

**REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) MEETING**

**Water Campus**

**2955 W. Calle Agua Nueva – Radon Conference Room**

**Thursday, May 23, 2019**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Steve Foley, Rob Kulakofsky, Jean McLain, Corin Marron, Armando Membrila, Scott Oldendorph, Asia Philbin, Mark Taylor, Ann Marie Wolf, Claire Zucker

**Members Absent:** Bill Katzel, John Lynch, Matt Matthewson

**Others Present:** Mandy Armenta (FRMD), Adam Bliven (RWRD), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Jennifer C. Coyle (RWRD), Barbara Escobar (RWRD), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Veronica Lopez (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Jeanette Montano (RWRD), Jeff Prevatt (RWRD), Xavier Rendon (FRMD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Timothy Thomure (Tucson Water), Caroline Vargas (RWRD), Chuck Wesselhoft (PCAO), Eric Wieduwilt (RWRD)

**A. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Corin Marron, Chair, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC), called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. Veronica Lopez, Program Coordinator, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD), took roll call and a quorum was present.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Call to the Audience** – There were no comments from the audience.

**D. Safety Share**

Armando Membrila, Member, RWRAC, reminded everyone to be cautious of snakes now that the weather is getting warmer.

**E. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from April 25, 2019

**ACTION:** Mark Taylor made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 25, 2019. Ann Marie Wolf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Director's Update**

Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD, stated the overall status of the department is going good. The department continues to focus on efficiencies and the pillars of the business. The department's finances are stable and fixed. Mr. Jenkins stated the department's budget for next fiscal year was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

**G. Discussion/Action**

**1. Community Relations Office Update**

Caroline Vargas, Program Manager, RWRD, gave a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Vargas explained the goals and objectives of the Community Relations Office (CRO) and achieves these goals and objectives through visibility, education and outreach, and promoting RWRD workforce and careers. In 2018, CRO participated and attended 21 community and school events and educated the public about water conservation, protecting our sewer system, and provided information on careers in RWRD. One of the largest initiatives that CRO partakes in is the Grease Collection and Recycling Event. Last year, over 8,000 pounds of grease was collected.

Ms. Vargas stated one way to educate and provide outreach is through the facility tours that RWRD offers. Tours are a great way to educate the public on how and what it takes to run this utility. The CRO is responsible for handling all media relations for the department and also utilizes social media to connect and communicate with the public. The CRO also produced the first ever Fiscal Year Report by the Numbers and designed seven new and updated six existing marketing material for outreach and school events. Ms. Vargas explained in an effort to be transparent and to keep the public informed, CRO updated, added, and posted a variety of information on the department's website.

Ms. Vargas stated one of the goals and objectives of CRO is to identify who RWRD is and what the department does and one way to accomplish this is through signage. The CRO worked with the CIP Section to ensure signage is placed at various worksites and that the public knows who RWRD's contractors are. The CRO also provides promotional items at various community events, school outreach events, and facility tours. Ms. Vargas distributed some of these items to the committee members.

The CRO attends various career fairs to promote RWRD workforce and careers. One of the largest events that RWRD participates in is the Construction Career Days event. RWRD is a sponsor and coordinates with other local utilities. Over 2,000 students in middle school and high school attend this event and it gives these students the opportunity to learn about the various careers RWRD offers. The CRO also oversees the Summer Youth Program for the department in which RWRD hires three crews of 10 to work around the treatment facilities. Ms. Vargas ended her presentation with a video that showcased a brief synopsis of RWRD and the great impact and work that RWRD does.

**2. Financial Subcommittee Report**

There was no Financial Subcommittee meeting report.

**3. Fiscal Year 2018/2019 RWRD Expense & Revenue Report**

Mandy Armenta, Administrative Support Services Manager, FRMD, provided the Expense and Revenue Update for Period 10. The total operating and maintenance expenses are projected at \$82.8 million, while the total revenues are projected at \$186.4 million.

**4. CIP Subcommittee Report**

A CIP Subcommittee meeting is in the process of being scheduled for June.

**5. Citizens' Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) Report**

Jean McLain, Member, RWRAC, stated the CWAC met on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. McLain announced Sandy Elder retired on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Santa Cruz River Heritage Project dedication ceremony will be open to the public and is scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McLain stated planning is underway for the One Water 2100 Master Plan project and is expected to be completed in approximately 18 months.

**6. Appoint Nominating Committee**

Mr. Membrilla and Scott Oldendorph volunteered to serve as the nominating committee.

**H. Future Agenda Items**

- Compliance & Regulatory Affairs Office Update
- Emergency Plan Presentation
- Election of Officers

**I. Call to the Audience** – There were no comments from the audience.

**J. Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Scott Oldendorph made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Taylor seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 a.m.