

NEPCO General Membership Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2026

Meeting: Convened at 10:00 am by President Mike Aspenson. Mike reviewed the agenda, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked the Woodmoor Improvement Association for allowing NEPCO use of the Barn and Board meeting space.

Attendees:

NEPCO Board: Mike Aspenson (President), Bob Swedenburg (Vice President), Harold Larson (Member-at-Large), Dave Betzler (Director, Outreach), Al Feldkamp (Treasurer), Bill Crimmel (Board Observer and Acting Secretary), and Beth Lonnquist (Chair, Wildfire Preparedness Committee).

Member HOAs: 21 member Community Associations were represented.

Business Meeting: Mike Aspenson introduced the Board members present. Membership status is 42 active HOA Members, 1 Business Associate, and 6 Honorary Members. Mike reviewed the proposed general meeting schedule for the rest of 2026. Slides for the business meeting are on the NEPCO website.

Treasurer's Report: As of 7 May, NEPCO has \$179.43 in savings and \$3,257.89 in checking for a total of \$3,437.33. The 2026 budget is estimated at \$2,300 and estimated income is \$1,845 – a shortfall of \$455. To date, 30 HOAs have paid their 2026 dues, a total of \$1,450.

Amendment Approval: Bob Swedenburg reviewed the contents of Amendment 9 to the bylaws and the members present approved the amendment.

Wildfire Prevention: Beth Lonnquist handed out a pamphlet on the Home Ignition Zone.

HOA Open Forum: A member announced that, eleven appeal letters have been submitted against the well permits at the proposed Buc-ee's location. Harold Larson explained the appeal process. Another member announced that there would be a table at Palmer Lake Community Center on Thursday, May 14 from 9-5 for others to make appeals.

Invited Speakers: Dave Betzler introduced the guest speakers: Wenli Dickinson, P.E., Water Resource Engineer, and the Denver Office Team 456 Supervisor and Ariel Hacker, Water Resource Engineer, both from the Colorado Division of Water Resources, and Roy Martinez, Director on the Woodmoor Water & Sanitation District No. 1 Board.

Wenli Dickinson and Ariel Hacker Presentation: The slides for their presentation can be found on the NEPCO website. They covered four main areas:

- **Background on the Department of Water Resources:** All groundwater resources in Colorado are administered by the department. There are seven divisions in the state. We are in Division 2 which is south of the Palmer Divide.
- **Groundwater Basics:** Aquifers/hydrology basics, Denver Basin geology, brief legislative history of the Denver Basin, nontributary groundwater, Designated Basins (100-year aquifer life), tributary, nontributary, and not-nontributary groundwater, and how Denver Basin groundwater is quantified.
- **Groundwater Administration:** Basics of the prior appropriation system and how that differs from Denver Basin and nontributary groundwater, the different administrative and adjudicatory bodies: DWR/State Engineer, Water Court, and the Groundwater Commission, basics of well permits, decrees, and augmentation plans, and how this works with development (e.g., subdivisions and the 300-year requirement).
- **Resources:** DWR tools/resources and other resources (CWCB Drought webpage, Drought Taskforce)

Roy Martinez Presentation: Roy started his presentation by telling the audience that he was speaking as a NEPCO resident and not a board member of the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation Department. His presentation is also on the NEPCO website. His presentation covered

- Who Provides our Water
- Water Sources in our Region
- Water Agencies and Source Type
- Denver Basin Aquifer

Roy provided excellent insights into the limitations of the aquifers to include a cross section of the Denver Basin model that helped the participants visualize the issues of geographical well locations and the risk of individual well depths. One of his main points was that dependence on well water only was risky.

Closing: Mike Aspenson thanked Wenli Dickinson, Ariel Hacker and Roy Martinez for their informative presentations, and the audience for their participation.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:05 pm

Next Scheduled General Membership Meeting: July 11, 2026 at 10:00 am

Submitted by: Bill Crimmel (Board Observer and Acting Secretary)