

**Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority
(ACWWA)**

2025 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget

December 11, 2024

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2025 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget

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BUDGET MESSAGE

ACWWA Administrative Building



1. Budget Message

December 11, 2025

Board of Directors
Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority

Your management team is pleased to present the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority (ACWWA) 2025 Proposed Budget. The purpose of this budget is to provide citizens, investors, and other interested parties with reliable financial information about ACWWA. This budget represents our best effort to predict revenues and expenditures for the year 2025.

ACWWA's budget is one of the most important documents prepared by ACWWA. Through the process of planning and preparing the budget, ACWWA evaluates and updates its strategic plans and goals for the coming. The process also provides direction for management and staff.

It is important to note that, while the adoption of this budget focuses on identifying and estimating the spending of financial resources, it is also a policy-setting document. It makes determinations on the use of ACWWA's facilities, the use of staff time, and drives management decisions for 2025. As ACWWA's policy makers, you play a critical role in making decisions regarding ACWWA's future.

ACWWA's service area has reached approximately 82% of build-out, and still has a number of land parcels available for development. The service area has experienced steady growth in development over the past five years; however, rising costs of building materials, and disruption in the supply chain, and general economic uncertainty may result in decreased development over the next several years. The budget for tap sales reflects this more conservative outlook at 100 taps for the year.

The 2025 Budget is designed to meet the goals of ACWWA's mission and vision statements including the objective of providing the highest quality service to our customers at the lowest reasonable cost. This budget provides for planning and development of additional water resources, as well as the operation and maintenance of existing production, distribution, collections and treatment facilities to support the economic growth of ACWWA. This budget is organized and structured to meet external and internal managerial needs. The budget also incorporates the direction for ACWWA as established by the Board's priorities.

1.1 Board of Directors' Priorities

The Board of Directors has developed a series of Strategic Priorities to assist staff in the development of this budget. These priorities are:

- Improve Water Quality
- Improve Customer Service/Relations
- Expansion/Growth of Service Area
- Expense Management.

The 2025 budget furthers the Board's priorities as follows:

1. Improve Water Quality

- a. ACWWA meets and exceeds all State requirements when it comes to potable water quality. However, ACWWA strives to further improve water quality to improve the aesthetic qualities of our drinking water supply. Some of our efforts have been:
 - i. ACWWA utilized three main sources of water for its potable water supply and in 2024 managed those sources to best serve ACWWA customers. Resulting in meeting its water quality goals for the whole year.
 - ii. Reducing/eliminating the direct use of chlorinated alluvial well water into our potable drinking system. While this supply meets all regulations, by combining it and treating it at a water treatment plant, it further improves its quality.
 - iii. We continue to adjudicate water rights that can be treated to a high level. We have now adjudicated over 80% of our ACWWA Flow Project water rights. The 2025 budget provides funding for several critical components of the project:
 - iv. We maintain our water supply wells. The 2025 budget supports the redrilling of a key well for ACWWA.
 - v. Treatment and delivery of approximately 2000 acre-feet of ACWWA Flow water.
- b. The JWPP (ACWWA's Water Treatment Plant) began operating as a blended RO/microfiltration plant on May 20, 2020. The 2025 budget includes funding for the contract with Jacobs to operate the plant, as well as capital funding for right-sizing pumps, SCADA system upgrades, and other equipment as needed.

2. Improve Customer Service/Relations

- a. ACWWA will continue to focus on customer service in 2025 to ensure that customer issues are addressed promptly and effectively, that we reach out to the community with information, and that we listen to our ratepayers. In addition, it is anticipated the implementation of the new billing software will greatly improve the customer experience.
- b. Staff will continue to enhance ACWWA's website to ensure we are able to provide timely, useful, and accurate information to our ratepayers.

3. Expansion/Growth of Service Area

- a. ACWWA assesses any potential expansion to its service area carefully to ensure it does not have any negative impacts to its current customer base.
- b. Over the past several years, staff has evaluated ACWWA's process for new development review and has streamlined some functions. In 2025, staff will continue to assess development-related policies and procedures and modify as needed to become more effective.
- c. Staff will continue to reach out to the development community as part of a continuous improvement effort for the processing of new applications for water and wastewater services.
- d. Future expansion of the service area will be dependent upon availability of future water supplies.

4. Expense Management

- a. ACWWA is in a state of continuous improvement and constantly reviews processes, policies and procedures to ensure they meet ACWWA's needs in the most cost-effective manner.
- b. In 2025, ACWWA will continue its preventative maintenance program, which provides for scheduled maintenance of equipment to minimize the risk of failure. Preventative maintenance helps manage costs by reducing the chance of expensive line and system breaks that can interrupt service to ACWWA's rate payers. ACWWA will be implementing asset management software with predictive capabilities that can help staff track asset life to estimate when infrastructure and equipment will need to be replaced.
- c. Ensuring system reliability through the maintenance and management of ACWWA's infrastructure is essential to avoiding significant service interruptions. In 2025 ACWWA will continue to develop its Asset Management program which will provide increased efficiency in the management of its assets, thus reducing reactive costs.

The 2025 budget is shaped by ACWWA's mission and reflects the Board's priorities. The operating budget was developed to ensure that enough funds are available to pay for anticipated costs. The non-operating budget includes only those projects that are necessary to meet the challenges of ensuring an adequate supply of water and the effective treatment of wastewater. The budget document reflects the progressive nature of ACWWA and promotes accountability, prudence, and fiscal conservatism.

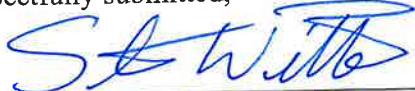
ACWWA's Board and management strive to be proactive in anticipating future developments that will affect ACWWA's operating environment. Issues and trends that will impact ACWWA in the coming years include:

- Drought, current conditions are dry and how the snow pack develops this winter will impact the yields of ACWWA's water rights. Current snowpack is below average (at the time of this writing). This will be continued to be monitored.
- Greater federal and state regulation of water and wastewater operations;
- Increased pressure on water supplies in Colorado and the West, resulting in the need to manage current water supplies and for greater regional cooperation;
- Capital costs required for additional treatment and delivery capacity for the ACWWA Flow project;
- Higher future costs because of increased regulation and more demand for water coupled with decreasing supplies;
- An aging workforce and record low state unemployment levels which is creating a shortage of skilled workers in the utilities sector as well as other sectors;
- Aging water and wastewater infrastructure that is being addressed with ACWWA's asset management program to optimize the life of the systems;
- Economic uncertainty due to tariffs, fluctuating interest rates, Supply Chain/COVID-19 impacts and global markets may cause a slowdown in development in ACWWA's service area, resulting in a decrease in funds available for capital projects.

As we move into 2025, we will continue with our commitment to provide a high quality of water and wastewater services for our customers while keeping rates as low as possible. Staff will focus on maintaining and developing internal processes to most efficiently manage ACWWA's finances and continue to be accountable to the Board of Directors and ACWWA's rate payers.

We would like to thank the Board of Directors for their leadership and foresight in adopting policies and priorities to guide the development of ACWWA's 2025 Budget. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the ACWWA employees, who through their hard work and dedication have enabled ACWWA to meet its goals and objectives for 2024. The preparation of this document would not have been possible without the support and input from all departments.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Witter, P.E.
General Manager



Mathew Vigil, CPA
Director of Finance and Administration

INTRODUCTION



Pictured above is an aerial view of the LoneTree Creek Water Reuse Facility and the ACWWA administration building (upper left).

2. Summary of Operations

Form of Government	Authority
Government Code Section	Colorado Revised Statutes §29-1-204.2
Date of Organization	November 1989
Fiscal Year End	December 31

Number of FTEs authorized	40
Number of Accounts	Approximately 5,000
Average census	31,000

Lone Tree Creek Water Reuse Facility	
Average Daily Wastewater Flow	2.6 million gallons
Total Capacity	3.6 million gallons
ACWWA's Capacity	2.5 million gallons
Inverness' Capacity	1.1 million gallons

Sewer Collection Pipeline (in miles)	82.7
Potable Water Pipeline (in miles)	196.6
RAW Water Mains (in miles)	23.2
Reg 84 Water Mains (in miles)	10.9
Number of Water Storage Tanks	3
Number of Fire Hydrants	1,833
Number of Valves	8,200
Number of Meters	5,241
Number of Water Supply Wells	26
Number of Booster Stations	3
Number of Lift Stations	3
Number of Manholes	3,275
Number of Interceptors	7
Number of Water Tap Equivalents	9,721

3. Description and History

3.1 Description

ACWWA represents a cooperative effort among public entities to provide water and wastewater service. ACWWA is a political subdivision formed pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between Arapahoe County and the Arapahoe Water and Sanitation District (AWSD or the District). ACWWA was formed in 1988 for the purpose of developing water resources, systems and facilities, and wastewater treatment and disposal systems and facilities in whole or in part for the benefit of the customers, county inhabitants, and others.

3.2 History

Effective January 1, 1989, the IGA granted ACWWA all responsibility for and control over AWSD's operating system, related operating assets, tap fees, contributions, revenues and expenses. The agreement provided for a lease of the District's property, plant and equipment. The lease was set to expire on either December 1, 2011, or upon the dissolution of the District or ACWWA, whichever came first. Pursuant to an IGA dated July 7, 1995, the District and ACWWA entered into a plan to dissolve the District. The voters of the District approved the plan and the Arapahoe County District Court signed the Order of Dissolution March 4, 2000, officially dissolving the District. All property, assets and water rights were turned over to ACWWA and any prior agreements between the two entities are subordinate to the July 7, 1995 Agreement.

On February 6, 2002, ACWWA entered into an IGA with the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Public Improvement District ("the PID"). The PID was organized in 2001, pursuant to the provisions of Title 30, Article 20, Part 5, and Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) for the purpose of constructing certain public improvements to serve customers both in and out of its jurisdiction boundaries. The IGA was amended and restated, in part, to have the PID replace the District as a party to the IGA. The PID retains ACWWA as an independent contractor to serve as its management agency. In consideration for ACWWA's commitment to provide management services, the PID agreed to issue general obligation bonds and certify a mill levy on property within the PID at a level sufficient to make the annual debt service payments as identified in the PID's annual capital plan.

ACWWA's core mission is to provide water and wastewater service within its service area. ACWWA complies with several regulatory programs designed to protect the region's water resources, including the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) which are examples of forces that will continue to challenge the municipal water and wastewater industry in the near future. Other regulatory compliance requirements, increasing customer awareness, aging infrastructure, and a growing scarcity of high-quality water sources will require greater creativity and innovation.

4. Organizational Structure

4.1 Authority Powers

ACWWA is a political subdivision and a public corporation of the State of Colorado, separate from the Members of the Establishing Contract. The rights, powers, privileges, authorities, functions, and duties of ACWWA are established by the laws of the State of Colorado, particularly C.R.S. §29-1-204.2, which provides ACWWA the power to enter into contracts; to sue and be sued; to hire employees and agents; to incur debts, liabilities, or obligations; to issue revenue obligations or refund outstanding indebtedness; to acquire, hold, lease, or dispose of real and personal property utilized only for the purposes of water treatment, distribution, and wastewater disposal; to develop water resources, systems, or facilities or drainage facilities for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Members or others; to condemn non-public utility property for use as rights-of-way; and to fix, maintain, and revise fees, rates, and charges for functions, services, or facilities provided by ACWWA. ACWWA does not have the power to tax.

4.2 Governing Board

There are eight authorized positions for the Board of Directors of ACWWA. These board positions are appointed at the discretion of the Arapahoe County Commissioners. Two of the five County Commissioners currently serve on the ACWWA's Board of Directors.

ACWWA's Board sets policy and direction for ACWWA. These eight individuals serve for a term of three years and appointments are made as vacancies occur. The Board elects its own officers, including a President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer.

ACWWA's Board of Directors and any reported conflicts of interest are as follows:

- **Doyle Tinkey's** conflict form has been filed; he owns a home in the ACWWA service area.
- **Geri G. Santos-Rach's** conflict form has been filed; she has no conflicts to report.
- **Jessica Campbell-Swanson's** conflict form has been filed; she is a member of the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners (the County detention facility, coroner's and sheriff's offices, and courthouse are in the ACWWA service area); member of the Centennial Airport Authority; and Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA).
- **Jeff Baker's** conflict form has been filed; he is a member of the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners, serves on the SEMSWA Board, and lives in a neighboring water district that partners with ACWWA on projects.
- **Brad Cromer's** conflict form has been filed and there are no conflicts noted.
- **Tom Wood's** conflict form has been filed; he reports he owns a small number of shares of ACWWA bonds that were recently issued.

- **Perry Deed's** conflict form has been filed; he has no conflicts to report.
- **Derek Killebrew's** conflict form has been filed; he has no conflicts to report.

4.3 ACWWA's Management Team and Staff

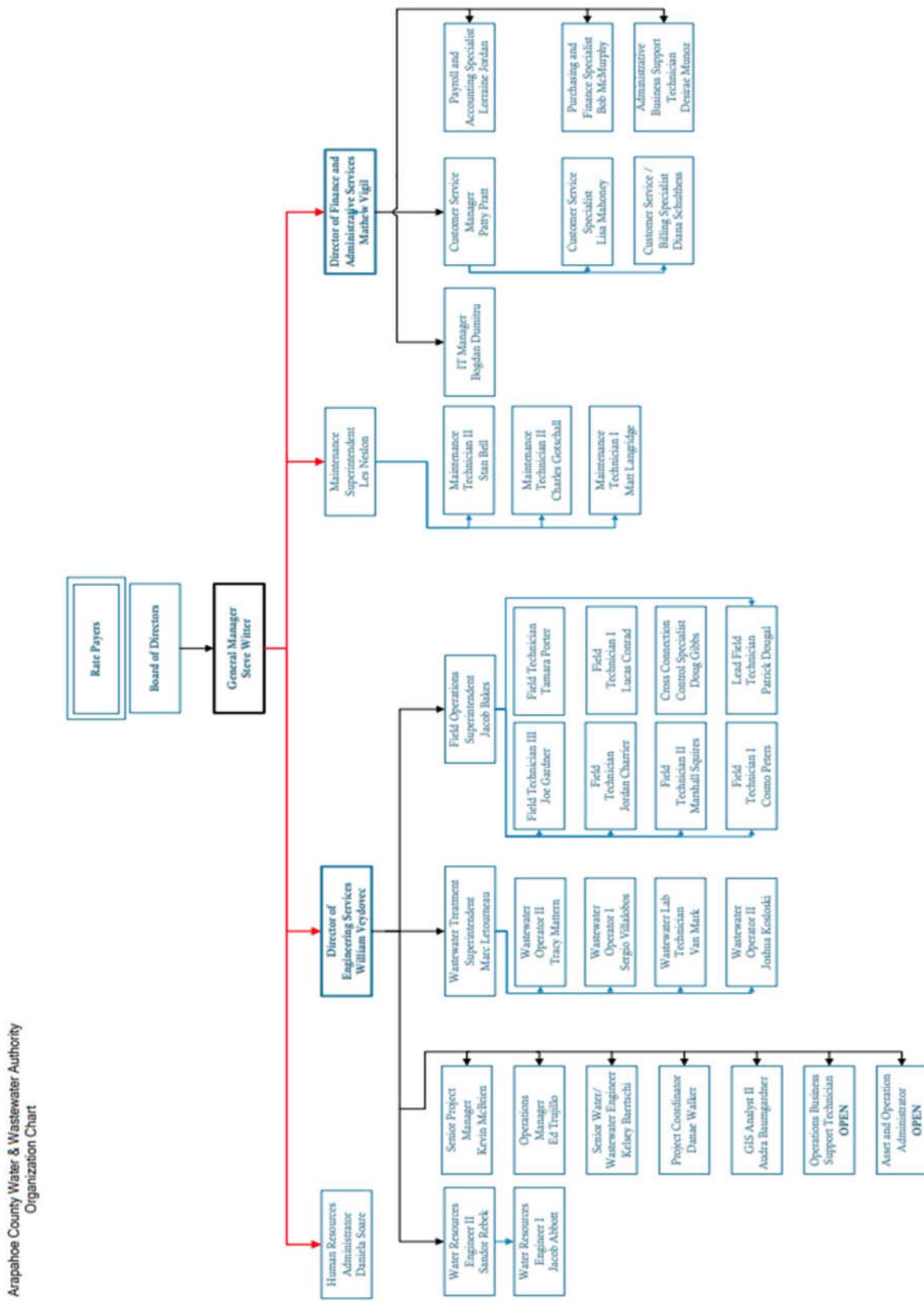
Steven F. Witter, PE, is ACWWA's General Manager. The General Manager is the chief executive officer and administrative head of ACWWA and is responsible for carrying out policies set by the Governing Board and leading ACWWA toward the successful accomplishment of its mission. Mathew Vigil, CPA is ACWWA's Director of Finance and Administration, Bill Veydovec, PE is ACWWA's Director of Engineering and Operations. This group comprises ACWWA's Management Team.

ACWWA is currently budgeting 40 positions and 1 intern position. Management does not anticipate adding new full-time employees for 2025.



Pictured above is Chamber's Reservoir – Summer 2024

4.4 Organization Chart



4.5 Our Mission

To provide sustainable water and wastewater services by optimizing our resources to ensure quality and value while protecting the environment.

4.6 Our Vision

To be a leading water/wastewater utility by providing exceptional service for current customers and future generations.

4.7 Our Values

- **Professionalism:** It's how we conduct our business! We value treating our customers with respect and being prepared to effectively address customer issues in the office and in the field. Our interactions, our appearance and our actions all should be examples of our dedication to our mission and vision.
- **Reliability:** We understand our customers rely on us to provide them with water and wastewater services and efficient customer service. ACWWA staff strives, through proper planning and execution, to provide these services to our customers day in and day out.
- **Integrity:** ACWWA's expectation for its customers and employees is to always behave in an upright and honest manner. ACWWA strives to develop and maintain trust with its customers through honest and transparent actions
- **Accountability:** ACWWA conducts a vital service to our community and strives to execute its mission and vision on a daily basis. ACWWA is accountable to its customers and to the State of Colorado to meet all necessary regulations. ACWWA strives to be transparent in what it does, through open meetings, an informative website, newsletters and customer service.
- **Efficiency:** Through proper planning and execution of ACWWA's mission, vision and values, ACWWA strives to perform its responsibilities in the most efficient and beneficial manner to our customers. ACWWA is focused on utilizing our resources optimally to deliver value to our customers.



Chamber's Reservoir and Pump Station

5. ACWWA's Service Area

5.1 Demographic and Economic Activity Information

Included in this section is historical and demographic and economic information relevant to the Denver metropolitan area, Arapahoe County and ACWWA's budget.

5.2 Population

The following table provides a history of the populations of Arapahoe County, the Denver-Aurora Core Based Statistical Area (the "Denver PMSA") and the State. The Denver-Aurora PMSA is comprised of six metropolitan counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson. Between 2010 and 2023, the population of Arapahoe County increased 14%, and the populations of the Denver-Aurora PMSA and the State increased 16.9% and 15.7%, respectively.

Year	Arapahoe County	Percent Change	Denver PMSA	Percent Change	Colorado	Percent Change
1990	391,511	33.3	1,650,486	13.8	3,294,394	14.0
2000	490,722	25.3	2,144,968	30.0	4,338,785	31.7
2010	575,067	17.2	2,554,106	19.1	5,047,005	16.3
2011	586,147	1.9	2,600,806	1.8	5,119,188	1.4
2012	596,529	1.8	2,646,393	1.8	5,188,703	1.4
2013	608,322	2.0	2,694,842	1.8	5,263,512	1.4
2014	618,665	1.7	2,746,356	1.9	5,342,996	1.5
2015	630,411	1.9	2,803,288	2.1	5,442,196	1.9
2016	638,071	1.2	2,845,074	1.5	5,529,161	1.6
2017	643,293	0.8	2,877,961	1.2	5,600,169	1.3
2018	650,347	1.1	2,915,881	1.3	5,677,250	1.4
2019	653,751	0.5	2,944,333	1.0	5,735,934	1.0
2020	655,207	0.2	2,969,922	0.9	5,784,865	0.9
2021	656,557	0.2	2,977,833	0.3	5,811,297	0.5
2022	655,808	-0.1	2,985,871	0.3	5,839,926	0.5
2023	656,061	0.0	2,985,871	0.0	5,877,610	0.6

(1) Population of the Denver-PMSA adjusted by Colorado State Demography Office to reflect the 2001 creation of the City and County of Broomfield.

Sources: Colorado State Demography Office (subject to periodic revision).

5.3 Income

The following table sets forth the annual per capita personal income levels for the residents of

Per Capita Personal Income

Year ⁽¹⁾	Arapahoe County	Denver PMSA	Colorado	United States
2012	\$ 49,325	\$ 49,749	\$ 45,490	\$ 44,548
2013	49,269	51,706	47,082	44,798
2014	52,522	55,328	50,244	46,887
2015	54,025	55,702	51,394	48,725
2016	55,378	55,105	51,306	49,613
2017	55,996	58,947	54,171	51,550
2018	61,250	63,534	57,794	53,786
2019	64,485	67,568	61,258	56,250
2020	69,132	71,515	64,852	59,765
2021	72,518	79,438	71,923	64,430
2022	76,304	84,788	75,722	65,470
2023	81,414	89,297	80,068	69,810

(1) Figures updated through 2023.

All figures are subject to periodic revisions.

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Arapahoe County, the Denver-Aurora PMSA, the State and the nation.

5.4 Employment

The following table sets forth the number of individuals employed within selected Arapahoe County industries which are covered by unemployment insurance. In 2023, the largest employment sector in Arapahoe County was health care and social assistance (comprising approximately 14.9% of the county's work force), followed, in order, by retail trade, professional and technical services, finance and insurance, and administrative and waste services. For the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2023, total average employment in the County remained relatively unchanged as compared to the same period ending December 31, 2022.

Average Number of Employees within Selected Industries – Arapahoe County

Industry	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Accommodation and Food Services	26,939	26,951	26,962	25,837	25,376
Administrative and Waste Services	27,622	27,921	27,924	23,286	23,031
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	124	185	185	135	124
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	6,331	6,171	6,458	5,911	6,183
Construction	22,805	22,870	23,065	23,586	24,283
Educational Services	22,399	22,640	22,594	23,431	24,108
Finance and Insurance	28,891	27,624	25,656	24,404	21,907
Government	13,373	14,293	13,668	14,132	14,831
Health Care and Social Assistance	43,572	44,248	44,886	47,792	49,782
Information	18,203	18,849	19,169	17,624	16,181
Management of Companies/Enterprises	8,743	9,059	9,059	8,472	9,032
Manufacturing	8,209	8,415	8,415	9,083	8,546
Mining	683	625	625	429	439
Non-classifiable	30	30	31	9,609	29
Other Services	9,528	9,835	9,835	21	9,774
Professional and Technical Services	33,178	34,607	34,707	39,721	39,687
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	6,681	6,598	6,696	7,044	7,054
Retail Trade	33,916	33,381	33,461	32,025	31,822
Transportation and Warehousing	5,554	5,282	6,096	6,875	6,927
Utilities	267	202	293	277	270
Wholesale Trade	14,741	14,986	14,986	14,609	14,882
Total All Industries ⁽¹⁾	<u>331,789</u>	<u>334,772</u>	<u>334,771</u>	<u>334,303</u>	<u>334,268</u>

(1) Figures may not equal totals when added due to the rounding of averages or the inclusion in the total figure of employees that were not disclosed in individual classifications.

Source: State of Colorado, Department of Labor and Employment, Labor Market Information, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

The following table presents information on employment within Arapahoe County, the Denver-Aurora PMSA, the State and the nation, for the period indicated. The annual unemployment figures indicate average rates for the entire year and do not reflect monthly or seasonal trends.

Year	Arapahoe County ⁽¹⁾		Denver-Aurora PMSA ⁽¹⁾		Colorado ⁽¹⁾		United State
	Labor Force	Percent <u>Unemployed</u>	Labor Force	Percent <u>Unemployed</u>	Labor Force	Percent <u>Unemployed</u>	Percent <u>Unemployed</u>
2016	340,623	3.1%	1,544,387	2.5%	2,843,689	2.6%	4.7%
2017	347,523	2.7	1,591,613	2.6	2,907,097	2.7	4.1
2018	356,525	3.2	1,630,679	2.9	2,996,791	3	3.9
2019	361,796	2.4	1,663,981	2.5	3,074,076	2.6	3.6
2020	359,977	6.9	1,652,656	6.5	3,126,290	6.4	6.7
2021	367,171	4.1	1,709,330	3.9	3,105,599	3.9	3.9
2022	362,728	2.5	1,720,339	2.5	3,184,836	2.5	3.5
2023	366,811	3.1	1,720,339	2.5	3,202,346	2.5	3.5
<u>Month of October</u>							
2024	378,283	4.3%	1,741,184	3.2%	3,255,124	3.3%	3.80%

(1) Figures for Arapahoe County, the Denver-Aurora PMSA and the State are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: State of Colorado, Department of Labor and Employment, Labor Market Information and United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

5.5 Major Employers

The following table provides a brief description of the largest private employers located within Arapahoe County. No independent investigation of the stability or financial condition of the employers listed hereafter has been conducted and, therefore, no representation can be made that such employers will continue to maintain their status as major employers in the area.

Top Ten Private Employers in Arapahoe County

Name of Employer	Product or Service	Number of Local Employees ⁽¹⁾
Comcast	Telecommunications	5,910
HealthONE	Healthcare	4,210
Charter Communications	Telecommunications	3,770
UnitedHealthcare	Insurance	3,620
DISH Network	Satellite TV & Equipment	3,510
Empower Retirement	Insurance & Retirement Savings Services	3,000
Centura Health	Healthcare	2,890
Raytheon Company	Aerospace Systems & Software	2,560
Lumen Technologies	Telecommunications	2,400
Kaiser Permanente	Healthcare	2,240

(1) Figures revised September 2023.

(2) HealthONE includes Medical Center of Aurora, Spalding Rehabilitation Center and Swedish Medical Center.

(3) Centura Health includes Centura Health Corporate Headquarters and Littleton Adventist Hospital.

Source: Development Research Partners as posted by Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation.

5.6 Building Activity

The following table provides a history of building permits issued for new construction in Arapahoe County for the years indicated.

Building Permits Issued in Arapahoe County

Year	Single Family		Multi-Family ⁽¹⁾		Commercial/Industrial ⁽²⁾	
	Permits	Value	Permits	Value	Permits	Value
2020	4,310	230,000,985	1	4,340	464	110,976,992
2021	3,475	208,653,781	3	1,085,849	297	167,287,158
2022	3,277	133,107,266	-	0	389	128,395,425
2023	6,407	164,337,298	57	60,814,025	506	151,194,310
2024 ⁽³⁾	5,366	178,581,560	8	1,878,433	893	309,350,093

(1) Includes apartments, condominiums and townhomes.

(2) Includes commercial remodel, addition, new structure or tenant finish.

(3) Figures are for January 1 through November 30, 2024.

Source: Arapahoe County Public Works and Development Department, Building Division.

5.7 Foreclosure Activity

The following table presents historical information on foreclosure filings. Such information represents the number of foreclosures filed, but does not take into account the number of foreclosures which were filed and subsequently redeemed or withdrawn.

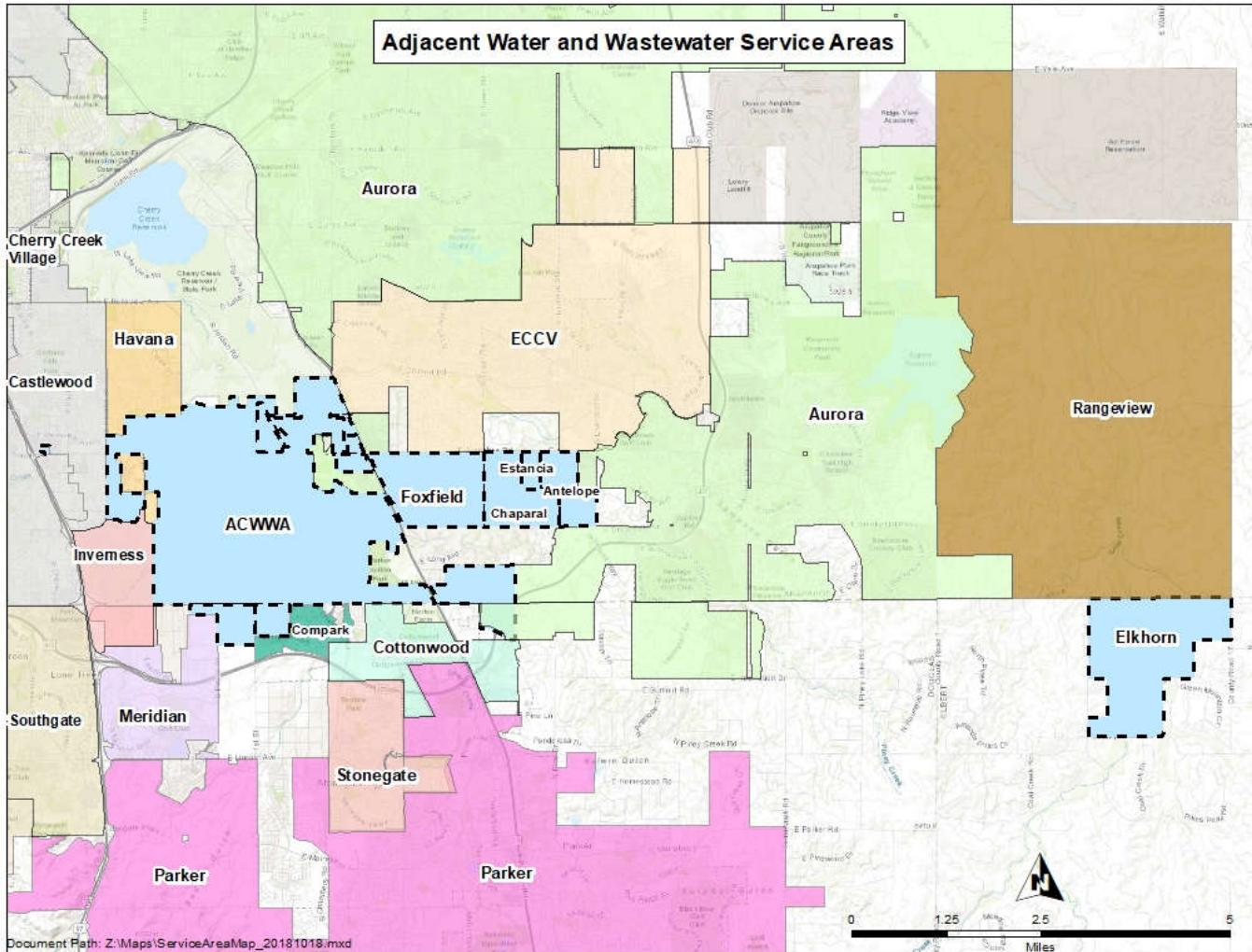
History of Foreclosures – Arapahoe County

Year	Foreclosures Filed	Number of	Percent
		Change	
2015	858	-	
2016	731	-14.8%	
2017	706	-3.4%	
2018	638	-9.6%	
2019	638	0.0%	
2020	217	-66.0%	
2021	103	-52.5%	
2022 ⁽¹⁾	550	434.0%	

(1) Figures are for January 1 through December 2022.

Sources: the Arapahoe County Office of the Public Trustee

5.8 Service Area Map



6. Water Supply

At full build-out of the current service area, ACWWA estimates that demand will be approximately 7,000 acre-feet per year. In 2010, ACWWA began developing the ACWWA Flow Project, and has purchased water rights with an estimated average yield of 4,400 acre-feet. ACWWA has a diversified water rights/supply portfolio that includes non-tributary groundwater from the Denver Basin Aquifer, senior water rights on Cherry Creek and tributary surface water rights in the South Platte Basin. ACWWA also utilizes augmentation plans to allow ACWWA the ability to maximize the use of its water supplies.

ACWWA further optimizes its water supply by operating a non-potable irrigation system and a reuse irrigation system. The non-potable irrigation system will include the use of Chambers Reservoir, a 1,400-acre-foot reservoir located at the southwest corner of Chambers Road and E-470. Reservoir construction has been completed and filling has commenced. It is anticipated that the reservoir will be operational as part of the non-potable system beginning in Summer 2025.

6.1 The ACWWA Flow Project

In the early 2000's, ACWWA's leadership recognized that additional water supply would be needed for ACWWA's future. The new water supply would address the increased water demand from growth, but also provide for current customers who were being served in part by non-tributary groundwater wells. Due to the heavy use of non-tributary groundwater wells in the Front Range, the production of these wells is anticipated to drop over time and a replacement water source would become necessary.

In 2010, after evaluating multiple options, the ACWWA Board approved a project to develop renewable water supplies. The project, named the "ACWWA Flow Project," includes the purchase and adjudication of 4,400 acre-feet of average yield consumptive use surface water rights from the South Platte Basin. It also includes the necessary infrastructure to store, treat and deliver that water to the ACWWA service area.

ACWWA used a portion of the 2010 Series Bonds net proceeds to acquire the ACWWA Flow water rights. Infrastructure for treatment, storage, and delivery of the new water rights must be constructed. Several proposed facilities will require environmental and other permits which have not yet been issued; ACWWA cannot guarantee that such permits will be issued.

The ACWWA Flow water rights are being adjudicated in the District Court in and for Water Division No.1 in Greeley, Colorado (Water Court). ACWWA expects this water to provide a secure water supply to meet its anticipated future demands and will be enhanced by ACWWA's ability to reuse its water supply. However, unlike non-tributary groundwater, surface water rights are impacted by variable hydrologic conditions. It is anticipated that ACWWA's portfolio of non-tributary groundwater and Cherry Creek water rights will provide water in drought years to supplement surface water rights from the ACWWA Flow Project.

In order to be allowed permanent use for a municipal water supply, the water rights must be successfully adjudicated in Water Court. ACWWA began the adjudication of the ACWWA Flow Project water rights in 2010, and that process continues with over 80% of the water rights adjudicated and the remaining in process. ACWWA has also successfully adjudicated an augmentation plan, in addition to the water rights. The ACWWA Flow Project is currently delivering about 2,500 acre-feet of water annually, or just over 60% of ACWWA's current potable water demand and is providing a more diversified water supply as well as improved water quality to ACWWA customers. ACWWA began delivering ACWWA Flow water to its service area in 2013.

In 2025, ACWWA will continue to develop this project and work to adjudicate the remaining water rights. In early 2024, ACWWA acquired additional capacity in a storage reservoir in the South Platte Basin to increase the effective yield of the water from the Project. In 2018, ACWWA invested in a second deep injection well constructed at the East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District (ECCV) Water Treatment Plant and participated in the expansion of the Northern Water Treatment Plant. ACWWA owns capacity in this plant to treat its ACWWA Flow Project water supply.

7. Accomplishments

2024 has been another productive year for ACWWA. ACWWA has been able to accomplish many critical tasks to continue to adhere to our Mission and Vision, even as we work through a pandemic. A few highlights are:

- In 2024 we revised our water quality goals to provide a higher water quality. This was set in place and met 100% of the time in 2024.
- We met all our water demands this year without any major service interruptions. Even with the Summer 2024 in Colorado being the second hottest on record in Denver, with an average temperature of 75°F. Denver was at or above 90°F 55 times, which is 9 days more than the 30-year average. Denver also reached triple digits six times, which is the third most in the city's history.
- We made substantial progress on our Asset Management Program. Completing Tactical Asset Management Plan of our 1 Million Gallon Tank and Pumpstation site and Identifying a potential Computer Maintenance Management System to implement.
- No major service interruptions on water or wastewater services.
- We finished a number of critical Capital Improvement Projects including the rehabilitation of our Peoria Lift Station.
- We successfully sampled for Lead and Copper with all results being below actionable CDPHE limits.
- ACWWA continues to train and prepare for future emergencies. We conducted Table Top sessions to run through scenarios, get our key people trained as well. We handled three major issues in 2024 that could have resulted in customer service outages or other, but due to how we handled them, there were no service interruptions.
- ACWWA staff had no lost time accidents in 2024 for an eighth consecutive year.
- ACWWA Employees achieved 8 new and renewing certifications in its field operations, plant operations and maintenance departments in 2024.



8. Budget Process and Timeline

8.1 Budget Preparation

ACWWA prepares an annual budget to provide a blueprint for operations for the coming year. Copies of the draft and final budget will be made available to all interested parties and opportunities will be provided for public input prior to final adoption. Each year, as part of the budget process, ACWWA's goals and objectives are reviewed and updated as necessary to reflect current challenges as well as changed conditions. Staff also seeks direction from the Board of Directors.

8.2 Budget Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
August 2024	Director of Finance meets with Executive Team and department heads to determine staffing levels, expense budgets, and capital outlay needed for 2024; begin developing budget.
September 2024	Staff presents draft 2024 budget to the Finance Committee on October 2 nd and to the full Board on October 9 th . Staff continues to develop the budget.
December 2024	On December 11 th , the Board adopts the budget and holds rate hearing.
January 2025	No later than 30 days following the beginning of the fiscal year of the budget adopted, the budget is filed with the State of Colorado.

8.3 Annual Budget Statutory Requirements

ACWWA's annual budget is prepared and adopted under the provisions of C.R.S. §29-1-113. ACWWA's fiscal year is January 1 through December 31.

On or before October 15 of each year, ACWWA's Director of Finance and Business Operations submits a draft budget to the Governing Board. The budget covers proposed operations and funding requirements for the ensuing fiscal year. On or before December 31 of the current year the Governing Board adopts the budget. ACWWA advertises all required meetings of budget discussions along with the intent to adopt the budget.

A resolution adopting the budget and appropriating the funds is filed with ACWWA's Director of Finance, whose duty it is to disburse monies or issue orders for the payment of monies as required by statute. The final adopted budget for ACWWA is the operating and fiscal guide for the ensuing year.

8.4 Budget Amendments

A budget amendment is defined as any action that increases or decreases total appropriated fund amounts in ACWWA's adopted budget. Budget amendments could be caused by various reasons, such as:

- The availability of more accurate information after the budget is adopted;
- Modified operating requirements;
- Year-end accounting adjustments.

Budget amendments must follow strict statutory guidelines. The intent to amend the budget and the notice of the Governing Board meeting and Public Hearing at which the amendment will be considered and potentially receive approval must be published in a newspaper that has general circulation within the ACWWA service area.

8.5 Lapse of Appropriations

All unexpended appropriations expire at the end of the fiscal year pursuant to C.R.S. §29-1-108 (6).

8.6 Budget Transfers

Budget transfers are defined as any action that changes the budget amount associated with a service, as adopted by the Governing Board. Budget transfers change budget amounts from one line item to another. It is important to note that budget transfers, unlike budget amendments, do not change total overall budget appropriation levels. Budget transfers may be processed by action of the General Manager.

8.7 Filing of the Budget

No later than thirty days following the beginning of the fiscal year of the budget adopted, the governing body shall cause a certified copy of the budget, including the budget message, to be filed with the State of Colorado pursuant to C.R.S. §29-1-113 (1).

8.8 Financial Structure

The State of Colorado and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles govern the use of funds and the budgeting, accounting and auditing associated with this fund structure, as determined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

ACWWA works in concert with Arapahoe County to accomplish water management objectives. The primary authority for the operation of ACWWA is an IGA between Arapahoe County and the PID. ACWWA's budget includes all operations over which ACWWA is financially accountable. ACWWA has one fund, a general fund. There are no component units required for inclusion in ACWWA's budget; however, ACWWA is a component unit of Arapahoe County.

The primary budgetary objective is to provide the highest possible level of service to ACWWA's project participants without impairing ACWWA's sound financial condition. Continual efforts are made to improve productivity, lower costs and enhance service. ACWWA will endeavor to keep current expenditures less than current revenues. Current expenditures are defined as operating expenses, debt payments and capital improvement expenditures.

ACWWA will maintain a budgetary control system to ensure adherence to the budget and will prepare regular reports comparing actual revenues and expenditures to the budgeted amounts. Law and policies limiting revenue sources and expenditures must be explicitly addressed in the budget process. The Governing Board will not establish a goal or policy without also providing the necessary funding to accomplish those goals or policies.

The adopted budget may only be changed through actions by the Governing Board. Staff may make budget change requests to the Governing Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Governing Board will then consider the requests based on staff's recommendations and approve or deny the requests by a majority vote.

8.9 Budgetary Control

ACWWA's Finance Department prepares interim financial statements with comparison to budget on a monthly basis for review by the Board.

8.10 Contacting ACWWA's Finance Department

This financial report is designed to provide the Board, customers, creditors and investors with a general overview of the Authority's financial condition. Should you have any questions regarding the content of this document, please contact ACWWA at (303) 790-4830.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Exterior of LTCRF BNR's and Walkway

9. Executive Summary

The 2025 Budget for ACWWA includes both operating and non-operating components. It was prepared by ACWWA's Finance Department in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and State of Colorado budgetary requirements. We believe the data presented is accurate in all material respects and is presented in a manner designed to fairly set forth the financial position of ACWWA.

ACWWA has one enterprise fund and distinguishes operating revenues and expenditures from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenditures generally result from providing services and delivering water in connection with the ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Authority are charges to customers for services. Operating expenditures include the cost of providing services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenditures not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenditures.

9.1 Significant Budgetary Items and Trends

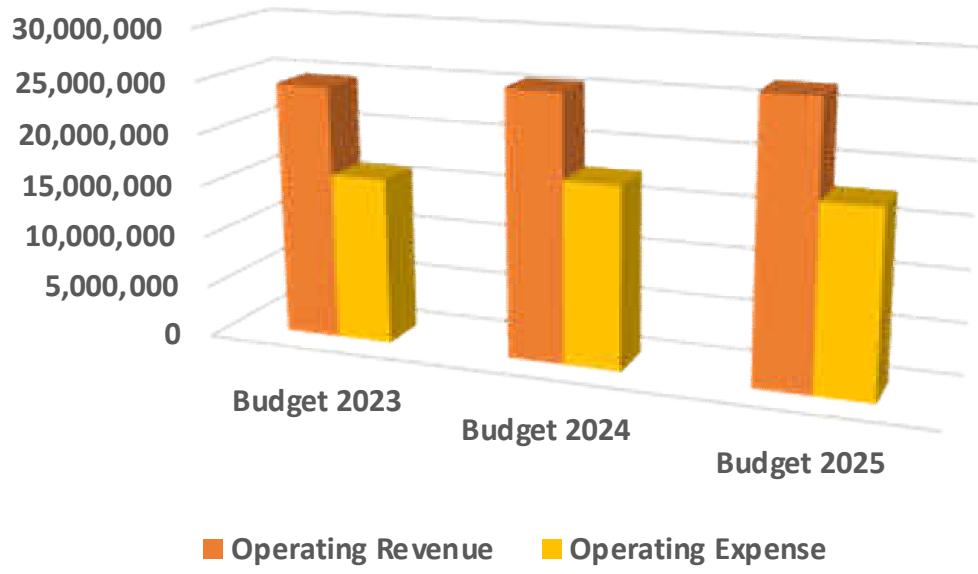
The 2025 budget provides funds for an optimal level of expense needed to operate ACWWA in order to provide effective service to ratepayers, maintain the current infrastructure, and add the necessary capital improvements to ensure future operations. ACWWA conducted a cost of service study in 2023 to ensure that rates are adequate to fund current operations. As the infrastructure ages, continued investment in the system will be needed to keep it functioning at a high level. Key components of the 2025 budget include:

- Water volume rate and water service fee increases of 3%;
- Wastewater volume rate and wastewater service fee increases of 2.5%;
- Water tap fee increase of 3%; wastewater tap fee increase of 2% for a combined tap fee increase of 2.75%;
- Operating revenue of \$26.75 million;
- Operating expenses of \$17.76 million;
- Non-operating revenue of \$6.2 million, tap and extraterritorial fees of \$4.7 million and investment income of \$1.5 million.
- Non-operating expenditures of \$26.2 million comprised of debt service payments of \$7.8 million and capital spending of \$18.4 million, including over \$5.9 million in capital costs that are being carried over to 2025 from the 2024 budget;
- ACWWA is able to fund necessary capital improvements for the next several years without incurring new debt; however, a bond issue may be necessary in the future to help fund system improvements.

- Of the 40 positions budgeted, there is currently 3 unfilled position authorized to assist ACWWA in the high level of activity is experiencing and may be filled to allow for additional capacity to ensure ACWWA's level of service commitments.

9.2 Operating Budget

Budgeted Operating Revenue and Expense Comparison



Operating Revenue

Operating revenue is projected to be \$26.8 million in 2025, which reflects an increase of \$789 thousand over the 2024 budget, and an increase of \$601,000 from 2024 estimated operating revenue.

Water Charges

Water charges revenue for 2025 is budgeted to increase \$601,000 or 3.5% over 2024 estimated revenue. Consumption and fee revenue will increase by a 3% rate factor and a 1% account growth factor.

Sewer Charges

Based on 2024 results escalated for account growth and rate increases, wastewater revenue is expected to increase \$261,000, or 3.5% compared to forecast 2024 revenue. Budgeted 2025 revenue includes a 2.5% volume increase and a 1% account growth factor.

Fire Lines

Fire line stand-by revenue is anticipated to increase by a 3% volume increase and a 1% account growth factor.

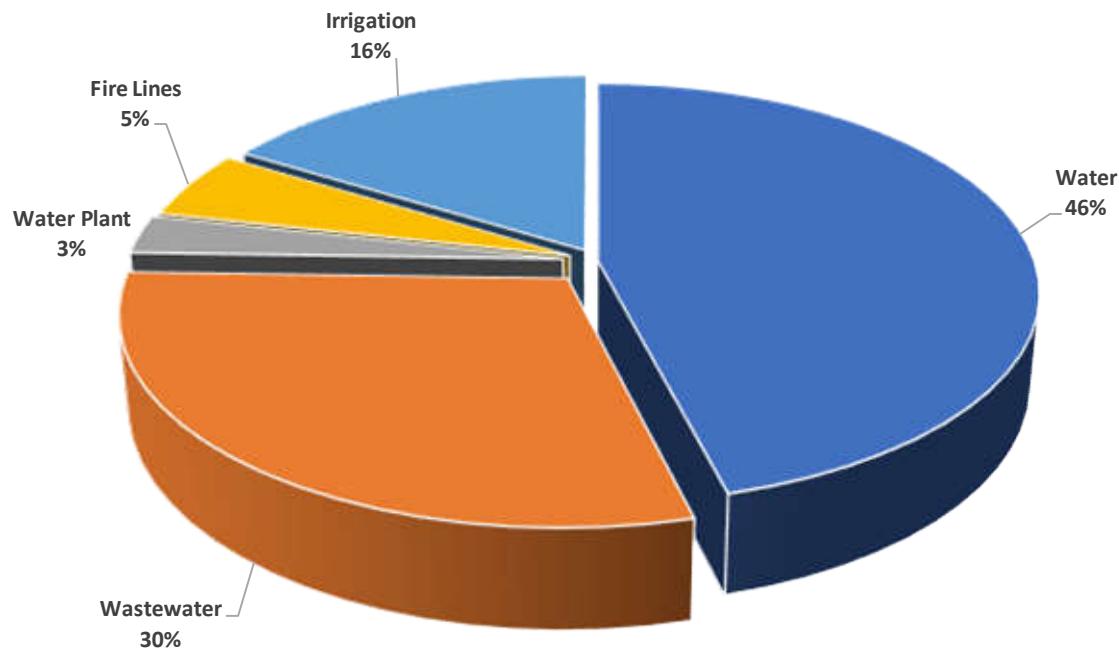
Irrigation Revenue

Irrigation revenue is expected to be \$120,000 greater than budget for 2024. The budget for 2025 reflects an increase of \$283,000 from the 2024 budget, and an increase of \$403,000 from estimated 2024 revenue.

Fees for Service

Fees for service are budgeted to decrease \$1,700 for 2025 in comparison to the 2024 budget as a result of lower anticipated fees.

2025 Operating Revenue



Operating Expenses

The 2025 operating expense budget reflects a .6% overall increase from 2024 budgeted operating expenses. Expenditures of \$17.7 million are budgeted to be \$109,000 higher than the 2024 budget. Increases in water treatment and contractual services are the primary drivers of the budgeted increase.

Salaries and Benefits

The 2025 salaries and benefits budget reflect an increase of 4.2% from the 2024 budget and includes 40 FTEs for the entire year. Compared to 2024 estimated costs of \$4.5 million, salaries and benefits expense in 2025 will be \$929,000 higher due to 3 open positions being filled in 2025 to meet capacity and service level demands, a 4% overall salary adjustment and a 5% increase in medical benefit premiums.

Office Expenses

The budget for 2025 office expenses reflects a 9% estimated increase in year-over-year budgeted costs. Included is funding for asset management, compliance and document management software. In addition, there will be an overlap of costs associated with having two administration locations for a portion of the year.

Professional Fees

The 2025 budget for professional fees of \$1.15 million is \$198,000, or 14.6% less than the 2024 budget. Legal services related to the JWPP in the amount of \$200,000 are no longer included in the 2025 budget. The professional fees budget includes legal, general engineering, development, and other consultant support, water rights protection and accounting, audit fees, information technology maintenance and support, new software program implementation, and any other outsourcing needs.

Repairs and Maintenance

The repairs and maintenance budget of \$1.7 million reflects an increase of \$23,000 compared to the 2024 budget. For 2025, sewer camera and jetting will continue to be prioritized. Additionally, staff will continue to focus on fire hydrant repairs, meter replacements and other routine maintenance.

Insurance

General liability, property, and workers' compensation insurance premiums are expected to remain in line with 2024 budget.

Operational Expenses

Operational expenses are projected to increase \$305,000 from forecasted 2024 expenses, and \$380,000 from 2024 budgeted expenses. This increase is entirely due to an increase in water treatment and additional fees related to the ACWWA Flow project.

Contract Services

This line item is comprised mainly of sludge hauling. Due to increased service fees the 2025 budget anticipates a year over year increase \$12,000 from 2024.

Utilities

The 2025 budget for utilities expense is \$1.45 million, reflecting a decrease from 2024 of \$367,000 due to lower utilization of well water sources resulted in less power consumption for pumping costs.

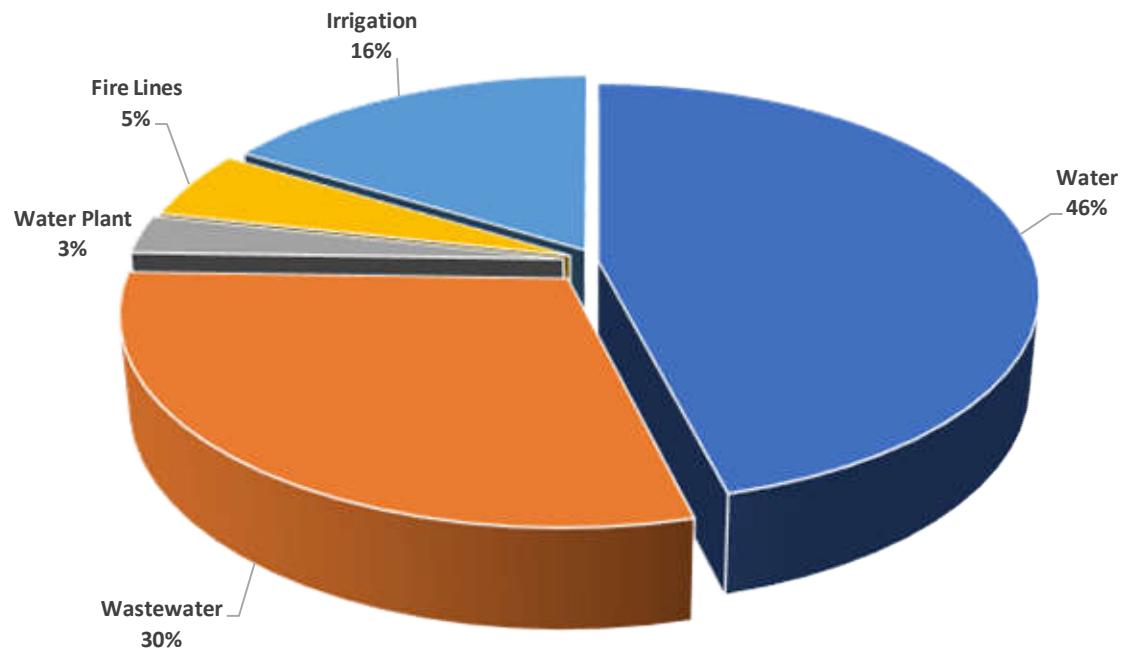
Other Supplies and Expense

There are no increases budgeted in this category.

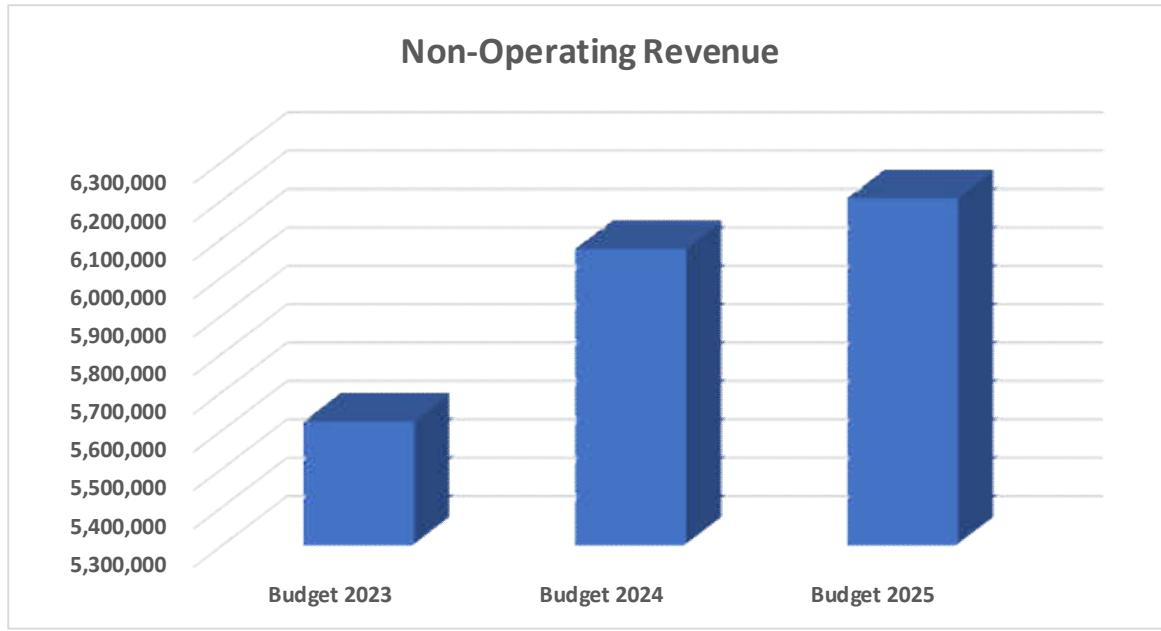
Contingency

A contingency budget of \$400,000 was included to fund unanticipated expenses such as major emergency system repairs. In years past, ACWWA has experienced several major line breaks that have been quite costly to repair, as well as the failure of the Valley Country Club lift station in June 2019. As the water and wastewater systems infrastructure age, line breaks and other issues will become more common, even with a robust preventive maintenance program such as ACWWA's. The contingency line also includes provisions for unexpected legal costs and professional services projects directed by the Board.

2025 Operating Revenue



9.3 Non-operating Budget



Non-operating Revenue:

Non-operating revenue, comprised primarily of tap and water resource fees, is budgeted to increase \$132,000, or 2.2% from budgeted 2024 revenue due an increase in tap and extraterritorial fees.

Interest Income

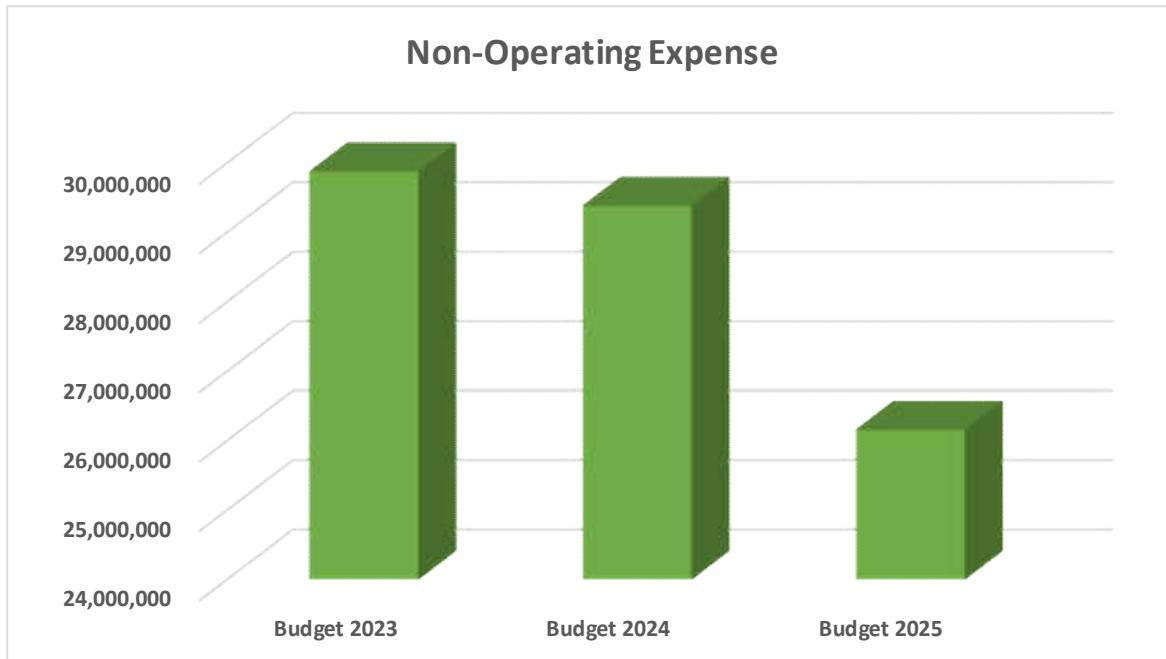
In 2018, ACWWA further diversified its portfolio by investing in two pooled investment trust funds designed for local governments, Colotrust (Colorado Local Government Liquid Asset Trust) and CSAFE (Colorado Surplus Asset Fund Trust). In 2025 ACWWA expects to draw down its reserves to pay for necessary capital improvements but due to high interest rates it is anticipated that the budget for the year will be \$1.5 million resulting in no change from prior year budget.

Miscellaneous Revenue

Miscellaneous revenue is comprised of Chapparal water system payments, ditch company distributions, and fire flow revenue. ACWWA receives \$147,136 per year until 2038 from Chapparal Metro District to offset their portion of the water component of the ACWWAPID.

Tap Fees and Contributions

Both water and wastewater tap sales are anticipated to decrease in 2025 from the high levels experienced in prior years. Increases in the costs of building materials and supply interruptions are expected to slow growth in both residential and commercial development. ACWWA has been seeing the decrease in construction activity in its service area through one key indicator, number of construction hydrant meters that are rented out. ACWWA has budgeted for sales of 100.0 tap equivalents (TEs) in 2025. As of the end of 2024, ACWWA currently has approximately 200 taps in process and/or under review.



Non-operating Expenses

Non-operating expenses are budgeted to decrease approximately \$3.2 million, or 6.6%, over 2024 budgeted expenditures due to slightly less project expenses. \$9.7 million carryover project costs not completed in 2024 due to staffing constraints and supply chain issues are budgeted for 2025.

Debt Service

Debt service is expected to increase \$35,000.

Capital Outlay

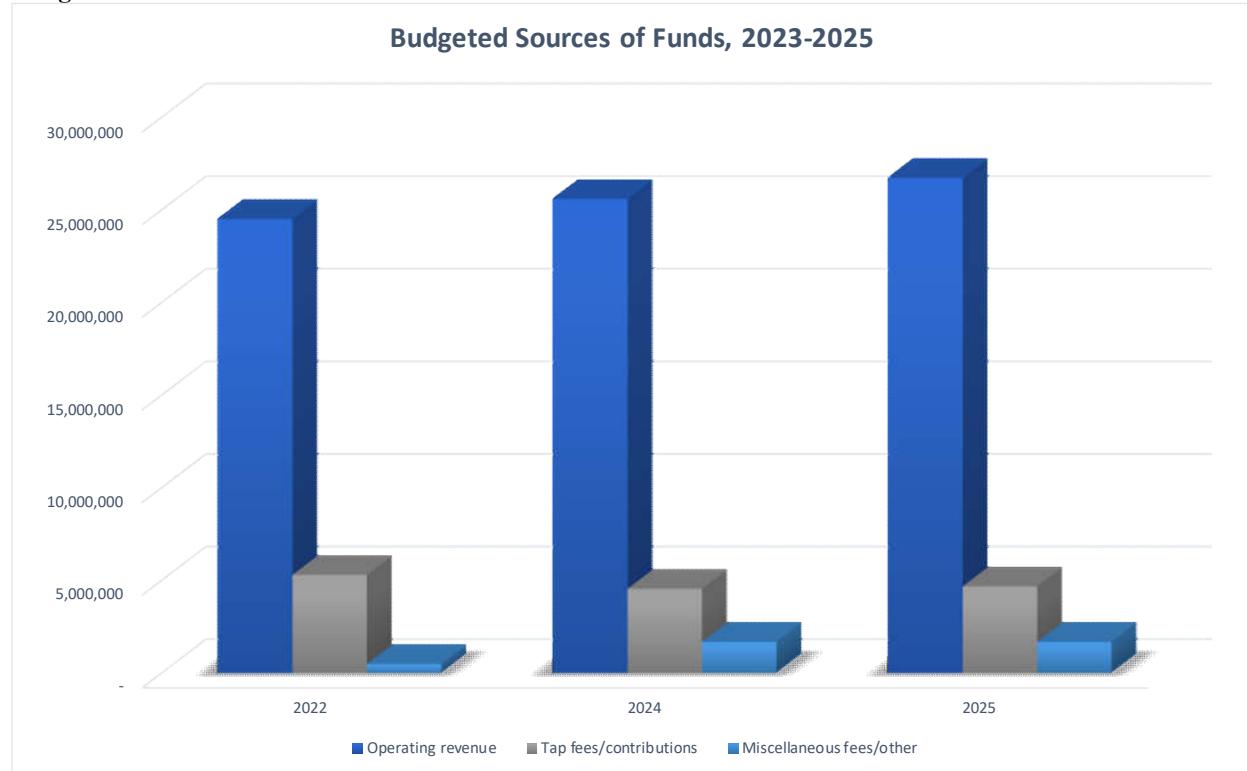
Of the \$18.4 million capital budgeted for 2025, \$5.9 million is carried over from the 2024 capital budget for projects that were approved and budgeted for in prior years but that have not yet been completed. These projects are funded from prior year reserves. A detailed list of 2025 capital projects can be found in §10.

9.4 Long-range Financial Plan

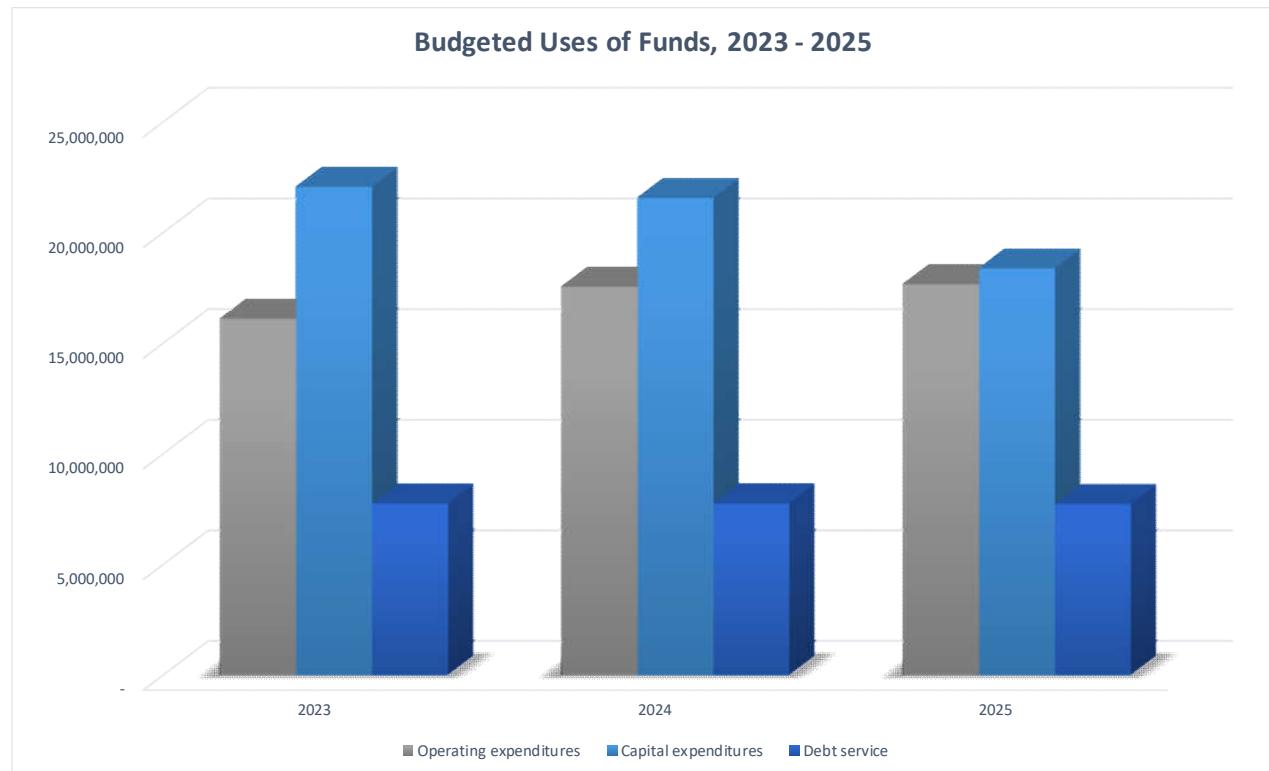
In late 2022, ACWWA engaged Raftellis Engineers to conduct a cost of service study that was finalized in the third quarter of 2023. Based on financial trends through 2022, Raftellis projected that ACWWA would need to raise water and wastewater rates 3%, respectively, each year to fund operations and projected capital needs. ACWWA does not have taxing powers and thus must fund capital projects through a combination of cash provided by rates and fees, and debt financing.

9.5 Sources and Uses of Funds (Budgeted)

Budgeted Sources of Funds 2023 – 2025



Budgeted Uses of Funds 2023 -2025



10. 2025 Capital Improvements Program

ACWWA's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a key component of the budget, as it identifies the critical projects required to ensure ACWWA can meet the needs of its customers. The major projects in the 2025 capital improvement budget are listed in this section.

PROJECTS

1. ACWWA Flow Water Rights Adjudication Costs

The ACWWA Flow Project (Northern Water Supply Project) involves adjudicating water rights acquired in 2009 for legal use. ACWWA has contracted Nazarenus, Stack, and Wombacher for legal services, with regular consultations between legal counsel and engineering consultants. This project will secure a reliable renewable water source for ACWWA's customers.

2. CCI / Kings Point Interceptor - Evaluation, Coordination, Condition, Capacity, and Redundancy Evaluation

The project aims to evaluate the critical interceptor crossing under Arapahoe Road, assessing current and future flow capacities. It will focus on determining the reliability of the existing reinforced concrete pipe and identify potential improvements. This evaluation is essential for establishing whether lining or redundancy measures could enhance the interceptor's reliability and reduce operational risks.

3. Chambers Reservoir Piezometer - Repair and Rehabilitation

This project aims to replace the deteriorating piezometer housing boxes at Chambers Reservoir and explore more efficient data collection methods. The existing boxes, which were never meant to serve as permanent solutions, have begun to deteriorate due to weather exposure, while the current data collection approach has proven inefficient and overly complex for full automation. Addressing these issues now will enhance reservoir management and safeguard critical data collection capabilities.

4. Chambers Reservoir: Access/Entry Gate Relocation

This project will establish a new access gate to the pump station due to the construction of Belford Avenue at Chambers Road. The relocation is essential for maintaining fire and emergency vehicle access, as the current entry is too close to the intersection. The project includes new gates, curb cuts, and fencing, with designs approved by South Metro Fire Rescue and Douglas County Public Works. This improvement will enhance accessibility to the reservoir and ensure compliance with safety regulations, preventing obstruction at the intersection.

5. Chambers Reservoir: Boat Dock/Platform Boat/Safety Improvements

This project aims to ensure the safety of ACWWA staff during maintenance and visual inspections of the Chambers Reservoir. The approach involves evaluating, engineering, and implementing necessary safety measures. By enhancing safety protocols, staff can perform their tasks at the reservoir more securely and efficiently.

6. Chaparral 4-MG Tank - Repair / Rebuild failing retaining wall

This project addresses the failing retaining wall at the entrance to the Chapparal Pump Station. The approach involves evaluating the wall's condition, determining the most reliable repair method, and obtaining quotes from vendors. Successfully completing this project will ensure the wall is reliably repaired, enhancing the structural integrity and safety of the pump station entrance.

7. Cherry Creek Interceptor Manhole Rehab

This project will focus on rehabilitating manholes along the Cherry Creek Interceptor due to observed concrete degradation. Field Operations will assess the degradation scores and initiate a detailed rehabilitation project based on these findings. This effort will reduce the risk of a manhole failure on one of ACWWA's most critical interceptors.

8. CMMS & Asset Management Program Implementation

This project aims to thoroughly evaluate several recommendations from the 2023 water and wastewater master plan, such as additional storage, backup power for the water distribution system, and the construction of three water line projects. A consultant will be hired to assess these recommendations and provide implementation guidance. Completing this project will offer better justification for the identified projects, while deferral could delay their implementation due to uncertainties about their importance.

9. Collection/Distribution Instrumentation and Controls Upgrades

This project will involve upgrading remote well sites by replacing obsolete serial PLCs and outdated instrumentation and control panel components. The approach includes developing standardized panels and requesting quotes for new I&C panels based on ACWWA's standard details. Benefits include improved reliability with new I&C components, cost savings from using modern replacement parts, and increased efficiency by upgrading PLCs to Ethernet, enabling remote troubleshooting by approved vendors.

10. ECCV - CIP Projects

This project addresses ACWWA's financial obligations related to the treatment and brine disposal facilities of the Northern Water Supply Project, in partnership with ECCV. As regulatory standards evolve and operational needs change, improvement projects are essential to enhance reliability and redundancy. Working collaboratively with ECCV, which manages most project responsibilities, ACWWA will provide valuable input to ensure effective solutions are implemented. By participating in these projects, ACWWA fulfills its contractual commitments and supports the

successful operation of the integrated Northern Water Supply Project, ultimately benefiting its water supply services.

11. Elkhorn: Well A3 Bidding and Construction Phase Engineering Services

The A3 well project involves the design and construction of a new well in Elkhorn, including electrical power, controls, instrumentation, and site access, with the design completed in 2024 and construction scheduled for 2025. This new well will serve as an essential additional water supply source for the growing Elkhorn Ranch residential community, both increasing capacity and ensuring reliable water delivery. Bidding for construction will take place in the first and second quarters of 2025. The successful implementation of this well will directly enhance the water supply system, meeting the water needs of residents and supporting community growth.

12. Elkhorn: Well A3 Construction

The A3 well project involves the design and construction of a new well in Elkhorn, including electrical power, controls, instrumentation, and site access, with the design completed in 2024 and construction scheduled for 2025. This new well will serve as an essential additional water supply source for the growing Elkhorn Ranch residential community, both increasing capacity and ensuring reliable water delivery. Bidding for construction will take place in the first and second quarters of 2025. The successful implementation of this well will directly enhance the water supply system, meeting the water needs of residents and supporting community growth.

13. JWPP: 5-year CIP Plan

This project involves Jacobs Engineering providing a periodic overview of necessary upgrades or replacements for the general operation of the JWPP, as stipulated in Section A.1.9 of the current operating agreement dated December 1, 2022. This update will refine the original 5-year CIP to align with an annual repair allowance of \$48,775 for previously identified repair and replacement items. The benefit of this project is to ensure that known repair and replacement needs are accounted for within the annual budget, facilitating better financial planning. Additionally, as new or higher-cost items are identified, more frequent updates will be necessary to ensure these significant expenses are adequately covered by the CIP budget.

14. JWPP: Alluvial Supply Wells Fiber Communication Replacement

This project aims to replace or repair the communications capabilities between the water supply wells and the JWPP, addressing the need to update the existing 15-year-old fiber optic lines and network. A thorough review of the current system will assess its effectiveness in facilitating communication necessary for the proper operation of the water supply feeding the JWPP treatment process. Additionally, alternative communication options, such as cellular service, unlicensed frequency radios, and licensed frequency radios, will be considered. The benefit of this project is to ensure reliable communication for JWPP operators and ACWWA and CWSD staff, enabling secure operations and supporting the successful production of finished water supply.

15. Lab Data and Compliance Program Implementation

This project will replace the discontinued SEMS data management program to ensure continued recordkeeping for Field Operations and Wastewater. Multiple programs will be reviewed to find the best fit for ACWWA's needs, followed by a Request for Proposals (RFP), selection, purchase, and integration of the chosen program. The new program will prevent missed data/sampling and support informed process changes, reducing the risk of violations.

16. LTCWRF: Asphalt Repairs

This project will address the deteriorating asphalt roads at the LTCWRF, installed between 2007 and 2008, which have developed many cracks and potholes. Building 1A has large holes posing immediate safety concerns. Despite previous crack sealing efforts, the repairs have not held up. This will prevent further erosion, potholes, and potential sinkholes, ensuring safe and efficient operations for large tractor trailers.

17. LTCWRF: AWT Upgrades

This project includes constructing two additional filter units, upgrading the chemical room HVAC systems, and installing a new tertiary effluent pump. Carollo Engineers will be completing the design and construction phases of this project. These upgrades will enhance filter redundancy, hydraulic capacity, and reduce maintenance and chemical cleaning costs, improving overall efficiency.

18. LTCWRF: Parallel Interceptor and New Parshall Flume Structure

The Parshall Flume at the LTCWRF requires repair or replacement due to hydrogen sulfide damage. The preferred option is to construct a new flume and interceptor segment, providing redundancy. Carollo Engineers will handle the design and bidding phases. Completion will prevent potential flume failure, emergency repairs, sewage spills, and permit violations.

19. LTCWRF: Interim Capacity Expansion

The LTCWRF has reached 80% of its permitted hydraulic capacity, triggering the need for expansion planning per its wastewater discharge permit. Carollo Engineers will develop preliminary plans, followed by detailed design and construction, to increase capacity. Delay could result in permit violations and a potential tap moratorium if capacity is not expanded before reaching 95% of permitted capacity.

20. LTCWRF: Levee Improvements

This project aims to reconstruct the berm on the North-West side of the plant to ensure proper stormwater drainage as per the stormwater permit. The current setup causes rainwater to collect in vaults under building 5 and possibly discharge through an old flume. The approach involves obtaining quotes, selecting the best bid, and hiring a contractor to construct the berm with correct

drainage. This will align the stormwater flow with the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), ensuring it reaches the designated outfalls.

21. Piney Creek Water and Sewer Crossing Emergency Remediation

This project aims to address the exposure of ACWWA's water line and sewer line crossing Piney Creek, which have been compromised by significant erosion—up to 5 to 6 feet—since their construction. RESPEC engineers will evaluate remediation options to protect these critical infrastructure lines, and upon identifying a preferred solution, further engineering services will be engaged for preliminary design, bidding, and construction phases. This initiative is vital for safeguarding the potable water and sewer services for the Orchards development, as deferring the project poses risks of line breaks that could disrupt water and sewer service, leading to untreated sewage discharges into Piney Creek and potentially impacting surrounding water bodies.

22. Potable Distribution System: Inverness Drinking Water Emergency Interconnect

ACWWA seeks to establish emergency interconnects with neighboring water utilities to enhance reliability and provide mutual aid during service interruptions. Mulhern will complete the design, and preferred contractors will be invited to bid. The project, supported by \$200,000 in ARPA funding, will enhance regional water service reliability and redundancy.

23. Replace CL-17s with CL-17 SC

This project will involve replacing outdated CL-17 instruments with CL-17 SC models at nine sites. Field Operations will handle the purchase and installation of the new instruments. This upgrade is necessary due to increasing repair costs as the CL-17 models are phased out, ensuring cost efficiency and operational continuity.

24. Site Improvements: 1-MG Tank and 4-MG Tank

During site visits in October 2024, significant erosion and poor grading were observed at the 1-MG and 4-MG tank sites, leading to stormwater issues affecting pump station buildings. ACWWA will hire a qualified engineering firm to assess and develop plans to improve site grading and drainage, with a focus on directing stormwater away from the buildings. The project aims to stabilize the sites and reduce erosion, preventing further damage to the building foundations.

25. Study: ACWWA Water Supply Master Plan Update

This project involves updating ACWWA's Raw Water Supply Master Plan, originally completed in 2019, to incorporate new data and potential operational changes. Spronk Water Engineers, who have been ACWWA's consultants for over 30 years, will handle the update, starting with a comprehensive data transfer followed by analysis and scenario evaluations. This update aims to refine current demand projections, enabling ACWWA to make informed decisions about supply capacities, storage needs, and operational adjustments.

26. Study: Chambers Pump Station Evaluation

This project aims to identify necessary modifications to the Chambers Reservoir Pump Station to efficiently supply water for ACWWA and Cottonwood's non-potable irrigation system, as the existing station cannot meet expected flow and pressure conditions. A consultant will conduct an evaluation and hydraulic modeling of the irrigation system, with input from ACWWA and Cottonwood staff to address operational considerations and water delivery needs. The study will provide recommendations for improvements to enhance water delivery efficiency from Chambers Reservoir. Timely execution of this project is crucial; deferring it could delay irrigation water delivery and potentially reduce alluvial water storage capacity.

27. Study: JWPP Brine Disposal / Elimination Alternatives Evaluation

This project aims to find a long-term solution for brine disposal from the JWPP, currently treated at the LTCWRF. A consultant will conduct a master planning study using workshops to explore disposal alternatives, benefits, and risks with input from ACWWA and Cottonwood staff. The project will outline future brine disposal methods and necessary modifications; while deferring it could impact hydraulic capacity and discharge permits, possibly requiring the shutdown of the JWPP RO system and affecting water quality standards.

28. Study: JWPP Master Plan

This project aims to develop a comprehensive road map for the future operation and development of the JWPP, focusing on long-term goals such as treatment capacity, water quality, and source water flexibility. A consultant will be engaged to conduct a master planning study, utilizing workshops to identify these goals with input from ACWWA and Cottonwood staff. The project will ensure well-documented planning and provide greater certainty about future operations and capital costs, preventing the risks associated with deferring such essential planning efforts.

29. Study: JWPP PFAS Treatment Alternatives Evaluation

This project aims to ensure compliance with the EPA's new Primary Drinking Water Standards for six PFAS chemicals, set to be enforced by 2029. A consultant will evaluate options to meet these standards and develop a specific implementation plan, which will involve modifications to the JWPP. An engineer will oversee the design and construction process, with general contractors bidding on the project. Successful completion will provide ACWWA with a customized solution for meeting PFAS regulations, avoiding reliance on the less favorable method of using reverse osmosis for a higher percentage of alluvial water.

30. Study: JWPP Programming/Planning

This project aims to address critical questions for the JWPP, including PFAS regulation compliance, disposal of reverse osmosis brine, and achieving long-term goals related to water sources, quality, and capacity. HDR and Hazen Sawyer will develop recommendations for future studies and evaluations to meet these objectives. The final plan will guide ACWWA and Cottonwood in implementing necessary improvements at the JWPP. Completing this project will ensure a clear path for future developments, while deferral could result in uncertainty regarding necessary modifications.

31. Study: Orchards Collection Line Reverse Slope Alternatives

A segment of the sewer line that delivers wastewater collected from the Orchards development to the VCC Lift Station was constructed with an inverted slope. This condition can reduce the capacity of this segment and increase required maintenance. A consultant will be tasked with evaluating options to remedy this situation.

32. Study: Water Distribution Storage, Backup Power, Redundancy, Resiliency Evaluation

This project aims to evaluate detailed recommendations from the 2023 water and wastewater master plan, including additional storage, backup power for the water distribution system, and three water line projects. A consultant will be hired to assess these recommendations and provide implementation guidance. Completing this project will offer better justification for the identified projects, while deferral may delay their implementation due to uncertainty about their criticality.

PURCHASING

1. 60-inch Zero Turn Z Master Lawn Mower

The project involves procuring a new 60-inch zero-turn mower to replace one of the aging units currently used by the maintenance staff, which includes a 20-year-old mower that is no longer reliable. By replacing this old mower and auctioning it off, the District can ensure that the maintenance crew has dependable equipment to effectively manage and maintain the grounds, keeping them free from weeds and overgrown grass. This upgrade will enhance operational efficiency and support the department's efforts to maintain the District's landscape.

2. LTCWRF: Biosolids Trailer Pad - Cover / Roof

During the last CDPHE inspection, stormwater management issues were noted at the biosolids trailers staging pad. To address this, a cover will be constructed over the pad to prevent washout during inclement weather and reduce contamination of stormwater systems. Quotes will be obtained, a contractor selected, and construction completed. This will improve housekeeping and compliance with regulations.

3. LTCWRF: New Forklift

LTCWRF's current forklift, which is crucial for handling chemicals and maintenance, is outdated and in need of replacement. Additionally, the new Tucson building site requires a forklift for deliveries and equipment management. This project will repurpose the older forklift for the new site while acquiring a new forklift for the Plant to ensure reliable, high-usage operation. Vendors will be evaluated based on cost, support, and adherence to specifications. This upgrade will benefit both locations by providing LTCWRF with a modern unit and the new site with a necessary piece of equipment.

4. LTCWRF: Replace Magnetic Flow Meters (2) in Headworks

The east and west magnetic flow meters, critical for accurate flow measurement to the BNR, have failed verifications and need replacement. Quotes will be obtained, and a contractor will be hired for the replacement. Accurate flow readings are essential for determining MCRT, and timely replacement will prevent complete meter failure.

5. LTCWRF: Replacement Return Activated Sludge Pump

Three of the four RAS Pumps at the LTC Plant, in service since 2008, require complete rebuilds. A new pump will be procured and installed, allowing the old pump to be rebuilt and used as a spare. This approach enhances redundancy and ensures spare availability for future needs.

6. Polymer Tote Scales

This project will enhance the accuracy of polymer usage measurement by replacing the current manual method with new tote scales connected to SEMS. This approach involves purchasing and installing the scales, which will provide precise data on polymer levels. Improved measurement accuracy will aid in optimizing dewatering processes, potentially leading to significant chemical cost savings.

CARRYOVER PROJECTS

1. A1 Well: Online Chlorine Residual Monitoring

This project will implement a Well House for A1 Well to enable continuous free chlorine residual monitoring. This project will ensure regulatory compliance by allowing gravity draining for monitoring and enhance safety by eliminating the need for confined space entry three times per week.

\$55,000 of the \$55,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

2. Administration Building

This project involves the remodel and expansion of a recently acquired facility to consolidate ACWWA's administration, accounting, engineering, and field operations staff under one roof. This expansion will enhance storage for field operations materials, create a new reception and public meeting space for Board meetings, and improve site access with expanded parking and secure fencing for vehicles, along with drainage improvements. The project will comply with regulatory requirements through submittals to the City of Centennial and the Centennial Airport Center Owners Association, with permitting expected to conclude by the end of 2024. With a dedicated design and construction team in place, the project aims to stay within budget and be completed by Summer 2025. The primary benefit of this initiative is to foster collaboration among all staff, enhancing efficiency in developing and maintaining ACWWA's water supply and wastewater treatment systems, ultimately improving service delivery and environmental protection.

\$400,000 of the \$1,200,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

3. Elkhorn: Booster Station Control Panel and PLC Program

The Elkhorn Booster Station upgrade involves evaluating and addressing the current piecemealed control panels and developing a new skid program as recommended by Browns Hill. The approach includes assessing present and future needs, followed by obtaining three vendor bids for improvement work. The main benefits include enhanced instrumentation and controls, reduced repair and maintenance costs, minimized emergency callouts, and increased reliability for Elkhorn customers.

\$110,000 of the \$110,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

4. JWPP: Asphalt Repairs

This project will address the severe pavement deterioration at the JWPP, which has numerous extreme cracks that worsen each winter. Kumar has recommended cutting out and replacing asphalt around cracks measuring 1/2" and greater and sealing smaller cracks. Implementing these repairs and establishing an annual maintenance routine will extend the pavement's lifespan.

\$110,000 of the \$110,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

5. JWPP: SCADA Upgrade

This project aims to replace the outdated SCADA system, which has been in operation for 15 years, to enhance functionality, update equipment, and ensure compliance with current federal cybersecurity standards. Two approaches are being considered: awarding the project to a specific company for faster implementation or developing competitive bid documents to confirm costs and potentially utilize funding. The successful completion of this project will not only modernize the equipment and improve operational efficiency at the JWPP, but also standardize processes and bolster cybersecurity measures. Delaying the project poses the risk of a shutdown at the JWPP if critical SCADA equipment fails.

\$200,000 of the \$363,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

6. Low Zone Tank: Booster Pump Station – Renovation

This project will address vulnerabilities identified in a 2024 TAMP for a station. Operations and Engineering will hold a kick-off meeting to set tasks and coordinate efforts. The project aims to improve reliability and reduce risk, ensuring the station operates more securely and efficiently.

\$67,345 of the \$150,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

7. LTCWRF: BNR Reactor No. 1 Diffuser Replacement Project

This project involves updating the Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) basins, initially built in 2008. After damage to diffuser equipment in 2022, ACWWA collaborated with Mott MacDonald to design replacements, with Velocity now executing the construction. The project aims to re-equip BNR No. 1, ensuring operational redundancy and the ability to manage emergencies effectively by rotating BNRs 1, 2, and 3 in service.

\$115,000 of the \$539,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

8. Study: ACWWA System Wide SCADA, I&C, and Network Master Plan

This project will focus on assessing and renewing ACWWA's aging SEMS and instrumentation and controls assets for the water distribution and wastewater collection systems. A consultant will catalog and evaluate these assets, create a network map, and prioritize projects to replace outdated equipment, enhance cybersecurity, and improve reliability and consistency. This project will provide a proactive roadmap for system improvements, while deferral will result in a mix of proactive and reactive projects.

\$137,500 of the \$137,500 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

9. Study: Remote Site Electrical System Study and Condition Assessment

This project aims to assess the condition and remaining life of ACWWA's primary electrical gear in its water distribution and wastewater collection systems. A consultant will conduct onsite investigations, establish the equipment's remaining life, and recommend replacements for outdated gear. Additionally, the consultant will perform arc-flash modeling, label electrical cabinets, and provide operator safety training. This proactive approach will enhance safety, improve redundancy, and shift from reactive to planned maintenance.

\$220,000 of the \$220,000 budgeted in 2024 is being carried forward to 2025.

11. Departmental Information

ACWWA's activities are divided among three primary departments.

Water operations includes 10.0 direct FTEs who are responsible for:

- operations and maintenance of the water distribution system which consists of wells, pumps, piping, valves, storage tanks, Chambers Reservoir and meter vaults;
- water treatment and compliance testing to meet the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act;
- flushing and special projects;
- reading and inspecting meters, including construction hydrant meters;
- utility locates
- operations and maintenance of the collections system, including lift stations, sewer lines, and pretreatment; and
- responding to customer service questions and issues.

Goals and Objectives: For 2025, the water operations department plans to focus on enhancing its valve exercising program, with a goal of 100/month and 1200/year. Valving on transmission lines gives the operators the ability to divert flows and allow vital maintenance to be performed. Water operations will also be involved in improving ACWWA's SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system and in developing and implementing an emergency preparedness program.

Wastewater operations includes 6.0 direct FTEs who perform the following:

- operations and maintenance of the Lone Tree Creek Water Reuse Facility, which treats wastewater to comply with federal and state regulations prior to discharge in Cherry Creek Reservoir;
- laboratory testing to ensure compliance with all regulations;
- operations and maintenance of the non-potable water system.

Goals and Objectives: The department will continue to be involved in SCADA improvements and in developing and implementing an emergency preparedness program.

Administration: includes 24.0 FTEs in 2025 who are responsible for the following:

- the general management of ACWWA, including implementation of board policies;
- financial management including financial reporting, budgeting, cash collections, and disbursements;
- customer service and billing activities;
- procurement activities;
- information technology and website administration;
- engineering services and activities, including capital projects management, water resources management, and GIS coordination;
- development services;
- operations management including the overall management of the water and wastewater systems and maintenance operations;
- inspections and construction management; and
- maintenance of the plants, buildings, and equipment.

Goals and Objectives: ACWWA Administration has multiple goals, including:

- Conducting an analysis of the current SCADA state and implementation of an asset management program;
- Enhancing ACWWA's emergency preparedness plan;
- Maintaining debt service coverage ratio at 1.5:1;
- Maximizing investment earnings through effective cash flow management

ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY
APPROVED POSITIONS 2023 - 2025

REGULAR EMPLOYEES (FTE)	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET
ADMINISTRATION			
General Manager	1.0	1.0	1.0
Director of Finance and Administrative Services	1.0	1.0	1.0
Director of Engineering Services	1.0	1.0	1.0
Senior Project Manager	1.0	1.0	1.0
Operations Manager	1.0	1.0	-
Special Projects Manager	1.0	1.0	-
Reliability Engineer	-	-	1.0
Senior Water/Wastewater Engineer	-	-	1.0
Customer Service Manager	1.0	1.0	1.0
Maintenance Superintendent	1.0	1.0	-
Purchasing and Finance Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Water Resources Engineer	1.0	1.0	1.0
Water Resources Engineer II	1.0	1.0	1.0
IT Administrator	1.0	-	-
IT Manager	-	1.0	1.0
Human Resources Generalist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Accountant	1.0	1.0	1.0
Administrative Assistant	1.0	1.0	1.0
Administrative Assistant	1.0	-	1.0
Accounting Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Customer Service/Billing Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Customer Service Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Operations Business Support Technician	1.0	1.0	-
Project Coordinator	-	1.0	1.0
Maintenance Technician I	1.0	1.0	1.0
Maintenance Technician I	-	-	1.0
Maintenance Technician III	-	-	1.0
Maintenance Technician III	1.0	1.0	1.0
Grounds Work Technician	-	1.0	1.0
Construction Inspector I	1.0	-	-
Construction Inspector II	1.0	1.0	-
Construction and Compliance Specialist			1.0
GIS Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
WATER OPERATIONS			
Field Superintendent	1.0	1.0	1.0
Lead Field Technician	1.0	1.0	1.0
Lead Field Technician	1.0	1.0	-
Field Technician I	1.0	-	1.0
Field Technician I	1.0	1.0	1.0
Field Technician I	1.0	1.0	1.0
Field Technician I	1.0	1.0	1.0
Field Technician II	-	-	1.0
Field Technician III	1.0	1.0	1.0
Cross-connection/Backflow Control Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Cross-connection/Backflow Control Specialist	1.0	1.0	-
WASTEWATER OPERATIONS			
Wastewater Plant Superintendent	1.0	1.0	1.0
Wastewater Plant Operator I	1.0	1.0	1.0
Wastewater Plant Operator I	-	1.0	1.0
Wastewater Plant Operator II	1.0	1.0	-
Wastewater Plant Operator II	1.0	1.0	-
Wastewater Plant Operator III	-	-	1.0
Wastewater Lab Technician	1.0	1.0	1.0
Totals	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>

FINANCIAL SUMMARIES AND NOTES



Above is the VCC Lift Station

12. Board Summary Forecasted 2025 Combined Operations

ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

BOARD SUMMARY

2025 BUDGET AS PROPOSED

WITH 2023 ACTUAL AND 2024 ESTIMATED

For the Years Ending December 31,

	ACTUAL 2023	ESTIMATED 2024	BUDGET 2025
BEGINNING FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 38,079,341	\$ 52,416,542	\$ 58,484,532
REVENUES			
Operating Revenues			
Water revenue	14,616,949	16,922,869	17,523,633
Sewer revenue	7,175,370	7,416,580	7,678,014
Fees for services	943,316	780,881	579,134
Water plant revenue	617,198	761,968	761,968
Other revenue	265,546	272,316	213,000
Total operating revenues	23,618,379	26,154,614	26,755,749
Non-Operating Revenues			
Tap and extraterritorial fees	11,340,442	5,074,915	4,706,353
Settlement proceeds	8,330,000	-	-
Grant revenue	500,000	-	-
Net investment income	2,872,081	3,419,073	1,500,000
Loan proceeds	1,500,000	-	-
Total non-operating revenues	24,542,523	8,493,988	6,206,353
Total revenues	48,160,902	34,648,602	32,962,102
Total funds available	86,240,243	87,065,144	91,446,634
EXPENDITURES			
Operating Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	4,460,094	4,512,387	5,441,790
Office expense	302,264	393,556	469,370
Professional services	1,273,306	1,188,100	1,153,584
Repairs and maintenance	1,835,254	1,711,005	1,714,060
Insurance	259,690	288,240	317,246
Operational	5,749,716	6,120,652	6,425,622
Contractual services	303,386	272,428	291,169
Utilities	1,276,258	1,324,872	1,452,816
Other supplies and expense	21,160	11,377	25,200
Contingency	-	-	400,000
Total operating expenses	15,481,128	15,822,616	17,690,857
Non-Operating Expenses			
Interest and fiscal charges	7,628,274	7,757,995	7,753,645
Total non-operating expenses	7,628,274	7,757,995	7,753,645
Capital expenditures			
Capital projects	10,714,299	5,000,000	18,406,386
Total capital expenditures	10,714,299	5,000,000	18,406,386
Total expenditures requiring appropriation	33,823,701	28,580,611	43,850,888
ENDING FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 52,416,542	\$ 58,484,532	\$ 47,595,746

13. Board Summary Forecasted 2025 Budget Water Operations

ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

WATER OPERATIONS

2025 BUDGET AS PROPOSED

WITH 2023 ACTUAL AND 2024 ESTIMATED

For the Years Ending December 31,

ACTUAL 2023	ESTIMATED 2024	BUDGET 2025
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REVENUES

Operating Revenues

Water revenue	\$ 14,616,949	\$ 16,922,869	\$ 17,523,633
Fees for services	620,209	465,525	297,987
Water plant revenue	617,198	761,968	761,968
Other revenue	265,546	272,316	213,000
Total operating revenues	16,119,902	18,422,678	18,796,588

Non-Operating Revenues

Tap and extraterritorial fees	8,262,491	3,094,411	3,636,595
Settlement proceeds	8,330,000	-	-
Net investment income	2,035,932	2,520,835	1,140,000
Loan proceeds	1,500,000	-	-
Total non-operating revenues	20,128,423	5,615,246	4,776,595

Total revenues

36,248,325 24,037,924 23,573,183

EXPENDITURES

Operating Expenses

Salaries and benefits	2,525,490	2,553,545	3,085,746
Office expense	152,375	267,386	309,023
Professional services	964,634	893,349	768,229
Repairs and maintenance	1,386,776	861,646	782,372
Insurance	149,836	201,768	222,072
Operational	5,595,540	5,448,624	5,708,714
Contractual services	193,633	39,315	42,700
Utilities	761,034	508,919	556,833
Other supplies and expense	4,261	7,964	20,640
Contingency	-	-	280,000
Total operating expenses	11,733,579	10,782,515	11,776,329

Non-Operating Expenses

Interest and fiscal charges	7,125,599	6,933,387	6,929,337
Total non-operating expenses	7,125,599	6,933,387	6,929,337

Capital expenditures

Capital projects	9,998,309	1,500,000	15,509,386
Total capital expenditures	9,998,309	1,500,000	15,509,386

Total expenditures requiring appropriation

28,857,487 19,215,902 34,215,052

Change In Net Position

\$ 7,390,838 \$ 4,822,022 \$(10,641,869)

14. Board Summary Forecasted 2025 Sewer Operations

ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY
WASTEWATER OPERATIONS
2025 BUDGET AS PROPOSED
WITH 2023 ACTUAL AND 2024 ESTIMATED
For the Years Ending December 31,

ACTUAL 2023	ESTIMATED 2024	BUDGET 2025
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REVENUES

Operating Revenues

Sewer revenue	\$ 7,175,370	\$ 7,416,580	\$ 7,678,014
Fees for services	323,108	315,356	281,147
Total operating revenues	7,498,478	7,731,936	7,959,161

Non-Operating Revenues

Tap and extraterritorial fees	3,077,951	1,980,503	1,069,758
Grant revenue	500,000	-	-
Net investment income	836,149	898,237	360,000
Total non-operating revenues	4,414,100	2,878,740	1,429,758
Total revenues	11,912,578	10,610,676	9,388,919

EXPENDITURES

Operating Expenses

Salaries and benefits	1,934,604	1,958,840	2,356,045
Office expense	149,889	126,174	160,349
Professional services	308,672	294,751	385,355
Repairs and maintenance	448,478	849,358	931,688
Insurance	109,854	86,472	95,174
Operational	154,176	672,028	716,907
Contractual services	109,753	233,113	248,469
Utilities	515,224	815,954	895,982
Other supplies and expense	16,899	3,413	4,560
Contingency	-	-	120,000
Total operating expenses	3,747,549	5,040,103	5,914,530

Non-Operating Expenses

Interest and fiscal charges	502,675	824,609	824,309
Total non-operating expenses	502,675	824,609	824,309

Capital expenditures

Capital projects	715,990	3,500,000	2,897,000
Total capital expenditures	715,990	3,500,000	2,897,000

Total expenditures requiring appropriation

4,966,214 9,364,712 9,635,839

Change In Net Position

\$ 6,946,364 \$ 1,245,964 \$ (246,920)

15. Budget Notes

15.1 Revenue

15.1.1 Water Charges

This item includes charges for providing water to residential and commercial customers, a water investment fee, hydrant meter water, and water service fees.

15.1.2 Sewer Charges

Sewer charges include the rates charged to wastewater customers for collecting wastewater, moving it to the LTCWRF, and treating it.

15.1.3 Fire Lines

This item includes the charge to maintain enough water in the system for fire protection standby systems (i.e., sprinkler systems) at all times.

15.1.4 Irrigation

Irrigation includes irrigation water charges for those customers who have separate irrigation meters.

15.1.5 Fees for Services

Fees includes items such as the PID equivalency fee paid by Cottonwood, labor service call fees, hydrant meter rentals, meter inspections, radio read meter fees, and miscellaneous revenue.

15.1.6 RO Plant Revenue

This item reflects the budgeted expense reimbursement to be received from ACWWA's partner in the Joint Water Purification Plant (JWPP). The offsetting expenses are budgeted under the Operational expense category.

15.1.7 Interest Income

Interest income is the amount earned by ACWWA on funds held with Bank of Oklahoma (BOK), and in Colotrust and CSAFE investments.

15.1.8 Miscellaneous Revenue

This item is primarily comprised of water system payments from Chaparral, ditch company distributions, and revenue from fire flow testing.

15.1.9 Tap Fees and Contributions

Fees/contributions include fees for water and sewer tap sales in ACWWA service area, water tap sales in Elkhorn, and sewer taps sales in the Cottonwood district. This also includes the extraterritorial fees charged to Elkhorn Ranch customers.

Tap sales are estimated to be 100 in 2025, with Cottonwood wastewater tap sales projected at 11 SFE.

15.2 Expenses

15.2.1 Office Expenses

Office expense includes items such as office supplies and equipment, postage, association dues, unemployment insurance, training and education, and dues and subscriptions.

15.2.2 Salaries and Benefits Expenses

This item includes salaries, health benefits, retirement contributions, tuition reimbursement, service awards and payroll taxes.

15.2.3 Insurance Expenses

This includes insurance for ACWWA's property, plant and equipment as well as workers' compensation insurance.

15.2.4 Legal Fees

Legal fees expense comprises amounts paid to ACWWA's retained counsel, employment counsel, and for water rights protection legal services.

15.2.5 Professional Fees

These are fees paid to outside consultants to perform work that ACWWA does not have either staff with the technical expertise or the capacity to do the work. The primary driver of professional services is engineering fees for the various ACWWA projects. Audit fees are also included here.

15.2.6 Repairs and Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance includes equipment rental, buildings and equipment maintenance, landscaping, and vehicle expense – fuel, license and registrations, tires, repairs and maintenance. The highest cost items are repairs and maintenance to the water and wastewater systems – line break repairs, valves, meter repair, pumps, etc. As the systems age, it is normal for repairs and maintenance costs to increase.

15.2.7 Operational

This item includes the cost of water from ECCV, the JWPP expenses allocated to ACWWA's partner in the plant, treatment chemicals, safety expenses, ditch assessments, and staff uniforms.

15.2.8 Utilities

This item includes water, sewer, electricity, gas, telephone, and internet service.

15.2.9 Contract Services

This is the cost for hauling sludge from the wastewater treatment plant.

15.2.10 Bad Debt

This is an estimate for writing off uncollectible accounts.

15.2.11 Other Supplies and Expenses

This line includes Board of Directors expense.

15.2.12 General Contingency

This item provides for unanticipated expenses. While every effort is made to accurately predict costs for the upcoming budget year, it is possible that major water or sewer line breaks or costly equipment failures could occur, and these will be covered by contingency funds.

15.2.13 Debt Service

This line includes principal and interest payments on outstanding bond issues.

15.2.14 Capital Outlay

This item includes budgeted capital projects and equipment.

16. Budgeted 2025 Capital Outlay

Project Name	Estimated Cost
2025 New Project Costs	
ACWWA Flow Water Rights Adjudication Costs	\$ 1,250,000
CCI / Kings Point Interceptor - Evaluation, Coordination, Condition, Capacity, and Redundancy Evaluation	220,000
Chambers Reservoir Piezometer - Repair and Rehabilitation	110,000
Chambers Reservoir: Access/Entry Gate Relocation	275,000
Chambers Reservoir: Boat Dock/Platform Boat/Safety Improvements	77,000
Chaparral 4-MG Tank - Repair / Rebuild failing retaining wall	55,000
Cherry Creek Interceptor Manhole Rehab	264,000
CMMS & Asset Management Program Implementation	666,947
Collection/Distribution Instrumentation and Controls Upgrades	55,000
ECCV - CIP Projects	2,561,700
Elkhorn: Well A3 Construction	1,742,000
JWPP: 5-year CIP Plan	82,500
JWPP: Alluvial Supply Wells Fiber Communication Replacement	132,000
Lab Data and Compliance Program Implementation	220,000
LTCWRF: AWT Upgrades	523,000
LTCWRF: Interim Capacity Expansion	132,000
LTCWRF: Levee Improvements	550,000
Piney Creek Water and Sewer Crossing Emergency Remediation	275,000
Potable Distribution System: Inverness Drinking Water Emergency Interconnect	440,000
Replace CL-17s with CL-17 SC	68,350
Site Improvements: 1-MG Tank and 4-MG Tank	220,000
Study: ACWWA Water Supply Master Plan Update	118,800
Study: Chambers Pump Station Evaluation	165,000
Study: JWPP Brine Disposal / Elimination Alternatives Evaluation	220,000
Study: JWPP Master Plan	220,000
Study: JWPP PFAS Treatment Alternatives Evaluation	220,000
Study: JWPP Programming/Planning	44,000
Study: Orchards Collection Line Reverse Slope Alternatives	55,000
Study: Water Distribution Storage, Backup Power, Redundancy, Resiliency Evaluation	165,000
Total 2025 New Project Cost	\$ 11,127,297

Capital Purchases	
60-inch Zero Turn Z Master Lawn Mower	\$ 18,000
LTCWRF: Biolsolids Trailer Pad - Cover / Roof	132,000
LTCWRF: New Forklift	44,000
LTCWRF: Replace Magnetic Flow Meters (2) in Headworks	70,000
LTCWRF: Replacement Return Activated Sludge Pump	44,000
Polymer Tote Scales	88,000
Total Capital Purchases	\$ 396,000
2025 Carryover Project Costs From 2024	
A1 Well: Online Chlorine Residual Monitoring	\$ 110,000
Administration Building	3,300,000
Elkhorn: Booster Station Control Panel and PLC Program	110,000
Elkhorn: Well A3 Bidding and Construction Phase Engineering Services	80,000
JWPP: Asphalt Repairs	110,000
JWPP: SCADA Upgrade	639,089
Low Zone Tank: Booster Pump Station - Renovation	275,000
LTCWRF: Asphalt Repairs	77,000
LTCWRF: BNR Reactor No. 1 Diffuser Replacement Project	115,000
LTCWRF: Parallel Interceptor and New Parshall Flume Structure	363,000
Study: ACWWA System Wide SCADA, I&C, and Network Master Plan	374,000
Study: Remote Site Electrical System Study and Condition Assessment	330,000
Total Carryover Project Cost	\$ 5,883,089
Reactive/Contingency	\$ 1,000,000
Total 2025 CIP	\$ 18,406,386

17. Schedule of Debt Service Requirements to Maturity

ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

SCHEDULE OF DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS TO MATURITY

December 31, 2025

\$16,475,000 Variable Rate Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 Dated October 4, 2016 Variable Interest Rate Principal And Interest				\$12,720,000 Variable Rate Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 Dated September 7, 2017 Variable Interest Rate Principal And Interest				\$71,485,000 Variable Rate Taxable Water And Wastewater Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019 Dated October 22,2019 Variable Interest Rate Principal And Interest						
Due December 1				Due December 1				Due December 1				Total Debt Service Requirements		
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Total			
2025	\$ 1,055,000	\$ 446,800	\$ 915,000	\$ 367,450	\$ 2,115,000	\$ 2,609,700	\$ 4,085,000	\$ 3,423,950	\$ 7,508,950					
2026	1,100,000	404,600	950,000	330,850	2,215,000	2,503,950	4,265,000	3,239,400	7,504,400					
2027	1,140,000	360,600	1,000,000	292,850	2,325,000	2,393,200	4,465,000	3,046,650	7,511,650					
2028	1,190,000	315,000	1,035,000	252,850	2,440,000	2,276,950	4,665,000	2,844,800	7,509,800					
2029	1,235,000	267,400	1,085,000	211,450	2,555,000	2,154,950	4,875,000	2,633,800	7,508,800					
2030	1,285,000	218,000	1,135,000	168,050	2,680,000	2,027,200	5,100,000	2,413,250	7,513,250					
2031	1,335,000	166,600	1,180,000	122,650	2,785,000	1,920,000	5,300,000	2,209,250	7,509,250					
2032	1,385,000	113,200	1,235,000	75,450	2,895,000	1,808,600	5,515,000	1,997,250	7,512,250					
2033	1,445,000	57,800	1,280,000	38,400	3,000,000	1,692,800	5,725,000	1,789,000	7,514,000					
2034	-	-	-	-	5,930,000	1,572,800	5,930,000	1,572,800	7,502,800					
2035	-	-	-	-	6,160,000	1,335,600	6,160,000	1,335,600	7,495,600					
2036	-	-	-	-	6,395,000	1,089,200	6,395,000	1,089,200	7,484,200					
2037	-	-	-	-	6,640,000	833,400	6,640,000	833,400	7,473,400					
2038	-	-	-	-	6,895,000	567,800	6,895,000	567,800	7,462,800					
2039	-	-	-	-	7,300,000	292,000	7,300,000	292,000	7,592,000					
Total	\$ 11,170,000	\$ 2,350,000	\$ 9,815,000	\$ 1,860,000	\$ 62,330,000	\$ 25,078,150	\$ 83,315,000	\$ 29,288,150	\$ 112,603,150					

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS



Chamber's Reservoir Pumpstation

18. Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

- Accrual Basis – The basis of accounting under which revenues are recorded when earned and measurable expenditures are recorded as soon as they result in liabilities for benefits received.
- ACWWA – Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority
- ACWWA Flow Project – A renewable water source project.
- Adopted Budget – ACWWA’s adopted budget is the fiscal year’s financial plan that details the Governing Board approved revenues and expenditures.
- Alternate Water Supply – The Alternate Water Supply is a search for new methods to meet current and projected demands for water. These may include aquifer storage and recovery, wastewater reuse projects and the acquisition of water through the purchase of water rights.
- Amendment – An amendment is a change to an adopted budget. It can increase or decrease a fund total.
- Appropriation – An authorization granted by the Governing Board to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes.
- Aquifer – An aquifer is an underground bed or layer of earth, gravel or porous stone that yields water.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery – This is the practice of injecting surplus water into an aquifer through wells and then pumping it out as needed.
- Assets – Property owned by ACWWA which has monetary value.
- Audit – The examination of documents, records, reports, systems of internal control, accounting and financial procedures, and other evidence for the purpose of ascertaining fair presentation of financial statements, determining propriety, legality and accuracy of transactions.
- Balances budget - one in which the budget has sufficient projected revenues and available resources to equal anticipated expenditures.
- Bond – A written promise, generally under seal, to pay a specified sum of money, called the face value or principal amount, at a fixed time in the future, called the date of maturity, and carrying interest, usually payable periodically.
- Budget – A resource allocation plan for the accomplishment of programs related to established objectives and goals within a definite period.
- Budget Message – The opening section of the budget, which provides the reader with a general summary, and description of the most important aspects of the budget, changes from the current and previous years, and the views and recommendations of management.

- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – A plan for capital expenditures to be incurred each year over a fixed period of years to meet the capital needs of ACWWA.
- Capital Outlay – Expenditures which result in the acquisition of or addition to fixed assets. These generally consist of machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures costing more than \$5,000 with a useful life of more than one year.
- Capital Project – Expenditures which result in the construction of or major improvements to ACWWA’s buildings and infrastructure; generally, consists of projects costing more than \$5,000 and lasting more than three years.
- Cash Basis – The basis of accounting under which revenues are recorded when received in cash and expenditures are recorded when paid.
- CRS – Colorado Revised Statutes
- CWS – Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District
- Debt – An obligation resulting from the borrowing of money or from the purchase of goods and services.
- Debt Service – Cash outlays in the form of debt principal payments, periodic interest payments and related services charges for debt incurred in prior periods.
- Deficit – The excess of expenditures over revenues during a fiscal year.
- Department – An organizational unit such as Water or Wastewater.
- Depreciation – The expiration in the service life of an asset generally attributable to wear and tear through use, lapse of time or obsolescence. Depreciation is generally not budgeted; however, it is accounted for on the financial statements.
- Disbursement – A cash payment for goods or services procured by ACWWA.
- Enterprise – An entity that qualifies under the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) as being a government-owned business authorized to issue its own revenue bonds and receiving fewer than 10 percent of its annual revenue in grants from all Colorado state and local governments combined.
- Enterprise Fund – A fund established to finance and account for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of governmental facilities and services, which are entirely or predominantly self-supporting, by user charges.
- Expenditure – Under the accrual basis or modified accrual basis, this term designates the cost of goods delivered or services rendered, whether paid or unpaid. This expression is generally used for governmental type funds.
- Expenses – Charges incurred, whether paid or unpaid for operation, maintenance, and interest, and other charges, which are presumed to benefit the current fiscal period. This expression is generally used for proprietary type funds such as enterprises, trust and agencies.
- Fiscal period – A period of time usually consisting of twelve months. At the end of the fiscal period a governmental unit determines its financial position and the results of its operations. ACWWA’s fiscal period is January 1 to December 31.

- FTE – An FTE is a “Full-Time Equivalent” which is equivalent to one full-time employee who works 40 hours per week for 52 weeks, for a total of 2,080 work hours.
- Fund – A self-balancing accounting entity segregated to carry on specific activities or attain certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restriction or limitation such as Water and Wastewater.
- Fund Balance – Resources remaining from prior years, which are available to be budgeted in the current year.
- FY – Fiscal Year
- Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) – Generally Accepted Accounting Principles are uniform minimum standards and guidelines for financial accounting and reporting. Currently, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory are authorized to establish these principles.
- Gross Revenue – All income and revenues directly or indirectly derived from the operation and use of the System, or any part thereof.
- IGA – Intergovernmental Agreement
- IWSD – Inverness Water and Sanitation District
- Internal Controls – A plan of organization under which employee’s duties are so arranged and records and procedures so designed as to make it possible to protect and exercise effective accounting control over assets, liabilities, revenues and expenditures.
- JWPP – Joint Water Purification Plant
- Long Term Debt – Debt that is legally payable from revenues and backed by the credit of ACWWA.
- MGD – Million gallons per day
- Operating Budget – A budget that applies to all other outlays other than capital projects.
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses – All reasonable and necessary current expenses paid or accrued for operating, maintaining, and repairing the System.
- Performance Measures – A performance measure is a specific quantitative measure of work performed, outputs and inputs.
- PID – Public Improvement District. Specifically, the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Public Improvement District.
- Program – A group of related activities performed by one or more organizational units for the purpose of accomplishing a function for which the government is responsible.

- Pump Stations – A pump station is a manmade structure that uses a pump to transfer water from one location to another.
- Refunding Bonds – Bonds issued solely to retire bonds already outstanding.
- Reserve – An account which records a portion of the fund balance which must be segregated for some specific use and which is, therefore, not available for other expenditures.
- Resolution – A special or temporary order or decision of the Board of Directors acting as a legislative body. A resolution and a motion have the same force and effect.
- Retained Earnings – The cumulative earnings of an operation that generally have been invested in property, plant and equipment or current assets.
- Revenue – Additions to assets, which do not increase any liability, do not represent the recovery of expenditure, and do not represent the cancellation of certain liabilities.
- Revenue Bonds – Bonds whose principal and interest are payable exclusively from earnings of a public enterprise.
- SDWA – Safe Drinking Water Act
- Surplus – The excess of the assets of a fund over its liabilities or its resources over its disbursements.
- System – All water and wastewater facilities and properties, now owned or hereafter acquired, whether situated within or outside of ACWWA's boundaries.
- TBD – To be determined
- Tap fees – the cost of connecting a home or business to the water and/or wastewater systems.
- Tap equivalent – a mathematical calculation to convert disparate numbers of water and wastewater taps into a single unit of measurement.
- Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (T.A.B.O.R.) – An amendment to the constitution of Colorado enacted in 1992 that limits the powers of governments in Colorado to levy taxes and incur debt. It also sets forth revenue limits for non-enterprise systems. TABOR is found at Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution.

FPP.1. APPENDIX



BNR's at LTCRF

FPP.2. Financial Policies and Procedures

FPP.2.1 Basis of Budgeting/Accounting

For budgetary reporting purposes, ACWWA uses the modified accrual basis of accounting and budgeting for its one general fund. For financial reporting purposes, ACWWA utilizes the full accrual basis of accounting.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available. “Measurable” means the amount of the transaction can be determined and “available” means collectible with the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred. Non-cash expense items such as depreciation expense for fixed assets and accrued compensated absences are excluded from the budget. All annual appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

ACWWA operates under one fund for budgetary purposes. However, ACWWA’s departments are categorized in service lines – water and wastewater – for budgetary and financial reporting purposes.

The costs of vacation and sick leave benefits (accrued compensated absences) are expended when payments are made to employees. The liability for all accrued and vested vacation and sick pay benefits is recorded on the balance sheet.

FPP.2.2 Revenue Policies

ACWWA estimates revenues conservatively using an objective and analytical approach employing techniques such as reviewing historical trends, current information, and economic indicators to ensure consistency, reliability and reasonableness. ACWWA utilizes a financial model that allows future revenue projections and that can be updated annually to reflect changing conditions. ACWWA’s long-term financial plan assesses long-term financial implications of current and proposed policies and programs. It also serves as a tool to allow staff to deal with financial issues proactively.

- ACWWA shall maintain a diversified and stable revenue base. Existing and potential revenue sources shall be reviewed annually for stability, equity efficiency and capacity to finance future operations.
- An objective, analytical process that recognizes the sensitivity of each revenue source shall be used to estimate revenues.
- Whenever authorized and appropriate, user fees and charges shall be established to recover the full costs of all programs and services.

FPP.2.3 Rates and Charges

Rates and charges are the primary component of ACWWA's revenue. User fees fund the services provided to ACWWA's customers. ACWWA utilizes a cost recovery concept to determine how costs are allocated to classes of customers. The full cost of providing various services is used as the basis for setting rates and fees. The full cost method incorporates both direct and indirect costs, including operations and maintenance, overhead, and charges for the use of capital facilities. Examples of ACWWA's overhead include billing, payroll processing, accounting and administrative services, computer support, office supplies, and other central administrative charges.

ACWWA's Board of Directors established the following guidelines for the user rate and charge setting process:

- Rates and charges are established utilizing a generally accepted cost recovery methodology that is consistent and legally defendable using the following approaches: revenue requirement analysis cost of service analysis, and rate design analysis. ACWWA conducted a rate study in the third quarter of 2023, which is the basis for 2025 rates.
- Rate design shall be reflective of ACWWA's Board of Directors' rate setting objectives.
- Rates shall be set at a level to collect more reliable revenues through a combination of system access charges and low to medium users' commodity rates to meet ACWWA's revenue requirements.
- Rates and charges will be reviewed and updated annually based on factors such as the impact of inflation, other cost increases, and the adequacy of coverage of costs.
- ACWWA must produce revenues sufficient to pay:
 - a minimum of 1.25 times the Annual Debt Service Requirements as required to meet debt coverage covenants of ACWWA's bonds; and
 - the amounts required to be deposited in any reserve or contingency fund created for the payment and security of obligations.
- ACWWA will adjust rates and charges as the Board deems necessary so that net system revenues from such adjusted rates and charges will be sufficient at all times to meet the requirements.

FPP.2.4 Recognition of Revenues

Revenues are recorded when earned. Customers' meters are read, and bills are prepared monthly based on billing cycles.

FPP.2.5 Expenditure Policy

ACWWA's expenditures reflect the commitment of the Board of Directors and staff to serve present and future customers reliably. The Board and staff believe that prudent expenditure planning and accountability will ensure fiscal stability. Expenditures are projected conservatively using an objective and analytical approach and employing certain techniques such as the review of historical trends, current information, and economic indicators to ensure consistency, reliability, and reasonableness. ACWWA's financial model allows for future projections of capital and operating expenditures.

FPP.2.6 Disbursements

Disbursement of Authority funds must be for a legitimate purpose and within budgetary limits.

Payment for Authority contracts and purchase orders are contingent on evidence of receipt or acceptance of the specific deliverables.

FPP.2.7 Maintenance of Capital Assets

Maintaining a reliable transmission and distribution system and a sustained capital program are not possible without reliable funding sources. Prudent financial planning is critical to an effective capital improvement program. ACWWA uses a combination of debt financing and "pay as you go" to fund the capital improvement program and maintenance of capital assets. The annual capital improvements cost is estimated by staff and is included in the amount to be funded from rates and charges.

Within the resources available each fiscal year, ACWWA will strive to maintain capital assets and infrastructure at a satisfactory level to protect its investment, to minimize future replacement and maintenance costs, and to maintain service levels.

FPP.2.8 Review of Service Policy

These expenditure policies are used by staff to prompt review of services to see if they are being provided as effectively and efficiently as possible. ACWWA's review of service policy is designed to accomplish the following:

- Encourage greater efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of services by sharing resources and coordinating with other public and private organization through partnerships;
- Where possible, utilize technology and productivity advancements that will help reduce or avoid increasing personnel costs;
- Control personnel costs as a proportion of total budget by the more effective use of resources.

FPP.2.9 Cash Management Policies and Practices

ACWWA's cash management policies strive to:

- maximize ACWWA's cash position;
- accelerate collections and control disbursements to optimize cash availability;
- meet its financial obligations on a timely basis in order to maintain public trust and productive relations with employees, suppliers, and contractors;
- develop monthly cash flow projections to help formulate investment strategies for the most effective use of resources;
- manage funds in a prudent and diligent manner that meets the criteria of legality, safety, liquidity and yield, in that order of importance.

FPP.2.10 Debt Financing

ACWWA will use debt financing when it is judged to be appropriate based on the long-term capital needs of ACWWA, and the capacity to repay the indebtedness has been evaluated in light of all sources and uses of cash.

ACWWA will only incur long-term debt for the financing of capital improvements that are not expected to recur and are long-lived. Conversely, if the capital requirements are recurring, of relatively small scale or are for short-lived improvements, the costs of these improvements will be paid from current revenues.

FPP.2.11 Reserve Funds

ACWWA maintains several reserve funds. In partnership with Inverness Water and Sanitation District (IWSD), maintains a Repair and Replacement Reserve for the Wastewater Treatment Plant of which ACWWA contributes 69.44% and IWSD contributes 30.55%. ACWWA currently contributes \$300,924 to this reserve annually. ACWWA and CWSD maintain a reserve fund for the JWPP to which ACWWA contributes \$12,667 annually. ACWWA is also required by bond covenants to maintain debt service reserves of \$550,000. Additionally, ACWWA established board-designated reserve funds in 2018, including an operating, rate stabilization, and emergency capital reserve funds.

FPP.2.12 Revenue Bonds

ACWWA does not collect taxes and cannot issue General Obligation Bonds. ACWWA may issue Revenue Bonds secured by a pledge of revenues. Revenue Bonds are limited liability obligations that pledge net revenues of ACWWA to debt service. The net revenue pledge is after payment of all operating costs. The financial markets require coverage ratios of the pledged revenue stream and a covenant to levy rates and fees sufficient to produce net income at some level in excess of debt service.

There may be an additional test required to demonstrate that future revenues will be sufficient to maintain debt service coverage levels after additional bonds are issued. ACWWA will strive to exceed the coverage ratio required by the debt covenants. Annual adjustments to ACWWA's rate structure may be necessary to maintain these coverage ratios.

The credit rating of Revenue Bonds is based on the ability of ACWWA's existing rates to provide sufficient net income to pay debt service, as well as the perceived willingness of ACWWA's Board of Directors to raise rates and fees in accordance with its bond covenants. Past performance also plays a role in evaluating the credit quality of Revenue Bonds, as does the diversity of the customer base.

FPP.2.13 Capital Leases

Capital lease and installment sale agreements shall be considered as an alternative to long-term debt. Although these forms of alternative financing are subject to annual appropriation, they shall be treated as long-term debt until maturity.

ACWWA currently has no capital lease obligations.

FPP.2.14 Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt is defined as bonded indebtedness whose maturity is at least ten years from issue date.

When developing funding strategies for projects; ACWWA will first consider revenues unique to such projects, e.g.; water funds for water projects, and wastewater funds for wastewater projects.

Projects will be funded with Revenue Bonds only if no other revenue source can be utilized.

When appropriate, ACWWA will use long-term debt financing to: achieve an equitable allocation of capital costs/charges between current and future system users, to provide more manageable rates in the near and medium term, and to minimize rate volatility.

For growth-related projects, debt financing will be utilized as needed to better match the cost of anticipated facility needs with timing of expected new connections to the system and spread the costs evenly over time.

Every effort will be made to schedule principal and interest payments so as to avoid fluctuations in debt service requirements and related fluctuations in user fees. Because debt financing involves long-term commitments, the projects that are financed through debt financing will only be those that have a useful life at least equal to the debt amortization period. Therefore, debt financing shall be used only for capital expenditures and not for addressing maintenance items.

A rate review will be conducted when appropriate to ensure predictable and affordable changes to utility system rates. ACWWA will maintain rates to confirm that it meets bond coverage requirements. Exceptions to this strategy may be made by the Governing Board for projects that are mandated by judicial or regulatory bodies, or for emergency situations.

FPP.2.15 Short-Term Debt

User fees and tap fees should support needed capital improvements on a pay-as-you-go basis to the greatest extent possible. In the event short-term debt financing is required, lease-purchases, operating leases or other debt instruments may be used as a short-term (less than ten years) method of borrowing. This financing may be used for costs such as the purchase of fleet equipment, the renovation or reconstruction of capital assets, specialized types of equipment purchases, communications, and data transmission systems.

ACWWA may utilize short-term borrowing to serve as a bridge for anticipated revenues, construction financing or future bonding capacity.

All proposals for short-term financing will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with findings presented to the Board prior to authorizing financing. Examples of issues to be addressed in the case-by-case analysis may include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

- The extent to which the proposed improvement(s) either (a) extend the useful life of the facility(s) by greater than five years or (b) add to the long-term value of the underlying asset by an amount equal to or in excess of the cost of the improvement. Improvements may be one project or a series of projects, when performed as a package, extend the useful life by the required minimum.
- The extent to which a permanent, ongoing additional maintenance commitment is required in order to maintain the value and utility of the financed improvements during the time period in which the financing is outstanding.
- The extent to which an improvement(s) provides a long-term solution to a problem or effectively arrests deterioration which might lead to structural failure, beyond which the process should not have to be repeated if there is appropriate preventative maintenance.
- The extent to which financing spreads the cost of the improvements between present and future users.

FPP.2.16 Debt Authorizations

All long and short-term debt shall require Board authorization prior to issuance. ACWWA has no plans to issue new debt in 2025.

FPP.2.16.1 Current Debt Outstanding

In 2006, ACWWA issued \$22,940,000 in Revenue Refunding Bonds. The proceeds from the 2006 Series Bonds were used to refund the Water and Wastewater Revenue Variable Rate Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 2003A and the Taxable/Tax-Exempt Water and Wastewater Revenue Variable Rate Refunding Bonds, Series 2003B. The 2006 Series Bonds were refunded on October 4, 2016 by the Series 2016 Water and Wastewater Revenue Refunding Bonds in the amount of \$16,475,000 to take advantage of lower interest rates.

In 2007, ACWWA issued \$18,760,000 in Revenue Refunding Bonds. The proceeds from the 2007 Series Bonds were used to refund the Water and Wastewater Revenue Variable Rate Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 2003C and to provide \$10 million of new money to be used for capital projects. The 2007 bonds were refunded on September 7, 2017, in the amount of \$12,720,000.

In 2010, ACWWA issued \$91,545,000 in Taxable Water and Wastewater Revenue Direct Pay Build America Bonds and \$5,625,000 in Water and Wastewater Revenue Bonds. The proceeds from the 2010 Series Bonds were used to purchase a renewable water source, infrastructure, and water storage. This project is identified as the ACWWA Flow Project. In 2013, ACWWA refunded the 2010 Series B Bonds. The 2010 Series A bonds were refunded on October 22, 2019 in the amount of \$71,485,000.

A summary of outstanding debt is as follows:

- Water and Wastewater Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 Bonds, original amount \$16,475,000; amount outstanding January 1, 2025 - \$11,170,000.
- Water and Wastewater Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 Bonds, original amount \$12,720,000; amount outstanding January 1, 2025 - \$9,815,000.
- Taxable Water and Wastewater Revenue Direct Pay Build America Bonds, Series 2019 Bonds, original amount \$71,485,000; amount outstanding January 1, 2025 - \$62,330,000.

FPP.2.16.2 Debt Limits

ACWWA is not legally restricted as to the amount of debt that can be issued.

FPP.2.17 Balanced Budget

Colorado statutes and ACWWA's financial policies require an annual budget that is balanced. A balanced budget is one in which the budget has sufficient projected revenues and available resources to equal anticipated expenditures. Throughout the budget development process, projected revenue estimates are updated and compared against proposed expenditures.

ACWWA has developed a series of revenue and expenditure assumptions, based on current and projected economic indicator, and historical trends. Expenditure and revenue collection history for the last two years and information supplied by various departments were used to determine revenue sources and uses.

FPP.2.18 ACWWA's Funds

ACWWA describes a fund as a self-balancing accounting entity segregated to carry on specific activities or attain certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restriction or limitation such as water or wastewater.

FPP.2.18.1 Funds Available

ACWWA describes funds available as resources remaining from prior years, which are available to be budgeted in the current year.

FPP.2.18.2 Restricted Cash Funds

Restricted cash funds are those that are legally set aside for a particular purpose and cannot be used for any other purpose. These are funds whose use is not at the discretion of the Board. ACWWA maintains a debt service reserve fund required by bond covenants, and asset replacement reserves for the LTCWRF and the JWPP. In 2019, ACWWA funded two additional restricted project funds for the ECCV Northern Plant Expansion and the JWPP RO Plant reconversion, and one these funds remain open.

FPP.2.18.3 Designated Cash Funds

Designated cash funds are general use funds that have been set apart by Board action for a specific purpose. These funds can only be used for those purposes. However, these funds are at the discretion of the Board and can be used for any other purpose by an action of the Board. ACWWA maintains designated funds to provide for an operating reserve, a rate stabilization reserve, an emergency capital reserve, an unrestricted debt reserve, and an asset replacement reserve.

FPP.2.18.4 General Use Cash Fund

General use cash funds are funds that are not restricted or designated. ACWWA maintains a general cash fund to provide cash for operations, debt service, and capital improvements.

FPP.2.18.5 Authority Funds Subject to Appropriation

ACWWA operates as an Enterprise Fund. Enterprise Funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, in that the costs of providing goods or services to the general public are financed through user charges.



Clarifier 3 at LTCRF

Budget Resolution 2024-03

A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR EACH FUND, ADOPTING A BUDGET, AND APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEY TO THE VARIOUS FUNDS IN THE AMOUNTS AND FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH HEREIN FOR THE ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY, ARAPAHOE COUNTY, COLORADO, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY 2025, AND ENDING ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER 2025.

WHEREAS, the proposed 2025 budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors of the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority for its consideration; and

WHEREAS, upon due and proper notice, published in the Aurora Sentinel and the Douglas County News Press in accordance with the law, and said proposed budget was open for inspection by the public at a designated place, a public hearing was held on December 11, 2024 and interested persons were given the opportunity to file or register any objections to said proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, whatever increases may have been made in the expenditures, like increases were added to the revenues so that the budget remains in balance, as required by law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ARAPAHOE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER AUTHORITY, ARAPAHOE COUNTY, COLORADO:

Section 1: 2025 Budget Revenues. That the estimated revenues for each fund set out in the budget are accepted and approved.

Section 2: 2025 Budget Expenditures. That the estimated expenditures for each fund set out in the budget are accepted and approved.

Section 3: Designation of Ending Fund Balances as Reserves. That pursuant to Const. Colo. Article X, Section 20, the December 31, 2024, ending fund balance of the Operating Fund, the exact amount to be determined as part of the audit of the December 31, 2024 financial statements, is designated as a general reserve for future contingencies.

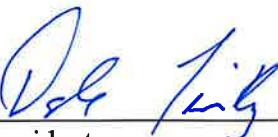
Section 4: Adoption of Budget for 2025. That the budget as submitted and if amended, then as amended, is hereby approved and adopted as the budget of the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority for calendar year 2025.

Section 5: Fiscal Year Spending Limits. That, being fully informed, the Board finds that the foregoing budget does not result in a violation of any applicable fiscal year spending limitation.

Section 6: Appropriations. That the amounts set forth as expenditures and balances remaining, as specifically allocated in the budget are hereby appropriated from the revenue of each fund, to each fund, for the purposes stated and no other.

Section 7: Discretion: The General Manager may exercise discretion in administration of the Operating Budget to respond to changed circumstances, provided that any modification in excess of \$75,000 receives approval by the Board.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 11th day of December 2024.



President

ATTEST:



Secretary