WATER COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 9:30 AM
SRP Administration Building
1500 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe, AZ  85288

Committee Members:  Paul Rovey, Chairman; Leslie C. Williams, Vice Chairman; and Anda McAfee, Randy Miller, Krista O’Brien, Mark Pace, and Jack White Jr.

Call to Order
Roll Call

1. **CONSENT AGENDA**: The following agenda item(s) will be considered as a group by the Committee and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these item(s) unless a Committee Member requests, in which event the agenda item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item ................................................................. CHAIRMAN PAUL ROVEY

   •  Request for approval of the minutes for the meeting of December 8, 2022

2. **SRP Well System and Aquifer Management** ................................SHARON MORRIS

   Informational presentation regarding the SRP well system infrastructure, aquifer management, storage and recovery, and meeting present and future challenges for SRP shareholders and regional partners.

3. **Executive Session, Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(4), to Have Discussion or Consultation with Attorneys for Legal Advice and to Give Instructions on Pending and Contemplated Litigation Regarding the Status of the Gila River General Stream Adjudication, Contested Case No. W1-106, and Procedural Matters Related to Adjudicating Water Rights Claims on the Verde River** ................................................................. PATRICK SIGL and LUCAS SHAW

4. **Report on Current Events by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or Designees** ................................................................. MIKE HUMMEL

5. **Future Agenda Topics** ................................................................. CHAIRMAN PAUL ROVEY

The Committee may vote during the meeting to go into Executive Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3), for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice with legal counsel to the Committee on any of the matters listed on the agenda.

The Committee may go into Closed Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §30-805(B), for records and proceedings relating to competitive activity, including trade secrets or privileged or confidential commercial or financial information.

Visitors: The public has the option to attend in-person or observe via Zoom and may receive teleconference information by contacting the Corporate Secretary’s Office at (602) 236-4398. If attending in-person, all property in your possession, including purses, briefcases, packages, or containers, will be subject to inspection.
A meeting of the Water Committee of the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District (the District) convened at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2022, from the Board Conference Room at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona. This meeting was conducted in-person and via teleconference in compliance with open meeting law guidelines. The District and Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association (the Association) are collectively known as SRP.

Committee Members present at roll call were P.E. Rovey, Chairman; and A.G. McAfee, M.V. Pace, and J.M. White Jr.

Committee Member absent at roll call was L.C. Williams, Vice Chairman.


In compliance with A.R.S. §38-431.02, Andrew Davis of the Corporate Secretary’s Office had posted a notice and agenda of the Water Committee meeting at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

Chairman P.E. Rovey called the meeting to order.

**Consent Agenda**

Chairman P.E. Rovey requested a motion for Committee approval of the Consent Agenda, in its entirety.

On a motion duly made by Board Member M.V. Pace and seconded by Board Member A.G. McAfee, the Committee unanimously approved and adopted the following item on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the Water Committee meeting on November 15, 2022, as presented
Corporate Secretary J.M. Felty polled the Committee Members on Board Member M.V. Pace’s motion to approve the Consent Agenda, in its entirety. The vote was recorded as follows:

**YES:** Board Members P.E. Rovey, Chairman; and A.G. McAfee, M.V. Pace, and J.M. White Jr. (4)

**NO:** None (0)

**ABSTAINED:** None (0)

**ABSENT:** Board Member L.C. Williams, Vice Chairman (1)

### Big Chino Sub-Basin

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Chuck J. Podolak, SRP Director of Water Rights and Contracts, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide an update on the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement No. 1 among SRP, the City of Prescott, and the Town of Prescott Valley for monitoring and modeling water levels in the Big Chino Sub-Basin and surface flows of the Verde River to determine impacts of withdrawals of water from the Big-Chino Sub-Basin on the current and future surface flows of the Verde River.

Mr. C.J. Podolak provided maps depicting the location of the Big Chino Sub-Basin with respect to the Verde River watershed, headwaters, and the Big Chino Water Ranch. He explained that Assured Water Supply was a result of litigation relating to the importation of groundwater from Big Chino Water Ranch to Active Management Areas (AMA).

Mr. C.J. Podolak stated that Prescott, Prescott Valley, and SRP entered into a Comprehensive Agreement No. 1 wherein all parties would monitor, model, and mitigate the impacts of pumping water from Big Chino to the Prescott AMA. He concluded with a discussion of next steps.

Mr. C.J. Podolak responded to questions from the Committee.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation are on file in the Corporate Secretary’s Office and, by reference, made a part of these minutes.

President D. Rousseau; Board Member R.J. Miller; and Council Member J.W. Lines entered the meeting during the presentation.

### Colorado River Hydrology

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. C.J. Podolak stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide an update on the projected hydrology on the Colorado River, including low water levels of Lake Mead and Lake Powell, efforts by the Upper and Lower Basin States and the United States to address the projected low water levels, and potential impacts to SRP.
Mr. C.J. Podolak commented on the negative headlines with respect to the outlook of the Colorado River. He reviewed the reservoir storage data for the Upper and Lower Colorado River System as of December 1, 2022 and near-term predictions of inflow scenarios forecasted for 2024 for Lakes Powell and Mead.

Mr. C.J. Podolak stated that the additional conservation is needed, states involved still cannot agree on a voluntary plan, and that the Department of Interior is preparing to take action in obtaining a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). He concluded with a discussion regarding voluntary actions, impacts to SRP; and SRP’s engagement in facilitating water movement.

Mr. C.J. Podolak responded to questions from the Committee.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation are on file in the Corporate Secretary’s Office and, by reference, made a part of these minutes.

Ms. A.P. Chabrier entered the meeting during the presentation.

Report on Current Events by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or Designees

Leslie A. Meyers, SRP Associate General Manager and Chief Water Resources Executive, reported on a variety of federal, state, and local topics of interest to the Committee.

Future Agenda Topics

Chairman P.E. Rovey asked the Committee if there were any future agenda topics. None were requested.

There being no further business to come before the Water Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

John M. Felty
Corporate Secretary
SRP Well System & Aquifer Management

Water Committee Meeting

January 17, 2023

Sharon Morris
SRP Wells & Recharge Facilities

~270 Active Wells
Age Range 1919-2023
Groundwater Pumping: Drought Protection

Creating Resiliency from Variability

![Graph showing volume (acre-feet) over time from 1990 to 2020]
Well Drilling, Design, and Construction

Replacement Wells
- Aging wellfield
- Water quality improvement
- Land development

New Wells
- System enhancement
- Strategic partnerships
- Power generation
Water Well Design and Construction

- Marginal water quality
- Good quality water
- Marginal water quality
- Sand, silt, gravel (Aquifer)
- Clay (impermeable)

Water sample

~1000'
Well Design & Installation

Marginal water quality

Good quality water

Marginal water quality

~1000'
Well Maintenance & Reliability
Well Condition & Assessment Tools
SRP/City Connect Wells

Cost Savings

- 50/50 cost share for well drilling, engineering design, and well equipping
- SRP pays to bring water to the ground surface; city pays for additional head into their system
- SRP performs and pays for pump and well maintenance on SRP owned equipment
- City connect wells are given high priority for repair

Improved Efficiencies

- SRP designs the pump to run most efficiently to the city’s system
- SRP performs annual efficiency testing and flowmeter verification
- Pump and well maintenance is scheduled prior to failure
- City can purge well into SRP’s system
Collaborative Partnerships

New River Agua Fria River Underground Storage Project (NAUSP)

Granite Reef Underground Storage Project (GRUSP)
Recharge Status

**GRUSP**
- Facility closed on Sept. 2019, reopened May 2021
- 2021 total deliveries: 22,758 AF
- 2022 total deliveries: 31,070 AF
- 2023 declared capacity: 40,000 AF
- **Total storage inception to date: 1,207,200 AF**

**NAUSP**
- 2021 total deliveries: 23,823 AF
- 2022 total deliveries: 20,008 AF
- 2023 declared capacity: 25,600 AF
- **Total storage inception to date: 269,743 AF**

**SRP Groundwater Savings Facility (GSF)**
- Total storage inception to date: 960,625 AF
Recovery Agreements

Underground Water Storage and Recovery Over Time

Net Total LTSC Balance (AF) Available for Recovery (through most recent year displayed)

7.00M
System Optimization & Planning

Depth to Water, 2022

Figure 11. Simulated 10-year Water Level Decline by 2033
(SRP Pumping Increase from 130,000 APY to 200,000 APY)
Challenges & Opportunities

- Prolonged drought
- Increasing demand for pumping capacity
- Infrastructure and land availability
- Water quality