

**DOLORES WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE**

These written minutes represent the general discussion of the DWCD Board of Directors, DWCD staff, and participants at the DWCD board meeting, and they include a record of any and all board actions taken at the meeting. The written minutes are not intended to provide a word-for-word account of the board meetings. Nor are they a direct quote of any statements offered at board meetings. All DWCD board meetings are recorded on audiotape.

**MINUTES
Enterprise Meeting
June 11, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Godwin Oliver, President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

ROLL CALL

1. Godwin Oliver, President
2. Jeremy Redshaw, Vice President
3. Don Schwindt, Director
4. Glen Fish, Director
5. Ryan Gray, Director
6. Landan Wilson, Director
7. Wes Wilson, Director
8. Ken Curtis, General Manager
9. Eric Sprague, Water Manager
10. Duane Calhoon, O&M Supervisor
11. Gina Espeland, Admin Assistant Accounting
12. Kelsey Cate, Admin Assistant
13. Robert Stump, Bureau of Reclamation
14. Adam Reeves, Attorney MBSS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

In-Person

Chance Hurst, MVIC; Rusty Crangle CDWR, Ed Millard

Via Telephone/Teleconference

Grant Smith

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION:

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED FOR THE MAY 14, 2026, ENTERPRISE MEETING.

MOTION: JEREMY REDSHAW

SECOND: WES WILSON

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION:

TO APPROVE THE APRIL '26 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF PAYABLES AS PRESENTED. O&M: AP/CHECK #44598-44683 & PR/CHECK #127868-127919, \$323,361.46

MOTION: JEREMY REDSHAW

SECOND: LANDAN WILSON

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

O&M REPORT

Ken said Eric can highlight and Duane follow up. Ken said it has been a busy month. Eric stated the entire North system is up and running including M&I's, the last thing that turned on was Dove Creek Lawn & Garden. The plants are up and running and there is delivery for this year's full allocation to all the different blocks. The field techs are repairing laterals and drains. Electricians and Mechanics have been spending the majority of their time at Towaoc and McPhee Power Plant. There was an inspection by the Bureau of Reclamation, which went well. There was also some trouble starting Towaoc Power Plant. Duane said that we have 3 accumulators in the governor oil system that kept dropping out on low oil pressure if any of the needles were operated. After consulting with some engineers in Denver and Robert, the number two piston was forced to dislodge. Towaoc Power Plant has been running since with no issues after losing a weekend of power production. Eric stated that options are being explored for rebuilding or replacing the accumulators in the long term. The control room team has been working on replacing old networking switches on the communication system for the SCADA. A lot of the communication issues have been resolved and Eric is still looking into long term options because it really helped with keeping the canal smooth. This month a new water resources tech was hired, Aaron Sall.

Ken said that there is a dam inspection next week. Eric provided before and after photos of three concrete repairs on the upstream end of the spillway at McPhee Dam. Duane stated that there was a recommendation from a few years ago regarding the concrete starting to fail. Eric said that there is more concrete work to come and there are five repairs being worked on today. Duane stated that he needs to communicate with the Bureau of Reclamation and Robert for one of the repairs. There are two repairs that are on the outside that aren't accessible yet, but Duane said he is very pleased with the concrete repairs thus far. Robert asked to go to a specific picture of repair number three and showed where the steel survey point is located. It was lost in the repair and he will replace it with a scribe mark. The survey point is forever gone and cannot be replaced as it cannot go back in the same place at the original survey. Don asked about a new survey point for the purpose of comparing to the old survey point. Robert said it would have to start a new record because it cannot be correlated to the old one, but he will talk to the survey crew. Robert said that he would do some checking on it to start new history. Robert said that most of the movement is the laterals of the walls moving horizontally. Robert said that the spalling is localized to the post. Duane said that they would be putting a sealant on top of the concrete, too.

Water Accounting

Eric provided an inflow/outflow sheet. He stated that a little over a foot of elevation was lost in May and Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company was pulling from storage later in the month. The total inflow just under 23,000, which was similar to April. This is unusual as we usually see higher, but was probably due to the March heat wave. Ute Farm & Ranch used just under 700 acre feet in the month of May. Full service, the Dove Creek Canal took 3,300 af. Late in the month, Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company started pulling from call water. The way the accounting is set up in April, May, and June they pull from call water until July 1st, and then in July it will come from the pool that they

select. Up to this point they used 1,226 acre feet from storage. When cfs was close to 300 on the river, Groundhog releases started Memorial Day at about 7 cfs and is accumulating as MVIC storage. Precipitation for the month of May was 35% of the 30 year average. The current elevation for June is 6,874 which is about nineteen feet over 6855, the bottom of the active capacity, storage is at 47,000 acre feet. All the project water that is being delivered to parties of Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company is coming from storage. Total inflow for this month is 4,700 af which is higher than the 90% exceedance forecast had for the month of June. June is likely hit 8,000-9,000 acre feet. At the beginning of the month inflows dropped to 300 and in over 10 days it is already below 200. It is dropping quickly, as it settles on the baseflow there will be a better indication of what the late season will look like. The snotels have melted out. Bureau wetlands allocation are 73% through the allocation, with 53 acre feet left. Ute Farm & Ranch has used 50% and same for full service. Montezuma Valley Irrigation has used 30,000 acre feet of irrigation water and have about 27,000 acre feet stored in McPhee. They are 32% through their estimated 93,000 allocation. It is not the final amount that they will use, assuming a full Groundhog and Narraguinnep. The total use for McPhee storage is 3,900 acre feet. The Fishery is 20% through their allocation. There is no recorded precipitation at Great Cut this month.

The river is on call now and Eric will get with CDWR to confirm June accounting at the end of the month. It does affect the accounting. It will affect Cortez and Montezuma Water Company and how the daily calcs work and how much is charged to Cortez's water right versus their project water. Call water stored is at 22,000 acre feet. Runoff is projected to be at 60 KAF for April through July. Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company is looking into some level of shortage, but not to the extreme as the full service users. Ken said we are at low late season inflow calcs by default, down near historic bottoms. Eric said he is estimating approximately what we received in 2002 for July –Oct. Ken said from a water supply perspective this is the only variable to watch going forward.

Allocations Summary - As of June 10th the 90% and 70% exceedance forecasts have met. There is not a strong difference between the 50-70% right now either. The main difference is to Montezuma Valley Irrigation and there is a tiny effect on everyone else. Looking forward, there is a chance of increased precip on the forecast, but we are just at the edge of that probability curve. It really just means increased chance of thunderstorms this weekend and maybe next weekend. It looks like a monsoonal pattern, but it is weak. Still a good sign. Eric showed the 8-14 day precipitation outlook. Eric said that we are already seeing El Nino and it is developing. There are increased sea-surface temperatures in the Eastern part of the Pacific near the equator. Eric showed several maps of the El Nino precipitation outlook through Jan 2027.

Landan said that full-service users have been through 50% of the allocation and asked when we are shutting off. Eric said that shut off date will depend on how the water is used, but that we are already seeing some that are shut off. Eric said that we will see the rates of use in full-service decrease over time until we are at that last 25% of users who are trying to go late. Eric said that we are looking between the 15-30th of July to shut off. If a lot of people stay shut off or drag it out water could run a week or two later.

Ken asked what the Board is looking for. We have a couple of users looking for late season water, but it's doubtful. There was a lot of people that started late. Some of the pool was put into the last increase. Others are eligible to turn on, but have not disclosed what they're doing so there is still pool water leftover. Eric said each shortage year is different and this year is closer to the 2021 shortage year. Eric showed the pool sheet that displays inches per acre. Around 1/3rd of farmer pools have not even started. As people run out, it will give us a pattern on what is left. We will try and hold water at Dove Creek. Eric showed the irrigator sheet of who is already shut off and the next 30 that have not turned on and another group of 30 that have only used 1". Landan asked if there was a pool of leased users. Ken said that we have had a lot of sales and transitions going on. There has been some shuffling on the leases. Ken said that if the Board wanted to take action on a hard shut off date that they can. Eric said that a hard shut off date will help farmers to plan when to use their water. Ken said that we are

going to make it another month. Landan asked Godwin and Jeremy if a lot of people are watering in Yellow Jacket and Dove Creek. Godwin said he would be done in 2 weeks and in Fairview most would be finished in 2 weeks. Godwin said that the extra water helps for some and not for others. Adam said that to the extent that you can deliver project allocation water that you should. Eric said that for the most part moving forward this year, making more water available to FSA farmers depends on the ones not taking water. Ken said that he and Eric will take a hard look after July 3-4th and there is a lot coming due that week. Landan asked if we could send something out like a text to give farmers a heads up on water shut off date. Ken said that we can give updates.

ADJOURNMENT

Dolores Water Conservancy District Water Activity Enterprise Board meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Donald W. Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer

Godwin Oliver, President

DOLORES WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

June 11, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Godwin Oliver, President, called the meeting to order at 3:43 p.m.

ROLL CALL

1. Godwin Oliver, President
2. Jeremy Redshaw, Vice President
3. Don Schwindt, Director
4. Glen Fish, Director
5. Ryan Gray, Director
6. Landan Wilson, Director
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8. Ken Curtis, General Manager
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INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

In-Person

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Grant Smith

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO APPROVE THE APRIL '26 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF PAYABLES AS PRESENTED. ADMIN: AP/CHECK #12903-12916, \$18,972.66.

MOTION: JEREMY REDSHAW
SECOND: LANDAN WILSON
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENCY REPORTS

BOR Report

Crews from Durango will be here for the annual site inspection for the Dam and Dike next week. Robert extended appreciation to the field staff for the work being completed for the inspections. Also getting inspection for the runners at McPhee and Towaoc Powerplants, trying to work it around July or August depending on water flows.

Division of Water Resources

Rusty stated that MVIC put D16 on call last week. There have been some shut offs and that he is working on the Montezuma rural water. Trying to work with Eric on the upstream users and identifying ones that are not part of it upstream plan and make them part of it. The Gobel is one that is being looked at.

Ken asked when we could find out the details on administration of the Dolores call? The Gobel ditch is the biggest user shut off and why they never joined the District U/S program is unknown. Stoner Campground is another one called out. Eric said there is a lot of upstream details to clean up. Rusty stated that the big adjustments to direct diversions are the City of Cortez and Montezuma Water Company (MWC). When MVIC sold 10 CFS to MWC they guaranteed it based on releases out of Groundhog to make it up. Instead MVIC is using project water this year.

No specific concerns to the project or project water users have been brought to DWCD's attention. Adam asked about Summit and Rusty said that they are out of water.

Don asked about what is going on in McElmo? Rusty answered that McElmo is low with some raised flows on some MVIC spills. Chance said they are using Totten water for McElmo currently.

Glen asked about Ute Tribe water for domestic use and Eric explained that they have their own project water pool, storage so not affected by the river call.

T/H Committee Report

Wes said the Committee met on May 20, 2026. The Minutes were mailed out, bills were paid and everything is doing well budget wise if the UF&R continues payments. There are some areas on the canal that need work, typical maintenance work.

Next T/H Meeting

The Committee will meet at the DWCD, Cortez Office June 17, 2026.

MVIC Report

Chance stated that MVIC is working on a big french drain on the Hermana and should be finished next week then moving to the drainages on T/H. Meeting with Weeminuche for work on the Garrett Pipeline in mid-September. Don asked if we need to wait until next week for the MVIC meeting for water supply (allocation) updates and Chance confirmed.

Ken pointed out that with no direction on the call we have not been able to adjust our water accounting. Presumably it is a paper chase between columns. Eric stated that our accounting won't reflect the State's accounting until we are on the same page, for right now we are status quo. All agreed that these are not huge numbers.

Landan asked about the DWCD lease with City of Cortez and how that could be affected? Ken said the lease is still a go this year, but the call could affect future leases. Jeremy asked if Cortez would be short on water from the call & lease? Eric stated that he has run the numbers

and they should have enough water so it shouldn't affect the lease this year. Glen asked if MVIC has water for a fall stock run? Eric stated that yes, but the stock run comes off the river and there is a specific timing that they can take water later than the irrigation season. Ken and Eric said that MVIC has project water, call water upstream and Totten exchange stored in McPhee totaling 27,000 AF. MVIC triggered the call, but unclear why, can't be much wet water. We will hear more about the call down the road.

Eric talked about the City of Cortez, who has senior irrigation water rights that went through a water court change case so the City is still in process to make the change absolute. Rusty stated that in the case Cortez moved the irrigation water right to the tunnel, but didn't try to make absolute for M&I. Adam stated because they didn't have anything to change, they didn't have historic consumptive use to change. They are creating historic consumptive use now. Cortez bought old upstream irrigation rights and accounted as their use for years all year. DWR pointed out that it came from an irrigation right and is therefore limited to April – October (irrigation season). No one representing Cortez bothered to go through water court in the past. In 2009-2010 they moved the diversion point for the right to the tunnel. Ken remembered that the Cortez attorney at the time tried to expand the use by using terms to use for fire suppression, municipal and other uses. DWR said you can't change the use only the location in the prior case. DWCD was an objector at the time. Cortez is trying to prove up on the irrigation for historical use, not a big number. It has concern for the community and plays into Landan's question. Rusty said that DWR is working to clear up all the administration issues. DWR are trying to clarify and make sure everyone understands their ability to divert, though causing some confusion within the community that may require some education. Adam said it is a good stress test for what administration looks like on the Dolores River. Adam so you can figure out where the issues/problems are or might be. In the future not all the calls may come from the within the Dolores Basin.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Miscellaneous Updates

Legislative Updates: Not a lot of water legislation in 2026. Biggest item in the articles is the stream access/right to float bill will come back next year. A final Joint Legislative Report to the Colorado Water Congress is included in your packet. The buy & dry re-vegetation bill for Division 2 (Arkansas Basin) was passed.

2025 Audit Review:

Lisa & I have reviewed the audit with our auditor and are satisfied. Andrew Wendt, our auditor, will join us in July to review the audit with the Board.

As expected, we had large negative net income given the drought, rate flip and increased costs at GCPP & SSPP. T/H did go over their budget pulling from their reserves. The audit makes it look like they overspent without appropriating the reserves, procedural in nature. T/H might think about budgeting the reserves next year. The Admin (100) & powerplant budgets are combined in the audit. The Admin. came in under budget due to lower legal fees, so after the transfer to O&M we transferred the rest to 100 Discretionary reserves. The powerplant budget operated on pre-payments from BOR so looks negative when contrasted to funds paid by Reclamation. This prepayment is a major change in the new contract.

2026 Financial Status Preview:

Spent the month of May getting irrigation up and running along with TPP. DWCD crews have fully started all irrigation operations, including DC L&G. A big challenge was getting the pumping plants and Power Plants going simultaneously. The crew is now transitioning to some different projects as they carry on routine O&M and respond to emergencies.

One of the questions is do we want to spend any discretionary money? We've had a lot of unexpected large vehicle expenditures over the winter. No surprise that fuel costs have been higher than budgeted. The rest of the 200 O&M accounts are on track. The only optional work we've identified so far are two painting projects and hauling base. We have some painting quotes that could wait a year. Technically we don't have to haul base, but it has been over 5 years since a large base haul up north. We are trying to get back into routines that we fell out of during the staffing changes. Between

drought and crew turn over we let some things let go and are now trying to catch up to stay on track with maintenance. We are still waiting on a final GCPP structural report.

We may identify some replacements that have some discretion as to timing. We are working with Robert on the TPP accumulators. Ken is about ready to order the meters from the WaterSmart grant that Jones and Demille worked on. We should have some questions to the Board next month. Financially we're going as planned, just lower revenue from lack of water. Though not actively hiring, we may interview for Electricians, Mechanics and maybe control room if we see some good candidates. Don asked about hauling base and Ken explained that we hire stockpiled base to the canal roads up north. We have the material (base), it is just the haul that we need to hire, usually just one day.

Ryan asked about the status of Great Cut PP? Ken said the engineers came out to take cores and have done strengths but still waiting on other lab tests. Their report with recommendations has not come back yet. GCPP does need a new roof after the structural repairs. Duane was moved into O&M Supervisor position in January and now getting on board with projects that need to be completed.

CR Issues:

Ken handed out more articles. Article on stream access and right to float bill coming next year. Northern waters facing their own challenges with NISP project. At the recent Getches-Wilkinson Center 2026 Conference on the Colorado River, Reclamation reiterated their plans to protect the power pools in Powell for safe operations and power production, though they are working on engineering for lower-level release operations. Still no resolution for a seven-state deal, but BOR has to have an NEPA document out this summer. We're all waiting to know what Reclamation is going to do in the absence of a deal. Reclamation has to run Powell & Meada. There is no CR runoff water and the system is crashing. There is an article on extra water sales from San Diego's desalination and the pressure for interstate water agreements. Inter basin sharing will be brought up again with the Navajo water rights settlement.

Glen pointed out the you don't hear the 2007 interim guidelines, seems to be a BOR process that disappeared. Ken agreed that the 2007 interim guidelines are going away. Adam said that there is no water and the system is going to crash. The upper basin has been after the lower basin for years to get accurate accounting of overuse, specifically around system losses, the structure deficit. The BOR is doing the best they can with no water and will have to force LB cuts. The only solution is federal funding, but cuts could trigger a supreme court suit.

LEGAL REPORT

Main Canal 1 & 2 Due Diligence –

Adam has been talking with John Justus and moving forward. Hopefully will be done in a couple months.

Beaver Reservoir, Bear Creek Reservoir and Dawson Reservoir Due Diligence –

Adam stated that they are still waiting for responses.

Adam requested an Executive Session for discussions on the implications of the Dolores River call.

MOTION:

TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PER CRS 24.6.402(b) TO OBTAIN ADVICE FROM COUNSEL AND CRS 24.6.402(e) MATTERS OF NEGOTIATION FOR PENDING WATER RIGHTS AND WATER RIGHTS PROTECTION AND TO DISCUSS COLORADO RIVER ISSUES.

**MOTION: JEREMY REDSHAW
SECOND: LANDAN WILSON
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

*RECESSED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:42 P.M.
RECONVENED REGULAR MEETING AT 5:52 P.M.*

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

In Executive Session the Board discussed the Dolores River call and received legal advice with respect to its operation and no decisions were made.

OTHER

NEXT DWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 9, 2026 – 3:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 P.M.

Donald W. Schwindt, Secretary-Treasurer

Godwin Oliver, President