

Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee June 25, 2019 Meeting Summary

Time: 9a.m. – 12 p.m.

Location: Arizona Department of Water Resources

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chairman Wade Noble called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Introductions

The following members of the Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee were present: Wade Noble, Sarah Porter, Scott Deeny, Bill Plummer, Warren Tenney, Virginia O'Connell, Bruce Hallin, Stephanie Smallhouse, Terri Sue Rossi (for Bill Garfield), Jamie Kelley, Philip Richards, Lisa Atkins, Dave Roberts, Kevin Rogers, Chris Udall, Orestes Morfin (for Chuck Cullom), and Representative Gail Griffin. In attendance from the consultant's project team were Richard Humphreys and Rupal Pandya. In attendance from ADWR staff were Cyndi Ruehl, Natalie Mast, Viviane Baji, Karen Modesto, Clint Chandler, Brett Esslin, Jeff Inwood and Martin Stiles.

III. "Potential Water Storage Sites on Arizona State Trust Land" study (2016)

Chairman Noble told the committee during the last Council meeting, Rep. Griffin referenced the report "Potential Water Storage Sites on Arizona State Trust Land" and Chairman Noble had indicated at that time the Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee would be a good place to discuss it. Chairman Noble then yielded to Rep. Griffin. Rep. Griffin explained that in 2016 a legislative bill was passed that directed the Commissioner of the State Land Department (SLD) and the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) to identify acceptable sites on State Lands to construct water storage and to identify six of the potentially acceptable sites for underground storage facilities. Instead, Rep. Griffin said, the report talks about dams and reservoirs, which was not the intent of the bill. Rep. Griffin indicated that the intent of the bill was to look for acceptable sites to accommodate projects such as in Cochise County. Rep. Griffin would like to have the report revised or amended to identify the true intent of the language in the bill. Chairman Noble agreed that the report does not reflect the language in the bill. Clint Chandler, ADWR, said his agency will rework the report and Commissioner Lisa Atkins, SLD, said her agency will be an active partner in the study and report. Commissioner Atkins gave Horseshoe Draw project in Cochise County as an example of what Rep. Griffin might be looking for.

Chairman Noble said the LTWA Committee will not sunset with the completion of the Water Augmentation report. He said the committee will continue to evaluate the options put forth in the report and to discuss other augmentation options that might be identified in the future. The rework of the "Potential Water Storage Sites on Arizona State Trust Land" will be reviewed by the committee as a "post report" option, with an aim to present it for review to the Council at the December meeting.

IV. Final Committee review of draft report: "Evaluation of the Feasibility of Water Augmentation Options to Assist Planning Areas within Arizona"

Richard Humphreys, Carollo consultants, recognized that he had already received some written comments on the final draft of the report and was asking for additional committee feedback which

will be incorporated into the final report. Committee members had comments and edit suggestions for both final drafts of the Executive Summary and the full report. Any additional comments after close of the committee meeting should be submitted to Ms. Ruehl by July 9. Chairman Noble will determine if the additional comments warrant a need for committee discussion or if any proposed major changes can be circulated electronically with online committee decision, rather than calling a meeting.

After the final comments have been incorporated and the report is finalized, it will be sent out to the committee for adoption. The committee will have 72 hours to make further comment or approve.

V. *Closing remarks and Project Schedule*

Chairman Noble stated that the presentation of the report to the Council on Sept. 12, will conclude the project, but will not conclude the committee. The next committee meeting will be scheduled sometime between the Sept. 12 and Dec. 3 Council meetings.