

ARKANSAS RIVER POWER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 30, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Arkansas River Power Authority (ARPA) met at the Otero College Student Center, 2001 San Juan, La Junta, CO., on Thursday, October 30, 2025. Following appropriate notice, President Sutherland called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ARPA Board Members present:

HOLLY:	Randy Holland Blaine Ice
LA JUNTA:	Gary Cranson P. Lorenz Sutherland
LAMAR:	Jay Brooke Houssin Hourieh
LAS ANIMAS:	Ron Clodfelter Rick Stwalley
SPRINGFIELD:	Heath Piper
TRINIDAD:	Linda Vigil

ARPA Staff present:

Rick Rigel, General Manager
Aarin Ritter, Finance/Accounting Manager
Arvenia Morris, Office Manager

ARPA Legal Counsel present:

Brandon Dittman, Wilson Williams Fellman and Dittman

Others (guests) present:

Dave Bachicha, Director Power and Light, City of Trinidad
Chris Arguello, Electric Director, La Junta Municipal Utilities
Lynn Wright, Electric Superintendent, Las Animas Municipal Light and Power

ROLL CALL: President Sutherland called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Roll call was circulated.

QUORUM: A quorum of the Board was present and voting at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as published.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the AUGUST 28 REGULAR MEETING AND THE SEPTEMBER 17 SPECIAL MEETING: Board Member Brooke made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 28 and September 17 meetings, seconded by Board Member Hourieh, approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING BILLS: **a. September 2025 Financial Statement.** Finance Manager Ritter presented the September 2025 financial statement. Board Member Vigil moved to accept the September financial statement and approve outstanding bills, seconded by Board Member Ice. The motion was approved unanimously. **b. Update on Year End Financial Projections.** Finance Manager Ritter provided the end-of-year financial projections using the actual amounts for January through September and the budgeted numbers for October through December. **c. Financial Modeling 2026-2031.** General Manager Rigel presented the financial modeling for the years 2026-2031.

SUBMISSION OF 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS. **a. Report by General Manager and Discussion.** The Board received a draft of the proposed 2026 Budget (by email) on October 15 as required by the Colorado local government budget law. The General Manager presented a review of the 2026 budget. **b. Authorize Publication of Availability and Set Budget Hearing Date for December 4, 2025.** Board Member Cranson moved that in accordance with the Colorado Local Government Budget Law, the proposed 2026 budget be published and made available by appropriate distribution to the City Clerk of each member municipality and in the manner required by Colorado law, and establish December 4, 2025, as the date for the public hearing for adoption of the 2026 budget. Said hearing shall be held at the December 4, 2025, meeting of the Board of Directors in La Junta. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hourieh and approved unanimously.

OPERATING REPORT: Aarin Ritter presented the Operating Report for September 2025. **a. Wind Report.** Arvenia Morris presented the Wind Report for September 2025.

OPERATING COMMITTEE REPORT: The Operating Committee met on October 16, 2025. General Manager Rigel provided a summary of the items discussed. One item of discussion was the purchase of bucket truck self-rescue equipment. Partial funds for this equipment were provided by the Community Funds from Guzman Energy.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT: **a. Update on WAPA-LAP Allocation Assignment.** The General Manager provided an update on the WAPA-LAP Allocation Assignment. ARPA has formally submitted an application to WAPA for the assignment of

its WAPA-LAP allocation to an alternate point of delivery. The application is currently under review by WAPA. **b. Update on Solar Developments.** The General Manager provided an update on the solar developments by Clay Creek (Sandhills). Clay Creek has begun the permitting process; engineering has been released, and they are currently evaluating real-time metering options. They are also reviewing potential curtailment procedures for both the Lamar and Las Animas locations. ARPA is reviewing a consent agreement for Collateral Agent assignment. This assignment is required for ARPA and all four members by Sandhill's Lender(s). **c. Miscellaneous. Name that Solar Farm.** At its October 16 meeting, the Operating Committee discussed naming the solar farms in their communities. The Board members were encouraged to give it some thought. *Grant Funding Update.* Staff did not pursue the Colorado Energy Office Grid Resiliency funding. **WAPA-LAP Update.** WAPA has advised customers it will not be able to meet the Planning Reserve Margins (PRM) required by SPP RTO.

NEW BUSINESS: a. Consider Approval of First Amendment to the Purchase Power Agreement with Clay Creek, LLC. The General Manager reviewed the purpose of the 1st amendment to the PPA with Clay Creek. The Amendment would change the Commercial Operations Date from December 31, 2025 to December 31, 2026. Board Member Brooke moved to approve the 1st Amendment to the Purchase Power Agreement with Clay Creek, LLC, seconded by Board Member Holland, passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

PLANNING AND COMMUNICATION: President Sutherland announced that General Manager Rigel was recognized at the American Public Power Association's 2025 National Conference as a recipient of the James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award. Congratulations to Rick! A press release will be sent to the member municipalities announcing the award.

MEMBER CITIES' REPORTS: Board Member Ice reported the Holly Board of Trustees had reappointed him to an additional 4-year term on the ARPA Board of Directors. Board Member Hourieh reported that Jay Brooke had also been reappointed for a 4-year term on the ARPA Board. Linda Vigil reported she was also reappointed for an additional term on the ARPA Board. Congratulations to those board members on the term extensions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CRS § 24-6-402(4)(f): General Counsel Dittman announced the Board is authorized to go into executive session for the purpose of discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f). The employee was previously informed of the executive session and did not wish to have the subject of the executive session in open session. Board Member Hourieh moved, seconded by Board Member Brooke, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for the stated purposes. The executive session began at 11:34 AM. The executive session concluded at 12:08 PM. In lieu of any written minutes, to satisfy the recording requirements of the Open Meetings Law, the executive session was electronically recorded and will be kept

for a period of 90 days. No person who participated in the executive session stated any concerns that any discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into the executive session occurred during the executive session. No formal action occurred in the executive session.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors is December 4, 2025, in La Junta at the Otero College Student Center.

ADJOURN: The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 12:09 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arvenia L. Morris". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Arvenia L. Morris
Secretary