

**CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CWAC)**

Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 8:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order / Opening Statement:

CWAC Chair Rory Juneman called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

2) Roll Call:

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Rory Juneman, Chair	Representative, City Manager
Alan Forrest	Representative, City Manager
Steven Washburn (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Andrea Gerlak	Representative, City Manager
Hilari Varnadore (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Raul Ramirez (Virtual)	Representative, Ward 1
Tom Prezelski	Representative, Ward 2
Lisa Shipek (Virtual)	Representative, Ward 3
Robert Jaramillo (Virtual)	Representative, Ward 5
William Ellett	Representative, Ward 6
John Kmiec	Ex-Officio (non-Voting) City of Tucson Water Department Director

Absent:

Ed Hendel	Representative, Mayor
Melissa Lal	Representative, Ward 4
Claire Zucker	Representative, City Manager
James Doyle (Virtual)	Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

- 3) Announcements**—Chair Juneman shared that Juliet McKenna has left the committee. He also shared that the committee has a new member, Claire Zucker, who has joined and she would be absent for a couple of meetings.

4) Review and approval of June 4, 2025, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes – Motion:

Member Ellett moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Meeting Minutes. Member Gerlak duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** Chair Juneman requested a correction; he had attended the meeting in person. The motion passed on a voice vote, 9 – 0.

Member Prezelski arrived at 08:44 a.m.

Member Washburn left at 08:51 a.m.

Member Forrest out at 09:30 a.m.

- 5) **Director's Report** - Tucson Water Deputy Director Scott Schladweiler provided brief updates as follows:
- a) Mayor and Council items:
 - i) Review of August and September agenda items. No items for October.
 - b) Colorado River Update
 - c) Potable and Reclaimed water demands

Members asked questions, and Director Kmiec fielded them throughout his report to clarify information for the committee and provide updates on water matters. The committee raised several questions on the Colorado River Update and the Large Quantity Water User Ordinances. No action was taken on this item.

- 6) ****Vice Chair Elections** - Staff recommends the Citizens' Water Advisory Committee support the nomination of Bill Ellet as Vice Chair for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year. **Motion:** Stephen Washburn motioned Bill Ellet as Vice Chair for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year. Member Gerlak duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** Member Ramirez requested Member Ellet to provide his background and brief information about himself. Member Ellet shared that he is a retired employee of ADEQ, having served for 20 years and retired 6 years ago. Stayed active in water matters, continues his membership on boards and commissions relating to water, including UCAB. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 9-0.

- 7) **Corporate Water Stewardship** – Tucson Water Director John Kmiec, accompanied by Deputy Director Scott Schladweiler, presented an item on corporate water stewardship for committee discussion. Director Kmiec began by outlining the department's intent to create a diverse panel of community members to review a proposed ordinance for large-quantity water users. He explained that the ordinance is being developed to ensure that companies seeking to establish large-scale operations in Tucson do so as responsible community partners, aligning their activities with the community's long-term water security goals.

As part of the discussion, Director Kmiec shared what other communities considered for large-scale water developments that may seek to be considered for neutral or water positive. He clarified that the points shown on the Corporate Water Stewardship slide were not listed in any particular order.

The committee engaged in discussion and raised several clarifying questions. Members asked about water augmentation, supply restoration, Colorado River negotiations, storage credits, Advanced Water Purification (AWP), alignment with the One Water Plan, and submission of conservation plans and how AWP projects would be defined. Questions were also raised about the role of AWP, requirements for conservation plans, and how the proposed ordinance would fit within the One Water framework. Several members inquired about how Tucson's approach compares to other cities in the region and requested additional information on regional practices.

There were also specific requests for staff to provide a map of the watershed, including the identification of shallow groundwater areas, and to outline potential projects that could support watershed restoration. Members expressed interest in learning more about nature-based solutions and specifically referenced Pima County's Flood Control Program, which has included the acquisition of floodplain lands to restore natural ecosystems.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the committee agreed that corporate water stewardship and the development of a large-quantity water users ordinance should remain a standing agenda item for future updates. In addition, the committee requested that two to three CWAC members volunteer to serve on the proposed review panel. Interested members were asked to email Mrs. Rodriguez to confirm their participation.

- 8) **Subcommittee Reports** – Chair Juneman reminded the committee of the subcommittee vacancy and the difficulty in filling the vacancies on all of the subcommittees. Options were provided to combine the Technical Planning and Policy (TPP) subcommittee with the Conservation & Education Committee (C&E), or to dissolve the TPP subcommittee. He also reminded the committee of TPP criticality and the need for the subcommittee, asking members to consider their time commitments. Chair Juneman asked the committee to consider all options and be prepared to vote on an option at the October meeting.
- 9) **Call to Audience** – Mark Day commented on the League of Cities meeting and Tucson Conservation ethic compared to most cities, in addition to the limited water supplies. Mr. Day also pointed out that there should be a scale of jobs per acre of water to evaluate the company.
- 10) **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – The committee requested the Large-Scale Water Users Ordinance to be added to the agenda and the Reclaim System to be added to a future agenda.
- 11) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.