroft explained the Upper Division States also sent a letter to the Commissioner's Office regarding the Action Alternative submitted by the Upper Division States and demonstrating how the alternative implements the Long-Range Operating Criteria for Lake Powell and Lake Mead consistent with federal law.

Mr. Shawcroft discussed the Bucket 2 Conservation federal funding where \$375 million is allocated to Upper Division States for durable conservation activities from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for drought mitigation and environmental measures. Mr. Shawcroft explained the States are to contract directly with Reclamation for funding and the Authority will contract with Reclamation for Utah's share in coordination with DWRi and DWRe. Mr. Shawcroft discussed System Conservation Pilot Program (SCPP) extension and explained the original authorization was for the program to expire in September 2024 and to preserve SCPP as a tool in the conservation toolbox the Upper Colorado River Commission (UCRC) is seeking federal reauthorization for SCPP through September 2026.

Mr. Shawcroft stated UCRC would hold its summer work session and regular meeting in Cheyenne, Wyoming June 25-26, 2024, and on Monday, June 24, 2024 in Denver there would be an Upper Basin States/Tribal Meeting.

5. **Report of the Executive Director – Amy Haas, Executive Director**

Ms. Haas announced she would like to defer her report today to allow more time to discuss the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Work Plan. Ms. Haas commented on Bucket 2 stating this is the second tranche of the money the states are receiving as part of the Federal Inflation Reduction Act. Ms. Haas explained the intent is to identify longer term more durable conservation activities.

6. **Hydrology and System Status Update – Betsy Morgan, Staff Engineer & Lily Bosworth, Staff Engineer**

Ms. Bosworth explained that today's data would be from the ground up, focus on both the present and future, and focus on the Colorado River Basin. Ms. Bosworth provided an overview of Utah's ASO Pilot Project data, including the elevation and snow water equivalent SWE from six dates in March through June, explaining how the snowpack decreased over time. Ms. Bosworth discussed the surface hydrology of snow water equivalent (SWE), surface water input, and precipitation. Ms. Bosworth explained that below normal SWE progressed to normal SWE during the snow season across the Upper Basin. Ms. Bosworth discussed streamflow which she explained was normal to below normal across the Upper Basin. Ms. Bosworth explained the 2024 water year was similar to the 2020 year with a slightly below median cumulative runoff. Ms. Bosworth discussed the seasonal precipitation outlook and explained there was below average precipitation through August and above normal temperature in June. Ms. Bosworth discussed drought conditions which she stated continue to persist in the Colorado River Basin.

Ms. Morgan discussed Upper Basin reservoir storage and each of the reservoirs' percentages full. Ms. Morgan discussed Lake Powell and Lake Mead system storage explaining Powell was 40% full and Mead was 34% full and the total system content was 44% full, which is 1% more than last year. Ms. Morgan discussed the Lake Powell Unregulated Inflow where the most probable for June is 7.79 million acre feet (maf) (81% of normal) and explained there is very little difference in the minimum, most probable and maximum forecasts for June. Ms. Morgan discussed the Lake Powell end-of-month elevations where there is a decrease in uncertainty through the remainder of the calendar year and the minimum probable scenario is just above the 3525 feet elevation of Lake Powell for a Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) trigger in April, 2025. Ms. Morgan discussed the Lake Mead end-of-month elevations and stated there was a level 1 shortage through the remainder of 2024 and the shortage will likely continue in calendar year 2025.

7. **Request approval of proposed Colorado River Management Plan FY 2025 Work Plan – Betsy Morgan & Lily Bosworth**

Ms. Bosworth stated the Board approved the 5-year Management Plan in April 2022 with three priority areas: drought mitigation, measurement and hydrology & operations and that today staff is seeking approval for the third Work Plan for FY25. Ms. Morgan explained the Work Plan themes and noted \$50 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding was allocated to the Upper Division States through UCRC in August 2023 to support implementation of Upper Basin Drought Contingency Plans (DCPs). Ms. Bosworth provided an overview of the 2025 estimated budget allocations that is approximately \$7,500,000 + TBD and explained BIL funds were not included. Ms. Morgan discussed Interstate Engagement which she explained involves 20 committees. Ms. Bosworth discussed the Advisory Councils which she explained are an important part of the Work Plan. Ms. Morgan discussed the Work Plan structure and explained the bulk of the plan is organized by priority area and category.

Ms. Morgan and Ms. Bosworth discussed Measurement and the projects that fall under streamflow & diversions as well as consumptive use. Ms. Morgan and Ms. Bosworth discussed

Hydrology & Operations and the projects that fall under Modeling and Research & Implementation. Ms. Bosworth and Ms. Morgan discussed Drought Mitigation which includes three categories: Agricultural Water Resilience Research, Utah Colorado River Accounting & Forecasting, and Agricultural Water Resilience Initiatives, and briefly discussed projects associated with each category.

Mr. Shawcroft suggested more detail, such as maps, regarding measurement devices used for each project in the future, and explained specific details would be helpful for the Authority's ability to demonstrate how and what is being accomplished.

Ms. Hasenyager made a motion to approve the Management Plan which was seconded by Mr. Humphrey and unanimously approved by the Board.

8. **Remarks from the Board**

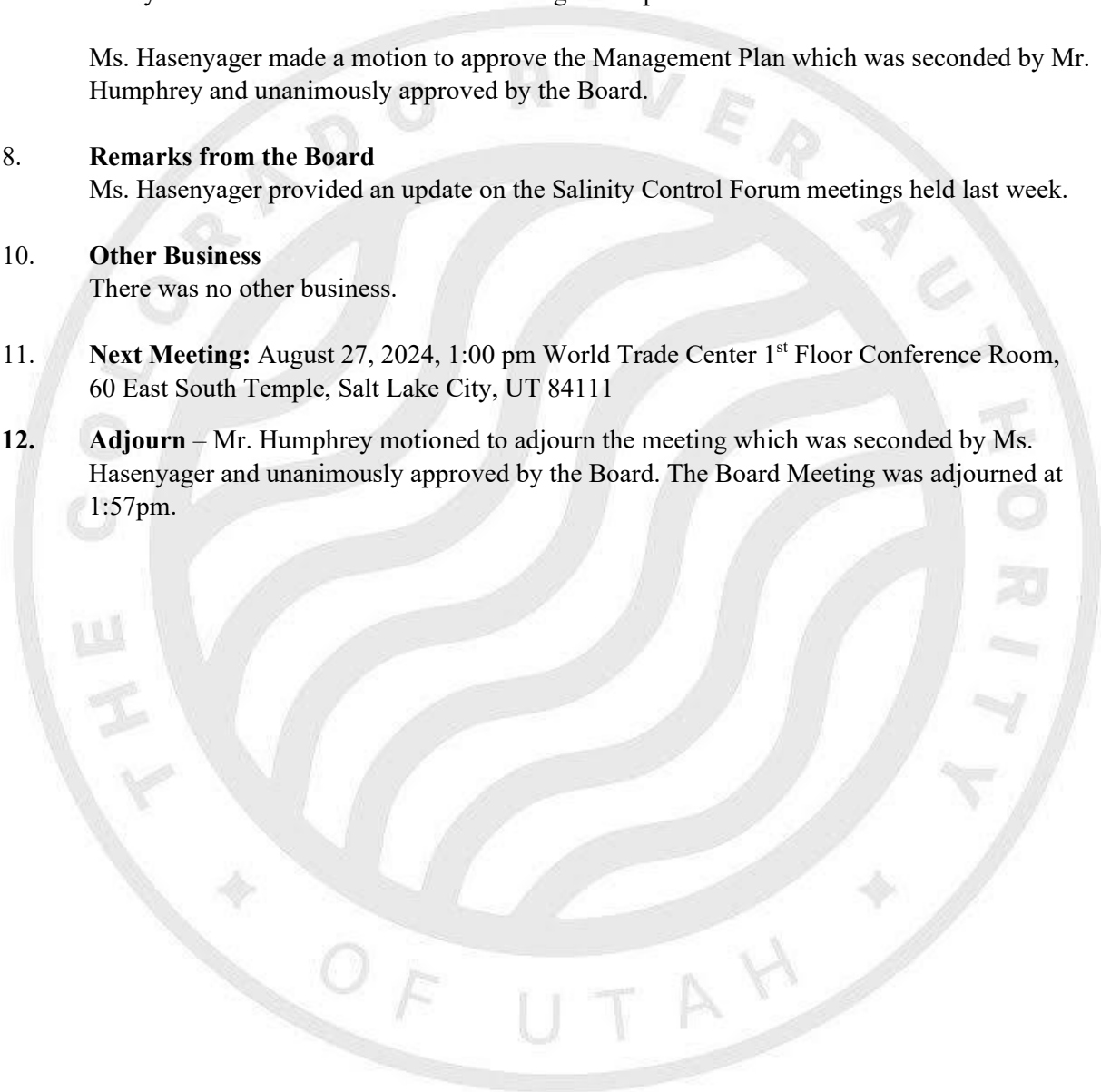
Ms. Hasenyager provided an update on the Salinity Control Forum meetings held last week.

10. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

11. **Next Meeting:** August 27, 2024, 1:00 pm World Trade Center 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, 60 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84111

12. **Adjourn** – Mr. Humphrey motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Hasenyager and unanimously approved by the Board. The Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm.



**June 18, 2024**  
**Colorado River Authority of Utah Board Meeting**

**Board Member Attendees:**

Gene Shawcroft, Chair  
Candice Hasenyager  
Jay Mark Humphrey  
Zach Renstrom, Virtual  
Dan Larsen, Virtual

**In-Person Attendees:**

Amy Haas, CRAU  
Betsy Coleman, CRAU  
Betsy Morgan, CRAU  
Lily Bosworth, CRAU  
Holly McCall, CRAU  
Scott McGettigan, Division of Water Rights  
Dex Winterton, MLWUA  
Wendy Crowther, Utah Assistant Attorney General

**Virtual Attendees:**

Cadi Sande, CRAU  
Cody Allred - Pacificorp  
Gordon Rowe, Utah Assistant Attorney General  
Bart Leeflang, Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
Rachel Anderson, Advanced Engineering & Environmental Services (AE2S)  
Annalise Porter  
Evan Curtis

