

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE PROJECT 7 WATER AUTHORITY

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September 24, 2026

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Project 7 Water Authority was held September 24, 2026 in the conference room of the Project 7 Treatment Plant site, Montrose, Colorado.

**Directors Present:**

Vicki Ripp, Chair  
Ron White  
Matt Miles  
Randy Meaker

**Others Present:**

|                                          |              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Adam Turner                              | Fred Waldman |
| Aaron Hancey                             | Jerry Young  |
| Kathy Calkins                            | Patti Hill   |
| Tessa Scharf                             | Rick Hill    |
| Jay Thoe                                 | Greg Stunder |
| John McMillan                            |              |
| (Remote- James Silvestro, Andy Mitchell) |              |

Chairperson Ripp called the Regular September 24, 2026 meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Following roll call, a quorum was declared present.

**August Minutes**

Following review of the minutes, Chairperson Ripp asked if there were any additions or corrections, there were none. Director White moved to accept the minutes as presented. Director Meaker seconded. Motion passed.

**Changes to the Agenda**

Chairperson Ripp asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Director Miles asked to add rate discussion under Old Business Item C.

Chairperson Ripp asked if there was any Public Comment. There was none.

**Consumption Report**

Consumption Reports for August 2026 were reviewed. Manager Turner reported that the rain helped decrease usage. He said that flows went from 13.5 million gallons to 8 million overnight.

**Process Control Report**

The Process Control Reports for August 2026 were reviewed. Director White asked if any of the excess rain runoff had caused any problems with water treatment. Manager Turner said not at this time.

### **Updates**

Manager Reports/Update handout: Manager Turner reported water levels at Blue Mesa, Taylor, Silver Jack, and Ridgway reservoirs.

Manager Turner reported that UVWUA was anticipating some work on the fore bay of the East portal of the tunnel after the Oct 31<sup>st</sup> to clean up debris from the flash floods in July.

Mr. Hancey and Manager Turner met with CDPHE and CWRPDA to discuss reclassifying our project from resiliency to the Masterplan/Emergency Ops work. And Ouray County had been cleared to receive FEMA funds for the flood damage after the Gold Mountain Fire.

Manager Turner also updated the Board that there had been reports of cyber threats on water treatment plants in the United States and that precautions were being taken, so that Project 7 SCADA system couldn't be hacked.

Chairperson Ripp asked if there were any comments on the Manager's reports. There were none.

### **CFO Report**

Mr. Aaron Hancey told the Board that the money used for the land purchase and HDR RFP could possibly qualify for the remaining funds to be reimbursed through CDPHE. He discussed the interest being charged on the current loans and the interest being made from Colo Trust investments. Operating revenues were \$6,141,154.00 YTD.

### **TAG Report**

Manager Turner said the Masterplan and Emergency Ops Contract was included in the Board packet and that TAG had scheduled tours with HDR on October 7th and 8<sup>th</sup>. Plans were to tour the whole system from Fairview to the North end of the system, current water treatment site and storage sites. Manager Turner told the board he would provide a more readable copy of schedule B and C of the hand out that was in the Board packet. Attorney Silvestro said the contract did not require any action by the Board that Manager Turner had been given authority to execute the contract with HDR RFP previously by the Board.

### **Legal Update**

Attorney Silvestro reported that he heard from a number of Attorneys for the contracting parties and had shared the Establishing Contract Memo. He said he had worked with Manager Turner to update the Digital Accessibility Plan that the Board would be taking Action on, that he had written up the Budget Hearing notice and assisted in completing the HDR contract.

**Old Business**

Director White moved to approve the Digital Accessibility Plan. Director Meaker seconded. Motion passed.

Manager Turner reported to the Board that the closing on the land purchased would be on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and that the money had already been wired to the title company.

Director Miles said that even if chemical costs and health insurances were up he said it wasn't fair to his constituents to raise rates when Project 7 revenues were up from last year. Director Miles said that Project 7 assets were enough to service the current debt. Director Miles also said that as CFO Mr. Hancey needed to provide a better picture in the financial packet so the Board would be better educated to make decisions such as raising rates. Director Meaker said it was responsible to have a moderate rate increase providing for the Master Plan debt. Adding more information to the financial packet would be beneficial to the Board.

**New Business**

Mr. Aaron Hancey presented the Board with the 2027 Budget proposal. He said it contained the 6.4% health insurance increase and 4% cost of living increase in wages. Director White asked if the instrumentation was being depreciated on a 20 year basis, and if a new upgrade for a server to be able to go off line was included.

**Future Agenda Item**

CFO 2027 budget

There being no more business Chairperson Ripp adjourned the meeting at 5:43

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Chairperson

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Secretary