

**ALLOCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 10, 2020**

A meeting of the Allocation Committee was held on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 1:08 p.m. at the District Office 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado 81001 via zoom virtual meetings.

Chairman Bub Miller announced a quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Howard "Bub" Miller – Vice Chairman
Alan Hamel, Curtis Mitchell, and James Broderick

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Carl McClure – Chairman, Andy Colosimo, and Tom Goodwin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Alan Ward, Pueblo Board of Water Works; Kalsoum Abbasi, Colorado Springs Utilities; Bill Long, Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) Directors; Garrett Markus, Margie Medina, Lee Miller, Leann Noga, Patty Rivas, and Chris Woodka, District staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Garrett Markus confirmed that members of the Committee received their copy of the July 9, 2020 minutes, and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Alan Hamal moved, Bub Miller seconded, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

2020 FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT WATER ALLOCATION BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Garrett Markus reported Reclamation has forecasted an import basis for allocation of 62,000 AF based on the snowpack of May 1, 2020. With the additional 2019 unallocated Project water, 62,915 AF were made available for allocation. The final Fryingpan-Arkansas Project water (Project water) imports for allocation year 2020 accrued slowly but have converged around 51,030 AF. Water releases on July 1, 2020 were based on the June 30, 2020 Fryingpan-Arkansas accounting of 49,672 AF, which is approximately 80 percent of the May 1, 2020 projection. This import amount is below the 2020 budgeted amount; however, the 2019 unallocated Project water that was allocated in 2020 increased the allocated water above the 2020 budget expectations. The Project water sales and surcharges for municipal, agriculture, and Return Flows was \$222,400 higher than the 2020 budget projection and the surcharges associated with storage produced \$54,508 more revenue than the budgeted amount. Carryover, Winter water and Excess Capacity actual versus budget were also presented. Overall, between storage and water sales net \$276,908.39 more than budget vastly due to carry over water from 2019.

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Refunds were sent out to stakeholders that did not receive the full allocation given the difference in projected imports versus actual imports

ACTION ITEM:

AGRICULTURAL OFF-SEASON STORAGE FOR PROJECT WATER

Garrett Markus reported water year 2020 started off with high snowpack and elevated river conditions typical of a wet spring. However, late summer and fall were hot and dry with very little precipitation made for an abnormal year for water storage and projections. The content levels in Pueblo Reservoir are 111 percent of average and Pueblo Reservoir's risk of spill every spring elevates the need for water management within the Reservoir. In the past the District has enacted the 80/20 Rule to limit large amounts of agricultural Project water stored during the winter months when space is needed for the Winter Water Storage Program and Project water deliveries from the upper reservoirs. Ag stakeholders have planned on a 20 percent carryover enforcement and most entities have already executed plans to meet the current conditions of the 80/20 Rule for the 2020 Project water allocation year. Staff recommends enacting the Agricultural 80/20 Rule for the 2020 Project water year.

Curtis Mitchell moved the Allocation Committee recommend to the District Board to enact the Agricultural 80/20 Rule for Project water storage for the 2020-2021 agricultural off season, seconded by Alan Hamel. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

None

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Vice-Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Garrett J. Markus, P.E.

Water Resources Engineer