



WATER COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025

MINUTES

Monday, December 15, 2025

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Hearing Room

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Jack Hilbert called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

PRESENT: Chair, Jack Hilbert (Dist. I)
Vice Chair, Donald Langley (Dist. I)
Regular Member, James Eklund (Dist. I) (remote)
Regular Member, Clark Hammelman (Dist. II)
Regular Member, Jim Maras (Dist. II) (remote)
Regular Member, Harold Smethills (Dist. III)
Regular Member, Evan Ela (Dist. III) (remote)
Regular Member, Mickey Conway (Dist. III)
At-Large, Tricia Bernhardt (remote)
At-Large, Sean Tonner

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Jack Hilbert asked for comments or a motion to approve the November 17, 2025 Water Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Approve the November 17, 2025 Water Commission Meeting Minutes
RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Mickey Conway
SECONDER: Sean Tonner
AYES: Harold Smethills, Sean Tonner, Donald Langley, Jack Hilbert, Clark Hammelman, Tricia Bernhardt, Jim Maras, James Eklund, Evan Ela, Mickey Conway
NAYS: none
ABSTAIN: none

2. Referral Items for Possible Consideration – a “No Comment” will be provided for any and all items unless the Commission indicates otherwise

a. SB2025-040 Ramblewood Preliminary Plan

Jim Maras commented that Ramblewood shows smaller lots served by Parker Water and Sanitation with some larger lots proposing wells and septic, and suggested evaluating whether extending

potable water from Parker Water and Sanitation could avoid additional straws in shallow aquifers and address fire protection limitations. **MINUTES**

Jack Hilbert noted the split of a 10-acre lot into two 5-acre lots, expressed concern about well interference being a state issue, and described current extensive road construction along Hilltop affecting feasibility and cost of extending service.

b. US2025-010 2485 South Russellville Road

Jim Maras commented that the well permit indicates a 1 gallon-per-minute pump rate and questioned whether hosting small events is prudent given the limited well capacity and potential septic impacts.

c. SB2025-030 Hidden Village Filing 1, 1st Amendment

Jim Maras commented on potential Parker Water service and asked whether potable water could be provided without full fire-flow infrastructure to reduce dependency on shallow wells.

Donald Langley responded that the site appears outside Parker Water's service area, comprised mainly of large lots near Hilltop; service extension is not currently on the radar.

Staff was directed to confirm how Hidden Village's water service is proposed and report back.

3. Discussion and Action Items

No items were discussed.

4. Information Items

a. Douglas County Water Plan Update

Douglas County Water Plan Update was presented by Will Koger, Principal, Forsgren Associates; Jason Broome, Forsgren Associates; Bill Fronczak, LRE Water; Ted Hyde, Michael Baker International; and Anne Kukenmeister, Michael Baker International.

The consultant team presented an overview of each component of the Water Plan scope of services. Topics included project schedule and January 26 workshop logistics, survey responses from providers, demand and supply projections, groundwater modeling across Denver Basin aquifers, draft land-use policy recommendations (landscaping standards, irrigation ordinances, priority growth areas, minimizing individual lot wells, promoting central systems, reuse and storage), environmental factors influencing demand, and public engagement plans using Social Pinpoint, focus groups, and a hybrid public meeting.

The Commission and presenters held a Q&A session covering provider response completeness, reconciliation of demand projections with conservation and population forecasts, supply source breakdowns including reuse and importation (e.g., WISE), clarity on wholesale water definitions, viability and recoverability across Denver Basin aquifers—particularly Dawson and Denver for shallow wells, establishing a groundwater monitoring network, addressing water implications data centers, assisting smaller providers lacking capacity for future regulatory compliance, and sequencing/timing for public outreach relative to Commission review.

The Commission directed staff and consultants to adjust outreach timelines, request additional information on detailed supply source breakouts, address aquifer recoverability methodology, explore a county-wide groundwater monitoring concept, and prepare for the January 26 workshop.

5. Member Discussion

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No items were discussed.

6. Adjournment

Chair Hilbert declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.