

**REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) MEETING  
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Thursday, September 24, 2020  
8:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Steve Foley, Bill Katzel, Rob Kulakofsky, Corin Marron, Matt Matthewson, Armando Membrila, Asia Philbin, Mark Taylor, Ann Marie Wolf, Claire Zucker

**Members Absent:** John Lynch, Scott Oldendorph

**Others Present:**

Mandy Armenta (FRMD), Marla Berry (RWRD), Adam Bliven (RWRD), Victoria Buchinger (PCAO), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Jennifer Coyle (RWRD), Barbara Escobar (RWRD), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Andrew Greenhill (Tucson Water), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Amy Katzenmeyer (RWRD), Veronica Lopez (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Sarah Metz (FRMD), Mead Mier (PAG), Jeannette Montano (RWRD), Jeff Prevatt (RWRD), Xavier Rendon (FRMD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Mary Valencic (RWRD), Caroline Vargas (RWRD), Eric Wieduwilt (RWRD)

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

Corin Marron, Chair, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC), called the meeting to order at 8:00 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** - Ms. Marron reminded everyone to get a flu shot. Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD, spoke on the importance of using a pressure wand safely and reported an employee recently hurt himself. Bill Katzel, Member, RWRAC, communicated his appreciation for holding the RWRAC meeting virtually during the pandemic.

**E. Approval of Minutes** - Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2020

**ACTION:** Scott Foley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 27, 2020. Ann Marie Wolf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Discussion/Action**

**1. Treatment Division Update**

Jeff Prevatt, Deputy Director, RWRD, gave a presentation on the Treatment Division. Mr. Prevatt discussed the Division's operational structure, operations, central maintenance, process optimization, and current projects. Mr. Prevatt addressed last month's inquiries regarding microplastics and Wastewater Based Epidemiology related to COVID-19. Claire Zucker, Member, RWRAC, asked if COVID-19 tracing is being conducted at various plants and

has there been a development of feedback from public health officials. Mr. Prevatt explained currently COVID-19 tracing is only being conducted at the Agua Nueva Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) and RWRD has met with public health officials in preparation of the University of Arizona's plan for August. Ann Marie Wolf, Member, RWRAC, asked what is going to be included in the Energy Master Plan (Plan), specifically if energy usage will be addressed. Mr. Prevatt stated that is precisely what the Plan consists of and provided a brief overview of what the Plan covers. Ms. Wolf asked that when the Plan is complete, if a presentation can be given to the committee.

**2. Conveyance Division Update**

Jaime Rivera, Deputy Director, RWRD, gave a presentation on the Conveyance Division. Mr. Rivera discussed the Division's organizational structure and provided an overview of each of the various sections within the Conveyance Division. Mr. Rivera also provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The approved 2020 CIP budget was \$48 million. Some of the major projects for Fiscal Year 2020 was the Gas Utilization Design and Construction, the Nutrient Recovery Design Construction, and the Twin Peaks Sewer Augmentation. Mr. Rivera also discussed the asset management software the Division utilizes and stated early next year, a Customer Portal will go live which will interface with IPS to auto-generate various service requests. Mr. Taylor asked if the insecticide that is sprayed into the manholes gets into the effluent. Mr. Rivera stated this has been tested and there was no trace of insecticide.

**3. CIP Subcommittee Report**

Ms. Wolf stated the Subcommittee plans to hold a meeting in December via Microsoft Teams.

**4. Financial Sub-Committee Report**

There were no updates to report.

**5. Fiscal Year 2020/21 Expense and Revenue Summary**

Mandy Armenta, Administrative Support Services Manager, Finance and Risk Management Department (FRMD), stated the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Expense and Revenue Summary for Period 2 projections is at \$161.1 million for the Operations and Maintenance budget. Projections for the operating expense are at \$82.2 million. Total revenues is budgeted at \$186.3 million.

**6. Citizens' Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) Report – Meeting Report and Tucson Water Activities**

Mr. Taylor stated CWAC met September 2, 2020. CWAC has agreed to meet on Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams through the remainder of year. At the end of the year, the committee will determine if the meeting time will change. Some of the items discussed at the September 2, 2020, meeting, included: the Water Checkbook, Water Service Area policy updates, and the election for Vice-Chair. The selection for a RWRAC representative to take Jean McLain's position has not yet been determined. Mr. Taylor will act as the liaison until then. Tim Thomure is currently acting as the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Director.

**7. Election of Officers**

Armando Membriola, Member, RWRAC, stated he is awaiting to receive feedback from the committee on nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. The committee will vote on these positions at next month's meeting.

## **8. Director's Update**

### **a. Pandemic Update**

Mr. Jenkins stated there have been 13 RWRD employees who have tested positive for COVID-19. The majority were asymptomatic and those with symptoms that were more serious have recovered. Currently, one employee is continuing to recover at home. Mr. Jenkins stated the department continues to follow safety protocols and holds weekly meetings with managerial staff to discuss any COVID-19 related matters.

### **b. FY 2019/20 Report – By the Numbers**

Mr. Jenkins stated the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Report – By the Numbers was included in the meeting packet and thanked Caroline Vargas, Program Manager, RWRD, and her staff for their work on putting this report together. Mr. Jenkins also informed the committee that the 2019 Effluent Report would be included in next month's packet.

## **G. Future Agenda Items**

- Energy Master Plan Update
- Results of the PFAS Biosolids Study & the Biosolids Master Plan
- 2019 Effluent Report – Overview
- Odor Control Program Update
- Open Meeting Law Update
- Election of Officers

**H. Call to the Audience** - There were no comments from the audience.

## **I. Adjournment**

**ACTION:** Mark Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Marie Wolf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.