

REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) MEETING

Water Campus

2955 W. Calle Agua Nueva – Radon Conference Room

Thursday, September 26, 2019

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Steve Foley, Rob Kulakofsky, Corin Marron, Jean McLain, Armando Membrila (via phone), Scott Oldendorph, Mark Taylor (via phone), Claire Zucker

Members Absent: Bill Katzel, John Lynch, Matt Matthewson, Asia Philbin, Ann Marie Wolf

Others Present:

Mandy Armenta (FRMD), Marla Berry (RWRD), Jeff Biggs (Tucson Water), Adam Bliven (RWRD), Mark Brusseau (UA), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Jennifer Coyle (RWRD), Jim Dettmer (Carollo Engineers), Barbara Escobar (RWRD), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Jody Hawkinson (Jacobs Engineering), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Jeff Prevatt (RWRD), Veronica Lopez (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Xavier Rendon (FRMD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Lisa Starks (RWRD), Erika Swan (RWRD), Mary Valencic (RWRD), 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 8:05 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

Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD reminded everyone to be aware of the new e-Scooters downtown and where they are left, usually on sidewalks and sometimes in the way. Jean McLain, RWRAC Member, added to the e-Scooter discussion with a reminder for drivers be aware of riders who may be new and not operating them correctly, especially around intersections.

E. Approval of Minutes - Meeting Minutes from August 22, 2019

ACTION: Steve Foley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 22, 2019. Scott Oldendorph seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Discussion/Action

Mr. Jenkins, Director, RWRD requested that the guest speaker, Dr. Mark Brusseau, be moved to first on the agenda.

1. **Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Presentation** –*Dr. Mark Brusseau, Professor, University of Arizona*

In his presentation, Dr. Mark Brusseau explained what Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are, and how these man-made contaminants came to exist in the environment. The relation to PFAS and wastewater and biosolids was discussed. Various studies and test results were reviewed as well as potential health risks. Regulations on these contaminants are in development. Methods to remove PFAS compounds from drinking water were also covered.

2. **Director's Report** – *Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD*

a. **FY18/19 Performance Statistics Presentation**

Jackson Jenkins presented Performance Statistics on the total number of Full-Time Employees, Average Vacancy Rate, Absentee Rate, Overtime Pay, Retirement Eligibility, and Turnover. The Adopted O&M Budget for FY 2019/2020 is \$83,479,369. A breakdown of the budget and the Top 10 expense categories was discussed. The CIP Budget was also discussed and how the CIP Management group has been able to spend their budget and bring in quality Capital Improvement Projects for the Department.

b. **Review of the Six Pillars of Departmental Focus**

The Employee, Compliance, Safety, Customer, Financial and Sustainability pillars of Departmental Focus were reviewed.

c. **Mission Statement**

To protect the public health, safety, and the environment by providing quality service, environmental stewardship, and renewable resources.

d. **Mt. Lemmon Reclamation Facility**

RWRD's Special Use Agreement with the Forest Service has been amended to remove the 77 connection limit and increase the treatment capacity per day maximum from 12,500 to 15,000 gallons. Barbara Escobar, Program Manager, RWRD, was instrumental in this successful effort.

e. **Biosolids Land**

There is growing concern on where biosolids can be disposed in the future. With crop rotation and disappearing farmland, there is the possibility that RWRD may have to go further out to distribute the biosolids. RWRD continues to review various options regarding biosolid disposal.

3. **Conveyance Division Update** – *Jaime Rivera, Deputy Director, RWRD*

Jaime Rivera reviewed the structure of the Conveyance Division. Functions of the Conveyance Administration were detailed as well as review of the safety statistics. An overview of Gravity, the CCTV Program, CIP, Pump Systems, and the Odor Control Program were discussed. Asset Management Software has aided the Department with efficiency by making the staff more paperless, more mobile and providing easier access to information. SmartCover Technology has helped to monitor sites to see potential problems before they occur.

4. **CIP Subcommittee Report** – *Matt Matthewson, RWRAC CIP Subcommittee Chair*

There has been no recent activity with the CIP Subcommittee.

5. **Financial Subcommittee Report** – *John Lynch, RWRAC Financial Subcommittee Chair*

There has been no recent activity with the Financial Subcommittee.

6. **Fiscal Year 2019/20 Expense and Revenue Summary** – *Mandy Armenta, Admin. Support Svcs. Mgr., FRMD*

The Total O&M Expense budget is \$83.4 million, as of Period 2, \$10.2 million has been spent. The overall budget, including depreciation and debt services, is \$160.3 million. The revenue budget is \$182.4 million and as of Period 2, \$29.7 million has been received in revenues. Forecast projections will begin with the next fiscal Period, and reported at the October meeting.

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

Jean McClain, RWRAC Member, reported on the CWAC meeting held on September 4, 2019. The southwest area of Tucson had a major water pipe break on September 2, which left 5,000 people without water for 24 hours. The incident also affected the sewer line, resulting in a boil water advisory. Tim Thomure, Director of City of Tucson Water Department, discussed the incident and Tucson Water's response in detail at the CWAC meeting. The meeting also reviewed the production of potable water; as of the beginning of September, the production of potable water and reclaimed water was down 4% from calendar year 2018.

G. **Future Agenda Items**

Odor Control Program Update is planned next month per the 2019 Work Plan.

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

I. **Adjournment**

ACTION: Rob Kulakofsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Foley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.