

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Colorado River Authority of Utah
February 13, 2025 --12:00 p.m. MT

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

Mr. Shawcroft called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm stating there was a quorum. Board members and participant attendees briefly introduced themselves and attendee names were read aloud by Holly McCall. A list of attendees is included in Attachment I.

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

There were no public comments.

3. **Consideration of approval of UT Demand Management Pilot Program Projects for 2025 – Lily Bosworth, Staff Engineer**

Ms. Bosworth provided an overview of the Demand Management Pilot Program which she explained is part of the Authority's 5-year Management Plan focusing on drought mitigation. Ms. Bosworth explained the Utah Legislature appropriated \$5 million in one-time funds for drought mitigation projects under the management plan in 2023 and the program aims to maintain viable agricultural communities by facilitating temporary, voluntary, compensated and protected conservation of water use. Ms. Bosworth explained the program's objectives and discussed the application process which included three project types: partial or full-season temporary following project approach; irrigation system conversion, and storage forbearance or lease change.

Ms. Bosworth explained that 27 applications were received for a proposed 22,600-acre feet of conserved consumptive use and a proposal of about \$6.3 million of compensation for one year. Ms. Bosworth explained the evaluation committee included the Authority, Jacobs, sub-consultants, representatives from UDAF's water optimization program, the Division of Water Resources, and the Great Salt Lake Commissioner's Office. Ms. Bosworth stated that recommendations and considerations for selection were based on project scores, available budget, maximizing the impact of funds and resources, pilot program objectives, and building relationships with participants.

Mr. Stilson discussed the change applications and timing, and the change applications required to be filed before projects begin. Mr. Stilson explained that most research questions can be answered with or without a change application in place and that without an approved change, water rights has no obligation to account for or distribute the water.

Ms. Haas emphasized the tie-in between the state pilot program and the Upper Division State's commitments for post-2026 and explained conservation activities are included in the Upper Division State alternative for the operations of Powell and Mead beginning in 2026. Ms. Haas explained that water conserved under this pilot will be accounted for and could receive credit toward the Upper Division State's post 2026 conservation commitments.

Board members asked questions and discussed various aspects of the program. Discussion included canal shares, water delivery to Lake Powell, shepherding water, system losses,

and mitigation strategies. The Warren Act and the use of federal facilities to store water were also discussed.

Mr. Ferry made a motion to postpone the vote until no later than March 14th. Mr. Renstrom seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

4. **Adjourn**

The Board meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm



February 13, 2025
Colorado River Authority of Utah Board Meeting – Virtual Only

Board Member Attendees:

Gene Shawcroft, Chair
Joel Ferry, Vice Chair
Candice Hasenyager
Jay Mark Humphrey
Dan Larsen
Zach Renstrom

Attendees:

Amy Haas, CRAU
Betsy Coleman, CRAU
Betsy Morgan, CRAU
Lily Bosworth, CRAU
Holly McCall, CRAU
Cody Stewart, CRAU
Marc Stilson, CRAU
Logan Anderson, CRAU
Bart Leeftang, CUWCD
Wade Garrett
Cody Allred
Sarah Shechter
Brian Andrew
Rodney Wilkerson
Ethan Smith
Scott McGettigan
Tommy DeHart
Scott Morrison
Thayns
Brad Bunderson
Jordan Nielson
David Condos
Gordon Rowe
Teresa Wilhelmsen
Cam Walker
Diane Branham
Mike Drake
William Butcher
Joby
Eric McCulley
John Sampinos
Morgan Freeman

