

PORA Water Committees Minutes November 15, 2012 @ 9:00

Attendees: Merlyn Carlson / Chairman, Howard Jones, James West, Duane Robinson, David Hunter / Briarwood Golf Course, and Shawn Bradford / EPCOR.

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:05 am.
2. Minutes of October 18, 2012, approved as corrected.

3. Reports:

SCW Rec Centers- None

Shawn Bradford EPCOR:

- Water demand drops this time of year. Winter time water usage in SCW is about half.
- EPCOR does most of the maintenance this time of year.
- SCW & SC meter change out will be accelerating next year.

Q: Marilyn Sage: Regarding the article in the newspaper last month, does Mexico have an allotment from the Colorado River agreement also?

A: Howard Jones: Yes

A: Shawn Bradford: The Bureau of Reclamation built the desalting, reverse osmosis, plant in Yuma and can handle from 60,000 to 80,000 gal of fresh water a day. As the river runs closer to the coast, the salt content along with agriculture impurities in the river water, need to be removed to transfer the water to Mexico.

Arizona has junior status with the Colorado River water. In the event of a water shortage, we would be the first to be shorted. We can thank the Central Arizona Project (CAP) and water planners for implemented water storage. We take all our state water allotment and send it to all communities that get water from the CAP. The water that is not used or needed at this time is recharged into the aquifer and stored in an underground storage facility. As a state we have been banking water and, in the event of a shortage, we can draw water from the underground storage.

The history of the Colorado River Compact agreement goes back to 1922 and has always been controversial. The agreement allocated water to each of the seven states that border the river, the upper basin states (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah & Wyoming) and lower basin states (Nevada, Arizona & California). The specified allotments were disputed by Arizona until the 1963 US Supreme Court decision in *Arizona v. California*. The

agreement ended many years of dispute, clearing the way for the Central Az. Project (CAP), authorized by Congress in 1968.

David Hunter Briarwood:

With the overseeding and the weather warming up we will be right at our water allotment for the year.

Q: Duane Robinson: Regarding the water line insurance that is being mailed out to residents. My neighbor asked me if they should take the insurance.

A: Just to make sure the insurance offer that they are receiving in the mail is not a scam, check with the Attorney General's office. This is a choice.

Q: James West: What about the low income program?

A: Shawn Bradford: I will check and bring that information to the next meeting. I know it has been implemented in the Agua Fria and Sun City water districts.

4. Old Business None

5. New Business None

6. Adjournment 9:30 am

Next Meeting: **January 17, 2013**

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