

# ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

**September 10, 2025**

A meeting of the Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) Committee was held at 10:08 a.m. September 10, 2025, at the District office 31717 United Avenue, Pueblo Colorado 81001 and via Zoom virtual conference.

Chairman Kevin Karney announced a quorum was present for the AVC Committee.

### **AVC COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Kevin Karney – Chairman, Matt Heimerich (remote), Justin DiSanti (remote), Mike Bartolo (Remote), and Leann Noga

### **AVC COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:**

Dallas May, Bill Long

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Seth Clayton (remote) and Ann Nichols (remote), SECWCD Directors: Christine Arbogast, Kogovsek & Associates (remote); Gordon Dillon, Chris Woodka, Trevor Singleton, Robert Banham, Margie Medina, Lee Miller (remote), and Peter Levish (remote), SECWCD staff.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Justin DiSanti moved, and Matt Heimerich seconded approval of the August 12, 2025, AVC Committee meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

None

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **AVC Design Services Award**

A Request for Proposals for design services for spur and delivery lines to 18 AVC participants to Rocky Ford was issued in July. Three proposals were received from AECOM, Kennedy Jenks and TetraTech. The proposals varied widely, as shown in the table below:

Bidder	Base Bid	Average Scores
AECOM	\$3,339,812	74
Kennedy Jenks	\$2,779,995	90
TetraTech	\$4,995,867	57

Gordon Dillon explained that TetraTech's proposals included items (vaults, pump stations, and fiber)- the other two did not. After adjusting all proposals to include the same items, they ranged from \$4.064 million-\$4.99 million. Kennedy Jenks was at the low end. Kennedy Jenks

also scored the highest for its approach to the design work by staff and consultant Lowell Pimley.

## AVC Enterprise Sub-Project



### Package 1

Avondale Water and Sanitation  
Town of Boone  
Town of Fowler  
Town of Olney Springs  
Town of Crowley  
Town of Ordway  
Crowley County Water Association  
96 Pipeline Company  
Sugar City  
Manzanola  
Valley Water Company  
Vroman Water Company  
Patterson Valley Water  
Fayette Water Association  
Eureka Water Company  
City of Rocky Ford  
Hilltop Water Company  
Newdale-Grand Valley Water Company  
West Grand Valley Water Inc.  
South Swink Water Company

### Package 2

Riverside Water Company  
North Holbrook Water Company  
West Holbrook Pipeline Company  
Holbrook Center Soft Water Association  
Beehive Water Association  
Town of Cheraw  
South Side Water Association  
East End Water Association  
City of La Junta  
Town of Swink  
Bent's Fort Water Company  
Homestead Improvement Association

### Package 3

City of Las Animas  
McClave Water Association  
Hasty Water Company  
May Valley Water Association  
Town of Wiley  
City of Lamar  
Town of Eads

- AVC participants split into three packages for state funding purposes
- Design & construction paced to keep ahead of Trunk Line construction
- Goal: Funding sources arranged to minimize impact on participants

**The chart above shows how design packages for state funding would be organized.**

Mr. Dillon said Kennedy Jenks' bid scored highest among the three for its approach to completing the work under a tight time schedule.

Leann Noga said the work is needed quickly in order for the Enterprise to take advantage of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding in its final year. Application for the construction loan from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) will be made in November, and 60 percent design, environmental clearances and construction staging areas are required. 100 percent design would be required by mid-2026.

Staff has proposed two contracts.

Water Conservation Board (CWCB) grant for \$2.5 million to complete the design work by mid-2026.

Mrs. Noga explained that the construction cost for the first design package is estimated to be \$20 million. An SRF loan using BIL funds is expected to be 50 percent forgivable. Another \$10 million in CWCB grant funding would be used to pay off the remaining principal. This would allow AVC to reach 18 of 39 participants while using only \$12.5 million of the \$30 million grant. Ann Nichols, who chairs the Finance Committee, said the approach is appropriate, and the Finance Committee will consider it at its September Board meeting, prior to Board action. Mr. Heimerich made the following motion, seconded by Mr. DiSanti: "I move the Arkansas Valley Conduit Committee recommend the District Board to approve and sign a substantially

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similar agreement with Kennedy Jenks for Engineering Services for the Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) Spur and Delivery Lines Engineering Design SRF Package 1.” Motion passed unanimously

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. Dillon gave the Committee a construction update of the Reclamation AVC Sub-Project:

- Boone Reach 1 is complete, with pressure testing completed.
- Boone Reach 2 is expected to be complete in early 2026 but still requires Xcel to move a gas line.
- The injection site is still behind schedule, but progress is being made.
- Reclamation is preparing to go to bid for Crowley Reach 1 construction.

Mrs. Noga summarized the August 25, 2026, public hearing at Rocky Ford to meet requirements of a Public Needs Assessment. It was attended by citizens of Manzanola as well as several AVC participants.

Mrs. Noga also reported on the participants meeting at Rocky Ford on September 9, 2025. Board members Kevin Karney, Matt Heimerich and Mike Bartolo attended. Patrick Fischer and Derek Mikel of Reclamation came as well. About half of the participants either attended or were online. There were few questions which Mrs. Noga and Mr. Karney attributed to more complete information being supplied through the monthly AVC Newsletter. Mrs. Noga also reported that the Enterprise is collecting contact information to identify key people in each participant’s organization.

**NEXT MEETING**

To Be Determined

**ADJOURN**

Chairman Kevin Karney adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Woodka  
Senior Policy and Issues Manager