

**Minutes of the Second 2025 Quarterly Board Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the
Republican River Water Conservation District
May 20, 2025**

offered virtually and in person
St John's Lutheran Church Education Hall,
405 S. Albany St, Yuma CO 80759

- A. The board of Directors of the Republican River Water Conservation District convened their board meeting, May 20, 2025 pursuant to notice required by statute and the District's by-laws. President Rod Lenz opened the meeting at 9:59 AM.
- a. Lenz led the group in the pledge of allegiance and Lenz led the group in prayer.
 - b. Secretary Kristen Schneider conducted a roll call of Directors. Board members present for roll call were:
 - i. Rod Lenz, president
 - ii. Steve Kramer, vice president
 - iii. Aaron Sprague, treasurer
 - iv. Kristen Schneider, secretary
 - v. Don Brown
 - vi. Brooke Campbell
 - vii. Tim Fetzer, excused
 - viii. James Harlow, excused
 - ix. Greg Larson, via Zoom
 - x. Josh Lechman
 - xi. Trent Leoffler
 - xii. Robin Liming
 - xiii. Steven Meakins, via Zoom
 - xiv. Tim Pautler, excused
 - xv. Kevin Penny
 - xvi. Roger Seedorf
 - xvii. Dennis Wieser
 - xviii. A quorum of the board was declared with 14 members present for roll call, Steven Meakins and Greg Larson participating by Zoom, Tim Pautler arrived after roll call and James Harlow and Tim Fetzer were excused.
 - xix. Staff/consultants present: Deb Daniel, Reon McBride, Payton Liming, David Robbins, Pete Ampe, Randy Hendrix, Patrick Firth, Noah Nemmers and Stuart Dykstra
 - c. Introduction of guests/staff present
 - i. Noah Nemmers, Stuart Dykstra, Pat Firth, Woody Woods
 - d. Approve the agenda
 - i. **There was a motion to approve the agenda as presented. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - e. Approve the minutes
 - i. February 18, 2025 – Quarterly Board meeting
 - 1. **There was a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 quarterly board meeting. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - ii. February 18, 2025 – Executive Session
 - 1. **There was a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 quarterly board meeting executive session. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - iii. March 21, 2025 – Special Board meeting
 - 1. **There was a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2025 special board meeting. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - iv. May 1, 2025 – Special Board meeting

1. **There was a motion to amend the minutes with just listing who spoke and then state for further details contact the office for the recording.**
 2. **There was a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2025 special board meeting with the suggested amendments. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- v. May 1, 2025 – Executive Session
1. **There was a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2025 special board meeting executive session. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**

B. 10:15 AM - Report from Tracy Kosloff, Deputy Director Division of Water Resources

- a. Chris Kucera, Republican River Team Lead Commissioner
 - i. Kosloff spoke about the recent appointments to the groundwater commission: Mark Arnusch, Dave Keeler, and a new appointment is Clay Kinnison. Kosloff discussed Joanna Williams retiring, Williams worked closely with RRWCD staff on well permitting questions. HB 25-1014 passed the legislature, this bill is to streamline water permitting for DWR. Kosloff also spoke about alterations and amendments to Rules throughout the state. Kosloff stated that Nebraska has not moved forward on any of the plans for the Perkins County Canal in the last two months as no required filings have been made. Kosloff discussed that the RRCA met in April. Kosloff stated that DWR and the District will be working together to update the data that will be sent to the other states before the end of the year.
 - ii. Kucera discussed how busy the commissioners are this year. 13 wells over pumped this past year, 3 of those wells are repeat offenders. Flagler Reservoir was supposed to be breached this past year, but the funds CPW secured were pulled by DOGE. Kucera spoke about the active and inactive wells across the Republican Basin.

Tim Pautler joined the meeting at 10:10 AM

C. 10:30 – Administration Reports

- a. President's Report – Rod Lenz, Board President
 - i. Lenz discussed how the board has previously handled the issues brought up by the Dec. 3, 2024 Executive Committee meeting. Lenz stated that the board members have to find a way to enjoy the work they do. Lenz discussed the District being charged with Compact Compliance and how Compact Compliance is going to become more costly going forward.
- b. General Manager's Report – Deb Daniel, General Manager
 - i. Daniel discussed the current number of acres retired in the SFFZ: over 17,120 acres. Daniel discussed the \$6.0 million awarded via the 2025 Water Projects Bill. Daniel thanked Sprague and Lenz for testifying during the 2025 Legislative Session. Daniel also thanked Tim Pautler for working with Daniel to get the local EQIP contracts paused until the Bill passed. Daniel discussed spending the day on the floor with Rep. Dusty Johnson. Daniel congratulated Don Brown for being inducted into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame. Daniel is working with Brown and USDA and FSA for making amendments to the Dryland Farmable CREP program. Daniel went on to discuss the commission reappointments and also thanked Joanna Williams for her past work. Daniel went on to list upcoming meetings and discussed the staff preparing for the Audit beginning tomorrow morning. Daniel thanked everyone for taking time out of their day to meet with Patrick Firth and his wife on a tour of the District.
- c. Financial Report – Reon McBride, Finance and Office Manager
 - i. McBride discussed working with CWCB to prepare for the distribution of funds awarded through the 2025 Water Projects Bill. McBride also discussed prepping for the upcoming audit and attending trainings.
 - ii. Sprague requested that the maintenance and electricity be separated in line items under O&M.
 - iii. **There was a motion to approve the financial report as presented. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- d. CCP Operation Report – Tracy Travis, CCP Operator
 - i. Travis stated the pipeline started October 25, 2024 and finished April 20, 2025 with no down time, but no big issues, this is the second year in a row for no big issues. Travis will begin maintenance in the next couple of weeks.

D. 10:55 AM - RRWCD Committee Reports

- a. Budget Committee – Aaron Sprague, chairperson
 - i. The Budget committee set in on the PTAC meeting. It is important to start looking at the required cost of moving forward in the process.
- b. Conservation Committee – Steve Kramer, chairperson
 - i. The committee did not have a meeting in the past quarter. Kramer discussed how important it was to get the funds for the SFFZ to continue those retirements.
- c. Fee Evaluation Committee – Kevin Penny, chairperson
 - i. Although the committee has not recently met, the group has planned a meeting on June 12, 2025. Amber Pacheco will be present at the meeting to discuss the issues the Rio Grande Water Conservation District experienced when self-billing fees for the Subdistricts rather than proceeding through the County tax rolls. Lenz discussed a simple majority vote for changing the Fee structure.
- d. Innovation/Technology Committee – Steven Meakins, chairperson
 - i. Meakins discussed his idea to boost support for the Master Irrigator. Meakins discussed running variables in the RRWCD well database and then informing the public of how their pumping compares to their neighbors.
- e. Legislative Committee – Brooke Campbell, chairperson
 - i. Campbell discussed pulling the late bill request and also spoke about meeting with many legislators in Washington, D.C.
- f. Negotiation Committee – Roger Seedorf, chairperson
 - i. Seedorf spoke about three current negotiations going on, and setting meetings with at least two more entities. Seedorf will have additional information to discuss at the August meeting.
- g. Nominating Committee – Steven Meakins, chairperson
 - i. Nothing to report at this time.
- h. Personnel Committee – Brooke Campbell, chairperson
 - i. The Personnel committee is working on the employee improvement plan, has created two surveys which will be given to different entities this summer.
- i. PTAC Committee – Tim Pautler, chairperson
 - i. Pautler discussed the potential wells which will be examined going forward including the potential C wells. Pautler discussed putting the issue of road construction on hold at this moment in time until the wells are selected for the expansion. Pautler discussed the recommendations from the PTAC committee to be heard later in the meeting.

E. 11:15 AM - Associated Organizations Reports

- a. Colorado Groundwater Commission – Tim Pautler
 - i. Pautler discussed the commission having technical difficulties of poor WiFi at the facility they were at for their meeting. Pautler discussed the commission trying to work through changing *small (clerical)* issues on well permits going forward. The commission was very intrigued by the last Republican basin update.
- b. Colorado Water Congress – Greg Larson/Steve Kramer
 - i. Kramer discussed this is a fantastic opportunity to meet folks in the water world. The meeting will be in Steamboat this year, the meeting begins the day of the August Quarterly Board meeting. Larson asked the District if they would be interested in doing a sponsorship for the meeting?
- c. South Fork Republican Restoration Coalition – Stuart Dykstra/Noah Nemmers
 - i. WSRF grant has been awarded, Nemmers is following up to get those funds distributed for work conducted.
- d. South Platte Basin Roundtable – Deb Daniel
 - i. Daniel went through the list of local counties and municipalities that do not have representation on the roundtable, suggesting if anyone would like to volunteer their time they should contact those counties/municipalities.
- e. Yuma County Water Authority – Mike Leerar

- i. Leerar discussed the nano bubble machines that will be put on two pivots this spring for a trial run.

F. 11:35 AM - Professional Reports

a. Lobbyist Reports

i. Federal Lobbyists – Patrick Firth/Denise Bode, Constitution Partners, LLC

- 1. Firth discussed spending the weekend with the Bledsoe family and then the tour of the Basin and how the tour helped Firth be a better advocate for the District in D.C. Firth discussed the group missing Congresswoman Boebert in D.C., but meeting her in Burlington, Colorado after the group got back from D.C. Firth also discussed the transitions between Presidencies and how that takes time. Firth discussed working with everyone to garner support and sponsors for the CREP Improvement Act. Firth talked about the issues with getting the Farm Bill crafted, the current focus is the “Big Beautiful Bill.” The budget reconciliation is a “half stab” at building the Farm bill. There are \$59.0 million for farm issues in the budget. The Senate will make changes to the bill and then it has to go back to the House. Firth discussed the pursuit of two different Congressionally Directed Spending: the Bonny Dam project and the Compact Compliance Pipeline project.

ii. State Lobbyists – Landon Gates/Brock Herzberg, Capitol Focus, LLC

- 1. The General Assembly closed two weeks previously to this meeting. Gates discussed this was an easier session than previous years. The issues on the docket this year were mostly labor union issues, Covid unwinds and healthcare. Gates suggests preparing for a water heavy year next year if there is a call on the Colorado River. Gates discussed the District doing the heavy lift to get \$6.0 million in the Water Projects Bill with CWCB and DNR. Gates discussed Sprague and Lenz giving their testimonies for the bill. Gates discussed the Economic Impact study and how the professors will give a final presentation to the legislature in January of 2026.
 - a. Brown asked if there was any concern with the potential appointment of the new director of the State Land Board?
 - b. Representative Johnson discussed sending a letter about the concerns of the rural caucus and about this appointment.

b. Engineer’s Report – Randy Hendrix, water engineer, Hendrix Wai Engineering LLC

- i. Hendrix discussed the joint PTAC/Budget meeting held last week and requested any suggestions for that presentation. The pipeline is expected to deliver approximately 11,000 ac-ft with pumping beginning approximately Oct. 14, 2025. Hendrix discussed looking at the model and ran the model to estimate what would have occurred if the Basin had begun conserving water in 2014 by pumping only 600,000 ac ft. per year. The savings would have been approximately 500 acre-feet per year, meaning the District would have saved almost 1 year of pumping or 8,000 acre-feet after conservation for 10 years.

c. Attorney’s Report – David Robbins/Pete Ampe, legal counsel, Hill and Robbins P.C.

- i. Ampe discussed the Arikaree change case for Compact Compliance, the comments have been received. Ampe discussed the RRCA meeting in August in Kansas, and mentioned working with office staff on the most recent CORA request, contracts and additional items to be discussed this afternoon.

11:57 AM LUNCH – provided for everyone in attendance

G. 1:00 PM – Public Comment

- a. At 1:02PM public comment closed.**

H. 1:30 PM – Report from CO FSA Executive Director Jerry Sonnenberg

- i. Sonnenberg thanked everyone for the Board’s support, submitting a letter of support for Sonnenberg. Sonnenberg thanked his staff and stated that he relies heavily on his support staff. Sonnenberg thanked Woody Woods for all of his help in his first two weeks.

Sonnenberg stated that he serves those with dirt under their fingernails and that food security is a matter of national security.

1. Pautler thanked Sonnenberg for his service.
2. Daniel asked Sonnenberg, is there anything the Board can do to help the thin staff numbers in the local offices? Sonnenberg requested that everyone be patient with their local staff and offices.

I. 1:45 PM – Legislative reports

- a. Federal Legislators or staff members
 - i. Amanda Monk reported as Congresswoman Boebert’s Northeastern Colorado local office representative. Boebert asked Monk to discuss the CREP Improvement Act. Boebert has great hope the CREP Improvement Act will be successful. There were 15 projects selected for Congressionally Directed Spending, for example Ovid, Wiggins and Yuma. Monk also spoke about Sonnenberg’s appointment as the FSA Executive Director for Colorado.
- b. State Legislators or staff members

Johnson spoke about being happy to be back in the District. She has already visited 7 local counties since the close of the session. Johnson spoke about attending a local homeschool program last evening. Johnson spoke about being in support of the District if the District decides to pursue the change to the legislation which established the District.

J. 2:05 PM - Presentations/Reports

- a. Update on Compact Compliance Pipeline expansion project – Randy Hendrix, RRWCD water engineer & Tim Pautler, PTAC Chairperson
 - i. Pautler discussed the expansion of the pipeline and discussed the opportunity to potentially expand to the C wells (the Bledsoe wells). Pautler discussed the expensive cost of the pipeline and the expansion project.
 - ii. Hendrix discussed that the test pumps have been done on B3 and B6. The wells test pumped 1,600 gpm and A3 and A6 are going to be maintained this year. Hendrix discussed the multiple wells the District could potentially bring on for the expansion. There was discussion on the static water levels of the C wells being from the '70s making it important to allow the PTAC committee and engineers to investigate the wells to find the current static water levels. Hendrix discussed the currently pumping wells have lost 27.1 cfs since they have begun delivering water for the pipeline.
 - iii. Hendrix extensively discussed Table 3 and the cost for the District to pursue the expansion of the pipeline. Hendrix discussed altering the plan to different wells than previously discussed. Hendrix discussed not adding A1 at this point in time but running the line by that well because the well would most likely be a re-drill. Figure 4 shows the expansion to the C wells with 18 inch line and Figure 5 shows the expansion to the C wells with 24 inch line. Hendrix discussed the cost associated with each Figure shown in the packet.
 - iv. Hendrix’s recommendation to the board is to consider the best option for future boards while still expanding the footprint of the well field. There was discussion about the timeline for the full project taking approximately 2 years from start to finish.
 - v. There was discussion that the board also has to get export approval for these wells before this project can occur as well. There was additional discussion about bringing the C wells before the commission to designate them as Compact Compliance wells.
 - vi. There was discussion about the contract currently held with the Bledsoes. The lease allows 2 years with 6 inches of water to revegetate the property beginning in January 2026.
 - vii. There was discussion about the potential consumptive use the district could potentially get for the C wells.
 - viii. Wieser discussed the A1 well and how the well needs to be investigated to see how the well produces and if the well could be constructed to produce the maximum amount of 2,500 gpm.
 1. McGrane stated Hahn called Sargent for an estimate on re-drilling A1 and learned a re-drill would cost approximately \$350,000. There was additional discussion about A1 and how a re-drill of that well is potentially a maintenance option.

- ix. There was additional discussion about instead of rehabbing the pumps to instead install new pumps in the future rehabbed wells.
- x. There was discussion about the cone of depression, is three miles of distance enough? Hendrix stated realistically there are only two directions the District can go, west and north.

There was break taken at 2:15 PM.

- b. Status of Economic Impact study – Jordan Suter & Dale Manning CSU Professors and Karen Schlatter, Director of CO Water Center
 - i. Suter discussed the economic impact to the 8 counties of the Republican Basin if the District fails to retire the required 25,000 acres. The study looks at 4 different scenarios to that potential outcome.
 - 1. Scenario 1: All irrigated land converts to pasture/grazing land
 - 2. Scenario 2: Irrigated land converts to pasture, fallow, and dryland crop production in the proportions currently observed are non-irrigated acres in the basin (57% pasture, 12% fallow, 30% dry crop).
 - 3. Scenario 3: Irrigated land converts to pasture, fallow, and dryland crop production based on model results using EQIP parcels (14% pasture, 15% fallow, 71% dry crop).
 - 4. Land use proportions are the same as Scenario 3 but also includes 50% reduction in revenue from confined feeding operations.
 - ii. Suter discussed the data used and tailored to look at the impacts specifically to the Basin. For example, the study has been tailored to not consider the population of the entirety of Logan county which would skew the numbers because of the City of Sterling having a larger population than the Basin in total.
 - iii. Manning discussed the implications to the loss of folks employed in the Basin and how the different scenarios impact the household incomes in the region. Manning also discussed the impacts to the rest of CO and also to the border counties of Nebraska and Kansas.
 - iv. Suter discussed the next steps for the study which is to receive feedback, update the number of acres retired in the SFFZ and begin conducting presentations.
- c. Presentation on CSU IN-RICHES program – Helen Silver, co-director of Integrated Rocky Mountain-region Innovation Center for Healthy Soils, located at CSU Spur campus
 - i. **There was a motion to support a letter of recommendation. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- d. Report on status of Retained Jurisdictional Authority concerns from Sandhills GWMD – Steve Kramer, Vice Chairperson
 - i. Kramer discussed the upcoming Retained Jurisdictional Authority Hearing, the Hearing will be held at the RRWCD office June 24th, 2025 and the Board will enter executive session to discuss item 6 during executive session and President Lenz will recuse himself during that portion of Executive Session.
- e. Report on Resolution 22-05 creating WPPP conservation program – Deb Daniel, General Manager
 - i. Daniel discussed extending the RAMP and WPPP programs for the benefit of retiring acres in the SFFZ. Resolution 25-01 extends those programs and establishes the funding for the \$6.0 million Projects Bill to the previous ARPA funding program levels.

K. Board Discussion & Action Items

- a. Discuss and vote on the lease of the Bledsoe wells – Tim Pautler, PTAC chairperson
 - i. **There was a recommendation from the PTAC committee to terminate the lease with the Bledsoe family for four well permits**
 - ii. There was discussion on only terminating the lease for some of the wells. There was discussion about the lease allowing two years of irrigation to complete revegetation of the properties.
 - 1. **There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - iii. **There was a motion to allow the RRWCD engineers to investigate the production of the 4 Bledsoe wells. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**

- b. Discuss and vote on Resolution 25-01 providing additional Incentive for the water conservation programs within the South Fork Focus Zone and extending WPPP and RAMP programs – Deb Daniel, General Manager
 - i. **There was a motion to accept Resolution 25-01 providing additional incentive for the water conservation programs within the South Fork Focus Zone and extending WPPP and RAMP programs. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- c. Discuss and vote on contract with Garrett Travis – Brooke Campbell, Personnel Chairperson
 - i. **Don Brown made a motion to take from the table the motion to approve Garrett Travis' contract. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
 - ii. **There was a motion to approve Travis' contract with the change of language to ensure Travis is personally responsible as the owner of the LLC. There was a second. Additional discussion included Ampe discussing the changes made to the contract per comments from the last meeting such as who supervises Travis. The vote was unanimous.**
- d. Discuss & vote on response to Roger Brenner's letter – Rod Lenz, President of the Board
 - i. Robbins discussed the letter being unclear as to what Brenner was requesting.
 - ii. **There was a motion to support sending the drafted response letter to Roger Brenner. There was a second. The vote was unanimous.**
- e. Discuss and vote on financial support of Headwaters summer edition featuring groundwater compacts – Rod Lenz, President of the Board
 - i. Daniel discussed the RRWCD being a focus of the Headwaters summer edition. There was discussion as to what level to support the magazine for the summer edition.
 - ii. **There was a motion to support Headwaters at a full-page ad level which is \$5,000. There was a second.**
 - 1. There was discussion about the Headwaters magazine and who to target with the 100 magazines the District will receive.
 - iii. **The vote was unanimous.**
- f. Vote on updating video conference equipment – Reon McBride, Finance and Office Manager
 - i. **There was a motion to approve updating the video conference equipment per McBride's research and recommendation. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- g. Payment-in lieu of taxes – Reon McBride, Finance and Office Manager
 - i. **There was a motion to approve to pay Yuma county a payment in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$3,385.06. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**
- h. Discuss and vote on response to Sandhills GWMD retained jurisdictional authority concerns – Steve Kramer, Vice President
 - i. The negotiators were advised how to handle the negotiations with Sandhills. Any agreements will be brought to the board for approval.

L. Old Business

- a. Schneider and McBride discussed the board members having access to the redlined copies of the District by-laws. The board members will have until June 3, 2025 to submit their changes and then legal will review those changes.

M. New Business

- a. There was no new business.

- N. **Executive Session** to receive legal advice on legal questions and litigation concerning South Fork water rights; to discuss and determine positions, develop strategies, and instruct negotiators concerning the purchase or lease of water rights; determine positions and instruct negotiators concerning water supply acquisition, receive legal advice on legal questions related to such agreements, contracts and easements, discuss program applications; Compact Compliance and discussions with Kansas (to the extent subject to privilege), and the Compact Compliance Pipeline and Bonny Reservoir, and to discuss personnel matters
 - a. **There was a motion to go into executive session at 4:06 PM. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.**

- b. All board members present for the meeting entered the Executive Session. All staff and consultants entered the Executive Session.
 - i. The Directors met in Executive Session to discuss negotiations concerning South Fork water rights.

At 4:26 PM President Lenz, left the executive session portion of the meeting.

- ii. The Directors met in Executive Session to discuss and determine positions, develop strategies, and instruct negotiators concerning the purchase or lease of water rights.

- c. **At 5:17 PM there was a motion to exit the executive session. There was a second and the vote was unanimous to exit the executive session.**

O. 5:19 PM - Adjourn Meeting

- a. There was a motion to adjourn at 5:19PM. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.

Kristen M. Schneider
Secretary

8/18/25
Date

RRWCD Board Meeting Sign-in Sheet

MAY 20, 2025

Name	Address	Representing	Phone	Email
NOAH NEMMERS		V3 COMPANIES	303-482-7712	NMEMMERS@V3CO.COM
Mike Leerer		Yuma Co	970 630 5683	mleerer@YumaCountyCo.gov
Stu Dykstra		V3 Companies	630-291-9008	sdykstra@V3CO.COM
Woody Woods		FSA	970-580-0818	woody.woods@V3FA
BreAnn Larson		DWR	970 430 3131	
Chris Kuma		DWR	920 814 9403	
Brandi Baguera		DWR	970 815 1331	
Ryan Remmich		self	970 631 0324	
Clint Monk		self	970 630 2875	
Amanda Monk		Lauren Bobert	970-630-7353	
Dusty Johnson		HD63	970-777-7777	
Pete Wilson		WSB	on file	
JERRY SONNENBERG		FSA	970 581 8648	
Jordan Suter		CSU	440-731-7526	

RRWCD Board Meeting Sign-in Sheet

Name	Address	Representing	Phone	Email
Rebecca Hill		CSU	970-402-1713	
Karen Schlatter		CSU		karen.schlatter@coloradostate.edu
Dale Manning		CSU		

**A RESOLUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE**

(To Adopt an Additional Incentives for the Water Conservation Programs Within
the South Fork Focus Zone)

RESOLUTION No. 25-01

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Republican River Water Conservation District ("District") was created pursuant to section 37-50-103(1), C.R.S., CRS, to, in part, assist the State of Colorado to carry out the State's duty to comply with the limitations and duties imposed upon the State by the Republican River Compact; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 37-50-107(1)(k), C.R.S., the District has established a water enterprise pursuant to article 45.1 of title 37 of the Colorado statutes ("Enterprise");

WHEREAS, the District is managed and controlled by its Board of Directors ("Board");

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2021, the Board adopted Resolution No. 21-05, to establish a fee to fund and establish conservation programs within the South Fork Focus Zone. The Resolution was amended and further resolved on November 23, 2023;

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2022, the Board adopted Resolution No. 22-05, in order to allocate federal funds, made available through Senate Bill 22 – 028, to purchase well permits under certain conditions within the South Fork Focus Zone;

Whereas, the Colorado General Assembly recently passed Senate Bill 25 – 283 for the purpose of "funding Water Conservation Board projects" and, in section 15 thereof, the General Assembly has appropriated six million dollars (\$6,000,000) for the purpose of advancing irrigated acreage retirement within the South Fork Focus Zone of the Republican River Basin; an

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the District Board to provide for the allocation of that funding, which will be used to provide additional incentives for the conservation programs established in the South Fork Focus Zone by Resolutions 21-05 and 22-05 and by the provisions of the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program; and,

WHEREAS, the contents of this Resolution must be read in harmony with the provisions of resolutions 21-05 and 22-05.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Enterprise that it adopts the following Resolution.

1. The Board expresses its appreciation to the Colorado General Assembly for the continued financial support of its efforts to assist the State in achieving full compliance with the Republican River Compact.
2. The Board expresses appreciation to the Colorado Water Conservation Board and its staff for supporting the District Board's efforts to achieve the conservation goals specified in the August 24, 2016, Resolution of the Republican River Compact Administration.
3. The funding derived from SB 25-283(15) will be managed by the staff of the Colorado Water Conservation Board and payments will be made upon the submission of a request for funding by the staff of the District and payments to participating producers, from these funds, will be made directly by the Water Conservation Board to the participating producer.
4. In order to ensure that adequate time is available to expend the funds appropriated by the legislature through SB 25-283, all deadlines contained in Resolutions 21-05 and 22-05 are extended up to and including December 31, 2029.
5. This Resolution 25-01 and its associated funding for the incentive programs will expire at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2029, unless the Board adopts a specific resolution to continue the incentives. After expiration, the Enterprise will continue to comply with any future payment obligations to participants and participants will continue to comply with any terms and requirements of contracts entered into pursuant to this resolution.

Resolved this 20th day of May, 2025

ATTEST: BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPUBLICAN RIVER WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT CONSERVATION DISTRICT WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE



Secretary



President