

## COMMISSION

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KIM OWENS – COMMISSIONER  
JOHN F. SULLIVAN – COMMISSIONER

## STAFF

JORDY FUENTES – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HEATHER COLE – EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



## ARIZONA POWER AUTHORITY

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## MINUTES OF THE ARIZONA POWER AUTHORITY (“APA”) COMMISSION (“Commission”) MEETING HELD APRIL 15, 2025

**PRESENT:** James Sweeney, Chairman  
Phil Bashaw, Commissioner  
Russ Jones, Commissioner  
Kim Owens, Vice Chairman  
John Sullivan, Commissioner

**STAFF:** Heather Cole, Executive Secretary to Commission (Virtual)  
Jordy Fuentes, Executive Director  
Ben Norris, Legal Counsel  
John Schutter, Chief Financial Analyst  
Sonseeahray Thayer, Chief Financial Administrator

**OTHER:** Elena Byrd, ED #2  
Jorge Canaca, GCSECA  
Noel Carter, Buckeye Water Conservation District  
Michael Curtis, Cortaro Marana  
Jean Dietrich, CliftonLarsonAllen  
Dennis Delaney, KR Saline & Associates  
Bryce Dingiger, SRP  
Sheri Farag, SRP  
Ed Gerak, IEDA  
Joshua Greir, SRP  
Elston Grubaugh, Wellton Mohawk  
Daniel Herderer, Clark Hill  
Taylor Howerter, Roosevelt Irrigation District  
Leslie James, CREDA  
DeWayne Justice, ED #7  
Stephanie Knight-Dubien, ABWC  
Adam McAnally, SRP  
Derek McEachern, ED #4  
Kristine McMinimy, AEPCO  
Donovan Neese, Roosevelt Irrigation District  
Paul Orme  
Daniel Pritchard, KR Saline & Associates  
Ken Robbins, ED #2

Ken Saline, KR Saline & Associates  
Scott Saline, KR Saline & Associates  
Meghan Scott, Wellton Mohawk  
Megan Sheldon  
Russell Smoldon, AMPUA  
Elizabeth Story  
Sheryl Sweeney, Clark Hill  
Lori Taitano, SRP  
Kelly Urbine, Current Insights  
Bill VanAllen  
Robert VanHofwegen, Electrical District #8  
Glen Vortherns, Maricopa Water Conservation District  
Nathan Whelthan, AG Office  
Jeff Woner, KR Saline & Associates

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 10:34 a.m. by Chairman James Sweeney. Quorum was established.

**ROLL CALL:** Commissioners Jones, Owens, Sullivan & Sweeney were present.

**CHAIRMAN REQUEST FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY ANY COMMISSIONER:**

- Each Commissioner declared they had no conflict of interest on any matter as listed on the agenda for today's meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the Regular Commission Meeting & Executive Session held on February 18, 2025 was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Sullivan.
- **Vote:** Commissioners Bashaw, Jones, Sullivan & Sweeney approved the motion. Commissioner Owen's abstained since she did not attend the February Commission Meeting.
- **Resolved:** Approved as stated above and the written documents are entered into the Commission records.

**REVIEW OF OY2023 AUDIT REPORT**

*CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP., Jean Dietrich, CPA, Principal State & Local Government*

Ms. Dietrich reported that CLA has concluded the OY2024 audit. They advised that it was a clear opinion. They had no findings or recommendations. She thanked the staff for their help and responsiveness. Legal Counsel, Ben Norris asked if there was anything that could be done better? Ms. Dietrich said the internal controls including processes and procedures in place are what they need to be.

- *Commissioner Bashaw joined the Commission Meeting at 11:04am. He declared that he had no conflict of interest on any matter as listed on the agenda for today's meeting.*

**REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS AND APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:**

Sonseeahray Thayer, Chief Financial Administrator, provided the Expenditures & Financial Reports.

Hoover Operations Fund Claims #15242 - #15362 and APA Claims #686 - #688 for the period February 1 – March 31 were presented.

- **Motion:** To approve Hoover Operations Fund Claims #152242 - #15362 & APA Claims #686 - #688 as presented was made by Commissioner Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Jones.
- **Vote:** Commissioners Bashaw, Jones, Owens, Sullivan & Sweeney approved the motion.
- **Resolved:** Approved as stated above and the written documents are entered into the Commission records.

**REPORT ON POWER OPERATION MATTERS:** John Schutter, Chief Financial Analyst reported on the following:

- Monthly precipitation – There has been much less precipitation this March compared to the same time last year.
- Water Year Precipitation – When comparing Water Year 2025 to Water Year 2024, overall there has been less precipitation.
- Upper Colorado River System – Precipitation to Date in the Upper Colorado River System is currently at 95%, which is slightly less than the same time last year.
- Lake Powell inflow - Lake Powell inflow is forecast to be at 71% of normal for the year.
- Total System Contents – (Upper and Lower Basin) Total system contents for the current water year is slightly lower than the same time last year and is continuing to trend down.
- Reservoir and System Capacity – Lake Powell is currently at 33% capacity, Lake Mead is at 34% capacity, and the total system capacity is at 40%.
- Lake Mead Elevation – By February of 2027, it is anticipated that the elevation at Lake Mead will be at the 1,055 mark.
- Glen Release – The Glen release for Water Year 25 is comparable to prior years.
- Hoover Release – and the Hoover release for Water Year 25 is comparable to prior years.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) Update – the Non-Hoover REC Program is on hold due to the WAPA Wide Policy & Program still being in progress. RECs from years 2014 -2023 have been totaled and will be sold at one time if and when they are allowed to be marketed. We are still waiting on the totals for 2024.
- Colorado River Updates
  - Drought Ad Hoc Committee – further modeling/analysis is taking place to understand the impacts to power & capacity.
  - Proposed 2026 Rates – Discussions are taking place regarding the preliminary rate. There is a proposed increase of 12% which includes adding extraordinary expenses of 8% and additional employee costs of 4%. APA Staff will request a breakdown of these and other specific expenses as well as an explanation of what constitutes extraordinary expense vs. deferred maintenance expense.
  - Visitors Services Update
    - Grand Re-Opening of Visitors Center – Thursday, June 5 @ 4:30pm

- Congressional Activities
  - Congressional State Director Hoover VIP Tour – May 8 – All State Congressional Offices, with the exception of Grijalva Office, have been invited to tour Hoover Dam and have conversations with Public Power Groups.
  - Gallego/Kelly Programmatic Appropriations Request 2026 – Appropriation Requests are being accepted in both the House & Senate. Gallego/Kelly Programmatic Appropriation Request cannot be submitted by a NGO. The APA as a Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Contractor, will submit the request. IEDA will be submitting the request to Ciscomani's office.

Commissioner John Sullivan commented that as the BOR Contractor, the APA should submit any and all appropriation requests and at a minimum be listed as a participating organization. Commissioner Sullivan asked that for "optics", the APA and IEDA need to work together on this issue.

  - Hoover Dam Foundation Bill – Congressman Biggs Office has been engaged on this issue.
- CREDA Update – Leslie James shared that the slough is halfway dredged and should be completed by mid-May.
- San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP) Update – Work is continuing – Non-Disclosure Agreements have been signed and submitted. The Memorial has been sent to Congress. Bureau of Indian Affairs needs to cooperate and help with the messaging.
- Scheduling Discussion – December Commission Meeting – a discussion was held regarding the December Commission Meeting and whether or not to host a tour/dinner at Hoover again this year. More details will follow.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

- Consideration & Possible Approval – APA Customer Pinal Solar & Storage Letter Agreements
  - **Motion:** To approve and authorize 2 sets of APA Customer Pinal Solar & Storage Letter Agreements, one for general customers and one specific to SRP was made by Commissioner Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Owens.
  - **Discussion:** AEPCO received notice that the Administration will be moving forward with the grant funding as long as specific terms/language is removed from the application. The application was amended and resubmitted. The APA has drafted and circulated the Solar & Storage (Non-Binding) Letter Agreement to customers involved in the project. A Backstop Agreement with Salt River Project may be needed but is premature in nature at this point. The Letter Agreement with SR has been revised.
  - **Vote:** Commissioners Bashaw, Jones, Owens, Sullivan & Sweeney approved the motion.
  - **Resolved:** Approved as stated above and the written documents are entered into the Commission records.

- Consideration & Possible Approval – Pinal Solar & Storage Planning & Subscription Agreement
  - **Motion:** To approve the Pinal Solar & Storage Planning & Subscription Agreement was made by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Owens.
  - **Discussion:** AEPCO is incurring costs related to development of the project as they work their way through the process. The cost to the APA customers is estimated at \$339,000. APA customers – once signed into the project will need to pay their portion of these costs once a final amount is agreed to. Once agreements are fully executed the APA will have a seat on the AEPCO Board of Directors. The APA will cover the costs of these developmental costs with No Rate Impact.
  - **Vote:** Commissioners Bashaw, Jones, Owens, Sullivan & Sweeney approved the motion.
  - **Resolved:** Approved as stated above and the written documents are entered into the Commission records.
- Consideration & Possible Approval – Gallego/Kelly Programmatic Appropriations Request 2026
  - **Motion:** To approve the Gallego/Kelly Programmatic Appropriations Request 2026, pending review of the final request, was made by Commissioner Owens and seconded by Commissioner Jones.
  - **Vote:** Commissioners Bashaw, Jones, Owens, Sullivan & Sweeney approved the motion.
  - **Resolved:** Approved as stated above and the written documents are entered into the Commission records.

**VISITORS' COMMENTS/CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** Dennis Delaney, KR Saline & Associates, shared that the SPPA Board also signed a Subscription Agreement with AEPCO.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS** - None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Sweeney adjourned the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

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Jim Sweeney, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Heather J. Cole, Executive Secretary to Commission