

**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, YUMA CITY HALL  
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA  
**OCTOBER 6, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Nicholls called the City Council meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Martinez, Morris, McClendon, Smith (telephonic), Morales, Watts (telephonic), and Mayor Nicholls  
Councilmembers Absent: None  
Staffmembers Present: Acting City Administrator, John D. Simonton  
Deputy City Attorney, Rodney Short  
Various Department Heads or their representative  
City Attorney, Richard W. Files  
City Clerk, Lynda L. Bushong

**I. RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE TRANSFER OF COLORADO RIVER WATER**

Resolution R2025-095 - Resolution Opposing the Permanent Transfer of Colorado River Water from Greenstone RP, d/b/a "GSC Farms, LLC", to the Town of Queen Creek, Arizona, as presented, and offering reasonable alternatives. (City Admin/City Atty)

**Short** presented the following information:

- Greenstone RP Group seeks to permanently transfer water rights from land in La Paz County to Queen Creek – a move seen as harmful to rural Arizona.
- This would be the first off-river water transfer in Arizona not involving the Central Arizona Project, setting a major precedent for future water policy.
- City Council has opposed the water transfer through Resolution R2019-051, which opposed the original proposal, and Resolution R2020-046, which urged the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to conduct a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- BOR initially conducted a lesser Environmental Assessment, concluding with a finding of No Significant Impact.
- Subsequently, on-river communities (Yuma, La Paz, and Mohave Counties) won a federal lawsuit, compelling BOR to revisit the analysis.
- BOR has now filed a Notice of Intent to conduct a full EIS.
- The City Council is being asked to reaffirm their opposition and submit formal comments during the public review period.
- Proposed alternatives in the Resolution include:
  - No Action – Reject the transfer entirely.
  - Conditional Approval – Allow transfers only when Lake Mead is at a safe level to support both water supply and power generation.

**Motion** (Morales/Morris): To adopt Resolution R2025-095. Roll call vote: **adopted** 7-0.

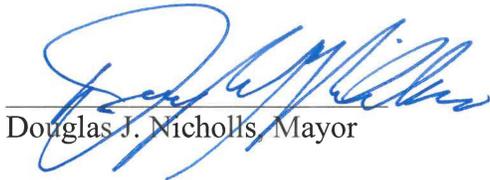
**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, **Mayor Nicholls** adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m. No Executive Session was held.



Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:



Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor

Approved at the City Council Meeting of: <u>November 19, 2025</u>
City Clerk: <u>Jamie R.</u>