



City of Prescott
Council Subcommittee on Water Issues

June 3, 2025 | 9:30 AM
201 N Montezuma Street
Council Chambers, 1st Floor
Prescott, AZ 86301

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Member Goode called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Phil Goode - Member
Lois Fruhwirth - Member
Ted Gambogi - Member (Absent)

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- A. Selection of Replacement Chair for the Subcommittee on Water Issues to Serve Through November 2025.

Member Goode stated that he would be happy to serve as Chair and has been involved in water issues for a number of years.

MOTION BY MEMBER GOODE TO APPOINT HIMSELF AS REPLACEMENT CHAIR; SECONDED BY MEMBER FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (2 - 0)

- B. Approval of the April 1, 2025 Council Subcommittee on Water Issues Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY MEMBER FRUHWIRTH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY CHAIR GOODE: PASSED (2 - 0)

- C. Presentation & Discussion Regarding the 2024 Annual Water Withdrawal & Use Report.

Water Resource & Environmental Services Manager Brian Ruiz provided a presentation to the Subcommittee regarding the 2024 Annual Report including city water supplies and resources that are reported to ADWR as part of the Prescott AMA.

Water Supplies:

- * Surface Water
- * Wastewater
- * Production Wells

Mr. Ruiz stated that an acre foot of water is equal to 325,851 gallons of water.

Production Wells:

- * Chino Valley - five
- * Airport - three

* Potable Deliveries - 7,292 AF total pumped, 6,580 AF total deliveries and 712 AF loss/unaccounted

Member Fruhwirth asked if this timetable is this fiscal or calendar year and if 9.7% loss/unaccounted for is acceptable.

Mr. Ruiz confirmed that it is calendar year, the loss is higher than it has been in previous years so staff is working with Water Operations to find out how that happened. But up to 10% is acceptable.

Treated Effluent:

* Three facilities - Airport Water Reclamation Facility, Sundog Wastewater Treatment Plant and Hassayampa Wastewater Treatment Plant

* Total Treated - 4,676 AF

* Total Recharge - 2,407 AF

* Loss & Unaccounted- 740 AF

Chair Goode stated that he would like to see water used for construction purposes measured in some way. If it is a large number of potable water being used he would like to see a policy for that developed.

Member Fruhwirth agreed.

Surface Water:

* Sources - Watson Reservoir and Willow Reservoir

* Recharge period April 1 through November 31

* Surface Water Recharge - 1,161 AF

* Last year reported almost 3,900 AF so it is significantly less this year which is the trend annually

Underground Storage Facility:

* Sources - Watson, Willow and Treated Effluent

* Surface Water - 1,161 AF

* Effluent Recharge - 2,407 AF

* Total Recharge - 3,568 AF

Use of Recharge:

* Offset groundwater pumping

* Surface water - must be recovered the year recharged

* Treated effluent - can be recovered or converted to long term storage credits (LTSC) after effluent from from Prop400 areas are subtracted to include in a non-recoverable account.

* For 2024, treated effluent was split: 1200 AF recovered and 1207 AF LTSC

Annual Report Summary:

* Total Withdrawal fees paid to ADWR - \$9,861.06 at \$2/AF for a total of 4,931 AF

* Funds are made available through grants

Deliveries:

- * Single Family Residential - 57%
- * Commercial - 18%
- * Multi-Family Residential - 10%
- * Government - 6%
- * Turf Under 10 Acres - 4%
- * Other Metered - 1%
- * Construction - 1%
- * Turf Over 10 Acres - 1%
- * Other Unmetered - 1 %

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

- D. 2022 Water Management Policy Discussion - Current Residential & Non-Residential Water Budget Overview for January 1, 2025 through May 19, 2025. Mr. Ruiz provided a presentation regarding a water budget overview from January 1, 2025-May 19, 2025.

Approved Projects Residential:

- * Total Approved - 6.90 AF
 - Three single-family residential approved administratively
 - One Multifamily approved by Council
- * Total Budget - 25 AF
- * Total Remaining - 18.10 AF

Approved Projects Non-Residential:

- * Total Approved - 12.52 AF
 - Three approved administratively
 - One approved by Council (Embry Riddle)
- * Total Budget - 25 AF
- * Total Remaining - 12.49 AF

Existing Contracts:

- * 4.36 AF Residential
- * 0.03 AF Non-Residential
- * 4.39 AF Total

Member Fruhwirth commented that she would like to see the WRMM numbers of actual versus contract so the Council can better allocate based on reality versus estimates.

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

- E. Presentation & Discussion Regarding July 2025 - December 2025 Residential & Non-Residential Water Budgets, in Accordance with the Amended 2022 Water Management Policy, Guideline No. 11.

Mr. Ruiz provided a presentation to the Subcommittee regarding the July-December water budgets. Staff needs recommendations from the Subcommittee on setting the Residential and Non-Residential Budgets for the Council at the last meeting in June. The Residential Budget has 18.10 AF remaining following the current period, and Non-Residential has 12.48 remaining. He reviewed a list

of upcoming projects that have gone through PAC which may fall into this budget period.

Potential Residential:

- * 34.3 AF approximate usage for all potential
- * Likely 25-75% will come through in the July-December timeframe

Member Fruhwirth commented that she was happy to see the infill projects on this list, but when comparing Stetson Apartments versus Villas Touchmark which seemed very low to her and asked staff to take a look at that to make sure everything is accurate.

Mr. Ruiz responded that Touchmark has a Water Service Agreement in place already, staff has asked them to reassess their water needs, and they will likely exceed their current agreement by 2-3 AF which is where the number on the presented spreadsheet comes from.

Potential Non-Residential:

- * 34.5 AF approximate based on all potential projects

Chair Goode asked how many units would be in Granite Creek Village.

Mr. Ruiz responded that he would review the numbers and get back to the Council.

Member Fruhwirth stated that she feels at least 25 AF would be appropriate based on the presented numbers.

Chair Goode stated that continuing the 25/25 for both in July-December would be appropriate.

MOTION BY MAYOR GOODE TO RECOMMEND 25 ACRE FEET FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL WATER BUDGETS FOR JULY-DECEMBER 2025; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (2 - 0)

- F. Presentation & Discussion Regarding an Update on PFAS Consultant Contract. Utilities Manager Steven Olfers provided a presentation to the Subcommittee regarding the PFAS contract scope which would allow the city to make decisions based on engineering standards.

PFAS:

- * General name for fluoridated carbon chains that resist degradation in the environment
- * Over 10,000 identified
- * Found in many commercial products including cookware, food packages and textiles
- * Released into wastewater system from normal use
- * Treating at Wastewater plants present many challenges and high expense to effectively remove from the waste stream
- * Also found in water, air and soil samples throughout the environment

* Findings

- May 2022 city wells were tested and found to contain a small amount of PFAS in all wells
- Airport Well 5 found to have a level of contamination higher than recommended by the EPA and was subsequently temporarily taken off-line
- The Environmental Protection Agency issued new rules in 2023
- Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) were set at 4 parts per trillion (PPT) for PFOS and PFOA as well as other species that are regulated as a mixture

Response & EPA Rule Adjustments:

- * Monthly, quarterly testing
- * Current levels in Chino and Airport wells are well below the 4 PPT, except Airport Well #5 which isn't being run
- * Fall 2024, advertised RSOQ to procure a consultant to develop recommendations for treatment at Airport Well 5 and other wells
- * May 2025, EPA retracts several regulated PFAS substances, maintains MCL on PFOS and PFOA and extended date of compliance by May 2031
- * City is currently in compliance because Well #5 is not being run
- * Goal is to get Well #5 operational under the new standards

Consultant Contract Scope:

- * Purpose & Objectives - contract will focus on how PFAS gets into the aquifer and ways to determine additional well sites
- * Technical Reports Generated
 - Hydrogeologic Evaluation: study the existing aquifer, assist in siting new wells
 - Particle Tracking Model: look for potential PFAS sources, assists in siting new wells

Member Fruhwirth commented that it is good to be proactive and thinking about what is upstream, so this will be helpful for that model.

Alternative Treatment Methods:

- * Reducing PFAS levels with differing treatment methods
 - Blending
 - Wellhead treatment
 - Centralized treatment
- * Technologies to consider
 - Granular Activated Carbon
 - Ion Exchange
 - Fluoro-sorb
 - High-level treatment conceptual layouts

Treatment Strategy:

- * Overall alternative recommendations and decision matrix
 - Decision-making criteria including analysis to date
 - Final recommendations
 - Final conceptual site layout and costs
- * Roadmap
 - Combine all memoranda into one report

- Recommendations for phasing for immediate, intermediate and long-term solutions

Workshops & Deliverables:

- * Vendor workshops with staff - twenty-one total virtual and in-person meetings and workshops with two meetings for council
- * Timelines
 - First tech memo ten weeks after Notice to Proceed (NTP)
 - Other tech memos to follow every 2-4 weeks
 - Council meeting and public meetings
 - PFAS roadmap 60 weeks after NTP

Chair Goode commented that some of these considerations are slower moving and could lose effectiveness. He is hopeful that there will be new technologies coming into effect so they can be adopted if they are effective at addressing the city's issues.

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

- G. Presentation & Discussion Regarding Proposed State Water Legislation.
Mr. Ruiz provided a presentation to the Subcommittee with an update on water bills at the state legislature.

NAMWUA Review:

- * Tracked 122 water related bills
- * Supported 29 bills and opposed 39 bills, neutral on the remainder

Legislative Status:

- * Regular Session ended May 23
- * Pass budget by June 30
- * Governor has vetoed at least 11 water bills

Governor Signed Bills:

- * HB2691 Groundwater Replenishment District Annual Dues
- * HB2727 County Water Authority, Post 2024 Authority
- * HB2753 Groundwater Replenishment Pinal County

Transmitted to Governor:

- * HB2274, HB2570 and SB1116 - all vetoed

SB1520 - Rural Water:

- * Introduced as Water Protection, technical correction
- * Turned into a striker bill for rural groundwater
- * Passed Senate and placed on House caucus calendar

Parting Thoughts:

- * Rural Groundwater Regulation
- * Stormwater
- * Conservation

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

4. **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF**

None.

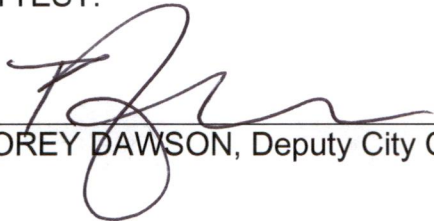
5. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Goode adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.



PHILIP R. GOODE, Chair

ATTEST:



TOREY DAWSON, Deputy City Clerk