

Tab 6

CALENDAR 2024 and 2025

December 2024

- 4-6 Colorado River Water Users Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV
- 16 MWDSLS Board Meeting – 3:30 p.m.

January 2025

- 7 Environmental Committee Meeting - 8:30 a.m.
- 14 Executive Committee Meeting – 8:30 a.m.
- 14 Engineering Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 16 SCPUAB Meeting – 7:30 a.m.
- 27 MWDSLS Work Session - 3:30 p.m.
- 27 MWDSLS Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m.
- 30 SLCPUAC Meeting – 7:30 a.m.
- 30 PRWUA Board Meeting – 10:30 a.m.

February 2025

- 11 Engineering Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 24 MWDSLS Work Session - 3:30 p.m.
- 24 MWDSLS Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m.
- 27 SLCPUAC Meeting – 7:30 a.m.
- 27 PRWUA Board Meeting - 10:30 a.m.

MWDSLS – Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy
PRWUA – Provo River Water Users Association
SLCPUAC – Salt Lake City Public Utilities Advisory Committee
SCPUAB – Sandy City Public Utilities Advisory Board

Last 12/3/24

January 2025						
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February 2025						
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November 2025						
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December 2025						
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MWDSLS Board of Trustees

EVENT	TIME
Work Session	3:30 PM
Board Meeting	4:30 PM
June Public Hearing	6:00 PM
Management Advisory Committee	8:30 AM
Executive Committee	8:30 AM
Environmental Committee	10:00 AM
Engineering Committee	10:00 AM
Finance Committee	10:00 AM
Holidays	

EVENT	DATE
Utah Water Users Workshop, St George	Mar 17-19
AWWA National – Denver, CO	June 8-11
Intermountain Section AWWA – Vernal	Sept. 29-Oct. 2
Utah Association of Special Districts	TBD
NWRA Annual Conference – Tucson, AZ	Nov. 5-7
CRWUA – Las Vegas, NV	Dec. 16-18

2025

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024; ISSUE 152



Blake Burch Retirement

Blake retired from Metro Water on December 10, 2024, after an impressive 39-year career. He began his journey as an Aqueduct Maintenance employee in Pleasant Grove, near the Provo River. Over the years, Blake held several positions within the Maintenance Department, including Mechanic, General Repairman, Operations & Maintenance Technician, and Maintenance Technician. His nearly four-decade-long tenure is one of the longest in Metro Water's history.

Throughout his career, Blake took great pride in his exceptional attendance record, rarely missing work due to illness. He consistently strived to be a reliable employee and foster positive relationships with his coworkers. Blake worked under five different General Managers, starting with Nick Sefakis. These experiences helped him develop greater patience as he navigated the diverse personalities and management styles of each leader.

As Blake enters retirement, he looks forward to enjoying the freedom of a flexible schedule. He plans to spend more time working on his yard, as well as hunting and fishing. Congratulations, Blake! We wish you all the best in this well-deserved next chapter of your life.

Laboratory Successfully Completes Proficiency Testing Audits

The Laboratory is required to complete proficiency testing (PT) audits twice a year to maintain its National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) certification. For each method the Laboratory is certified to perform, blind PT samples are obtained from an approved supplier. Lab staff then run these samples as part of their regular analyses, and the data is reported back to the PT supplier.

Once the PT study closes, if any results fall outside the approved range for a given method, Lab management must initiate a corrective action. The outcome of these actions must be reported to the certifying body within 30 days.

In November, Lab staff did an outstanding job, successfully passing PT audits for 16 out of the 17 methods they are certified to run.



Human Resources

New employee:

Shaun Stone – Facilities Technician

Anniversary:

Mike Hone – I&E Systems Integration Specialist – 30 years

Retirement:

Blake Burch – Senior Maintenance Technician – 39 years

Metro Water Completes First Internal Audit to Strengthen Fraud Controls

Each year, Metro Water completes the State Auditor's Fraud Risk Assessment, which evaluates its fraud risk level. While scores have consistently indicated a low fraud risk, the absence of a formal internal audit function has been identified as an area for improvement. In response to previous assessments, Metro Water recently conducted its first internal audit, performed by an external accounting firm.

The audit focused on evaluating internal controls through a more detailed and comprehensive review than a standard external financial audit. The scope of the work included identifying key controls designed to prevent fraud and errors. Staff are pleased to report the two areas identified were minor improvements to strengthen our controls. These recommendations have already been implemented or are in the process of being addressed to further reduce the potential for fraud.

This process was highly involved, and staff greatly appreciate the dedication and effort that went into completing it.

In Memoriam: Don Milne

We are saddened by the passing of Don Milne, who left this mortal life on October 10, 2024, following a year-long battle with two types of cancer and the resulting complications. Don passed away peacefully on the same day he arrived, 92 years prior.

Don's contributions to Metro Water and the community were immeasurable. He served as a dedicated board member for Metro Water and was an active chair of the Engineering Committee, where his leadership and expertise were highly valued. His commitment to improving the infrastructure and operations was a testament to his passion for service and his vision for a better future.

In addition to his work with Metro Water, Don made significant contributions to Sandy City, where he dedicated countless hours to projects that benefited the community and its residents.

Don's legacy of service, integrity, and dedication will not be forgotten. He leaves behind a lasting impact on both Metro Water and the wider community, and his memory will be cherished by all who had the privilege of working with him.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Don's loved ones during this time. He will be greatly missed.

District Staff Meets with Kubota Representatives

On November 20, 2024, Metro Water staff gathered at the LCWTP offices for a meeting with representatives from Kubota, a leading pipe manufacturer based in Osaka, Japan, with U.S. offices in Los Angeles. Kubota specializes in Hazard-Resistant Ductile Iron Pipe (HRDIP), which is designed to perform reliably in hazardous events such as earthquakes and landslides.

As part of the ongoing Cottonwoods Connection project, two segments of HRDIP will be installed. Additionally, staff is considering the use of HRDIP for select segments of the Raw Water Little Cottonwood Conduit Replacement Project, recognizing the material's durability and performance in challenging conditions.

