

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

Wednesday, November 5, 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 8:06 a.m.

2) Roll Call:

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Rory Juneman, Chair	Representative, City Manager
Ed Hendel (Virtual)	Representative, Mayor
Alan Forrest (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Steven Washburn	Representative, City Manager
Andrea Gerlak (Virtual)	Representative, City Manager
Claire Zucker	Representative, City Manager
Tom Prezelski (Virtual)	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
James Doyle	Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department

Absent:

Melissa Lal	Representative, Ward 4
Raul Ramirez	Representative, Ward 1
Hilari Varnadore	Representative, City Manager

3) Announcements—Chair Juneman shared Dennis Canty is no longer a member of CWAC.

4) Review and approval of October 1, 2025, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes – Motion: Member Zucker moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Meeting Minutes. Member Ellet duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** Member Zucker requested a correction be made to the spelling of her name; removal of the “s” at the end of Zucker in the announcements. The motion passed on a voice vote, 9 – 0.

5) Director's Report - Tucson Water Director John Kmiec provided brief updates as follows:

Member Washburn arrived at 08:11 a.m.

Member Forrest left at 09:30 a.m.

- a) Mayor and Council items
- b) Colorado River Update
- c) Potable and Reclaimed Water Demands
- d) Large Quantity Water Users

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.

- 6) **Reclaim System** - John Kmiec, Director of Tucson Water, provided a comprehensive look at Tucson Water's Reclaimed Water System, highlighting its 40-year history, significant infrastructure investments, recharge projects, system growth, and current capacity. He explained how reclaimed water supports Tucson's long-term water sustainability goals through:

- a) Delivery of recycled water to customers
- b) Constructed and managed recharge projects
- c) Environmental, community, and recreational benefits
- d) Integration with the One Water 2100 Plan
- e) Future strategies, including advanced purification

Director Kmiec emphasized the system's evolution from early test basins in the 1980s to today's extensive network, and outlines plans to expand reclaimed water use, storage, and treatment technologies to maximize water resources and ensure resilience for the community. Members asked questions, and Director Kmiec fielded them throughout his presentation to clarify information for the committee.

- 7) **Financial Plan Review** - Kim Baker, Rates and Revenues Manager, City of Tucson Water, presented the FY27–FY30 Financial Plan recommended for review. Highlighting key areas that guide Tucson Water's long-term planning and financial decisions. The focus areas include the capital improvement program, budget planning, water resources management, and system safety and reliability.

Motion: Member Zucker moved to maintain the current 5.5% for FY27 rate increase and to increase to 3.5% for FY28 - FY30, with 40% debt-funded CIP. Member Washburn duly seconded the motion. Discussion: Member Ellet inquired on scenarios where there is a need for cash on hand. Member Hendel needed more clarity and understanding, requesting a subcommittee write-up for committee preparation, and a delayed vote. Member Zucker expressed the standard thinking and logic, having sat on previous financial committees. Member Hendel requested information on the next steps. Member Shipeck supported the 5.5% on current years, held concerns on the 3.5%, questioning the rate increases for Conservation. Member Hendel does not support the motion based on preparedness. The motion passed on a roll call vote 7-2. There was a question about whether a majority vote of the members is necessary, or whether a majority of members in attendance at the meeting is needed for a motion to pass. An email clarification was sent to the committee on November 5 at 4:36pm, clarifying the

Member Washburn arrived at 08:11 a.m.
Member Forrest left at 09:30 a.m.

motion passed. Boards and Commissions confirmed that the motion needs the majority of members in attendance at a meeting.

8) **Subcommittee Reports** – The meeting exceeded the time. The item was delayed until the December meeting.

9) **Call to Audience** – None.

10) **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – Chair Juneman opened the item up for members to share items of interest. The committee currently has Chair and Vice Elections, Adoption of the 2026 meeting schedule slated in December. Member Zucker requested Storm Water Compliance transfer to Tucson Water, Debt issuance, and the evaluation of utilities or a Finance 101. Member Shipek requested the One Water 2100 Plan.

11) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.