

CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CWAC)

Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 8:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order / Opening Statement:

CWAC Chair Steven Washburn called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

2) Roll Call:

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Steven Washburn (Chair)

Representative, City Manager

William Ellett (V. Chair)

Representative, Ward 6

Alan Forrest

Representative, City Manager

Hilari Varnadore

Representative, City Manager

Claire Zucker

Representative, City Manager

Raul Ramirez

Representative, Ward 1

Lisa Shipek

Representative, Ward 3

Tom Prezelski

Representative, Ward 2

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:

Ed Hendel

Representative, Mayor

Melissa Lal

Representative, Ward 4

Robert Jaramillo

Representative, Ward 5

Andrea Gerlak

Representative, City Manager

3) Announcements — None.

4) Review and approval of May 6, 2026, 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:** None. The motion passed on a voice vote, 7 – 0.

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

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

Member Varnadore left at 09:32 a.m.

Member Prezelski left at 09:34 a.m

Committee members asked questions throughout the presentation. No action was taken on this item.

- 6) **Water Quality Update** - Albert Avila, Administrator, City of Tucson Water Department, provided a brief update on the Water Quality and Operations Division, including Tucson Water Quality Laboratory sample statistics, drinking water analyses, and PFAS monitoring efforts. The presentation highlighted the laboratory's broad testing capacity for drinking water, including 45 analyses and approximately 180 analytes, covering bacteria, metals, PFAS, volatile organic compounds, 1,4-dioxane, total dissolved solids, and other regulated and emerging constituents.

Mr. Avila reviewed 2025 laboratory work by project type, with analyses supporting water quality monitoring, drinking water compliance, reclaimed water monitoring, TARP advanced oxidation process work, landfill monitoring, and construction inspections. The update also highlighted PFAS sampling trends and Tucson Water's PFAS laboratory development, including the purchase of LC/MS/MS equipment in 2020; in-house PFAS analysis under EPA Method 537, later expanded to EPA Method 533; and current PFAS operational guidelines aligned with EPA maximum contaminant levels.

No formal action was taken.

- 7) **Water Portfolio Update** - Asia Philbin, Chief Hydrologist, City of Tucson Water Department, provided an update on Tucson Water's 2025 Annual Report and Water Portfolio. The presentation reviewed Tucson Water's water production history, current water supply portfolio, rainwater harvesting offset, potable water checkbook, effluent water checkbook, and long-term storage account history.

Ms. Philbin reported that total 2025 water production was 112,088 acre-feet, including 95,632 acre-feet of potable water production. Colorado River water continues to make up the majority of Tucson Water's supply portfolio, representing more than 83% of total water production, with additional contributions from recycled water, remediated groundwater, and a very small amount of groundwater.

The presentation also reviewed Tucson Water's rainwater harvesting offset program. Since 2012, rebated rainwater harvesting systems have contributed an estimated 181.6 million gallons of rainwater harvesting offset, with additional Storm to Shade contributions beginning in 2023. The rebate program was revamped in July 2023 to require systems to capture at least one inch of rainfall, provide \$1 per gallon for both passive and active systems, and include post-installation site visits by staff.

Staff reviewed the 2025 potable water checkbook transactions, including annual CAP allocation, CAGR allocation, incidental recharge, potable water use, and reserved demand for approved water service requests not yet served. The presentation also showed historical

trends for potable water checkbook balances, reserved demand, effluent supply and use, and Tucson Water's long-term storage credits.

No formal action was taken

- 8) **Water Service Area Policy Review** - Richard Sarti, Administrator, City of Tucson, Richard A. Sarti, P.E., New Area Development Administrator, provided an update on Tucson Water's Water Service Area Policy. The presentation reviewed the Tucson Water Service Area, the background of the policy, and 2025 service request approvals and denials. Staff noted that the Water Service Area Policy was approved on August 4, 2010, the "Nine Refinements" were approved on July 9, 2013, and the Water Service Area Review Board was formed on September 10, 2013.

Staff reported that in calendar year 2025, Tucson Water reviewed 206 requests, with 179 approvals and 27 denials. Denials were generally based on properties being outside the service area, not meeting Water Service Area Policy requirements, being located within another municipality's service area, or being located within another water provider's service area. Staff also reviewed the specific criteria related to parcels not being surrounded on three sides by parcels currently served by Tucson Water and area limitations for residential and commercial development.

The presentation included an example reviewed by the Water Service Area Review Board involving Pima County Parcel 22514206E, located in unincorporated Pima County near North Northern Avenue and West Harelson Street. The parcel was identified as being within a Non-Expansion Area and abutted on only two sides by parcels currently served by Tucson Water; therefore, it did not meet the three-sided service requirement under the Water Service Area Policy.

No formal action was taken.

****The Committee Lost Quorum at 09:32 a.m. as it was no longer able to conduct any business**

- 9) **Subcommittee Reports** - This item was not heard
- 10) **Call to Audience** – This item was not heard
- 11) **Future Meeting / Agenda Items** – This item was not heard
- 12) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.