

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

**Thursday, October 22, 2020**

**8:00 a.m.**

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

**Members Absent:** Rob Kulakofsky, John Lynch

**Others Present:**

Melanie Alvarez (PAG), Mandy Armenta (FRMD), Marla Berry (RWRD), Adam Bliven (RWRD), James Brown (RWRD), Victoria Buchinger (PCAO), Michelle Campagne (FRMD), Craig Cannizzano (Westland Resources), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Jenelle Chraft (RWRD), Jennifer Coyle (RWRD), James Dubois (RWRD), Annette Duarte (RWRD), Barbara Escobar (RWRD), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Andrew Greenhill (Tucson Water), Jason Grodman (RWRD), Melaine Halash (RWRD), Jodi Hoskinson (Jacobs Engineering), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Amy Katzenmeyer (RWRD), Veronica Lopez (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Sarah Metz (FRMD), Mead Mier (PAG), Richard Miranda (RWRD), Jeannette Montano (RWRD), Jeff Prevatt (RWRD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Chris Straub (PCAO), Caroline Vargus (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**

Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD, reminded everyone of Pima County's partnership with Emerge to support victims of domestic violence. Mr. Jenkins displayed a Pima County bumper sticker with [emergecenter.org](http://emergecenter.org) and urged everyone to share the website with anyone who may benefit.

**E. Approval of Minutes** – Meeting Minutes for September 24, 2020

**ACTION:** Ann Marie Wolf made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 24, 2020. Scott Oldendorph seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**F. Discussion/Action**

**1. Open Meeting Law Presentation**

Chris Straub, Deputy County Attorney, Pima County Attorney's Office, gave a presentation on the Open Meeting Law and emphasized the purpose is to build transparency and trust. Mr. Straub provided an overview of the Open Meeting Law and discussed the requirements for remaining in compliance.

Armando Membrila requested clarification on ratifying the meeting minutes if there is a violation of the Open Meeting Law. Mr. Straub emphasized that if there is a violation of the Open Meeting Law and the minutes are ratified, the meeting minutes would have to be posted and approved again.

Mr. Jenkins asked if there has been any recent history of any Pima County committees or Board of Supervisors violating the Open Meeting Law. Mr. Straub replied the people are cognizant of the Open Meeting Law and to his recollection; there has been no violations in recent history.

## **2. Director's Report**

Mr. Jenkins updated the committee on RWRD's staffing, absenteeism, and annual performance appraisals. Mr. Jenkins noted the COVID-19 pandemic has caused some challenges in personnel and operations.

## **3. 2019 Effluent Generation and User Report Presentation**

James Brown, Permit & Regulatory Compliance Officer, RWRD, presented the 2019 Effluent Generation and User Report. Mr. Brown explained the purpose of the report is to keep the public apprised of the 2003 Wheeling Intergovernmental Agreement, which requires annual accounting for Pima County's effluent entitlement use and resource management. Reports from 2016 to current are available for review on the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation website.

Mark Taylor asked about recharge credits beyond the County line. Mr. Brown explained in the past, the water that passed into Pinal County was not included, but now, the water is either seeping into the ground or is being reclaimed by the City of Tucson.

## **4. Odor Control Program Presentation**

Jaime Rivera, Deputy Director, RWRD, gave a presentation on the Odor Control Program. Mr. Rivera explained odor complaints increase during the warmest times of the year and the odorous compounds can lead to corrosion and damage to equipment and infrastructure. Mr. Rivera also explained the different remedies the Conveyance Division uses to address the sewer odors and the personnel and organizational tasks. Future projects for the Odor Control Program will include replacing all Granulated Active Carbon Units with biofilters, the use of Thioguard Central Dosing Units (CDUs) on major interceptors, to fine-tune the chemical dosage of all CDUs, and eliminate the need for existing chlorine sites and reduce the load on biofilters.

Mr. Taylor asked if all chlorine sites will be eliminated and going to Thioguard or will some places continue to use chlorine. Mr. Rivera answered yes; the intent is to get rid of the chlorine sites because Thioguard is a safer chemical.

Claire Zucker asked if there any patterns to where the odor complaints exist based on the new reports. Mr. Rivera explained most of the complaints are around the interceptors and staff is trying to determine if there is a pattern area that needs to be concentrated on; however, a pattern has not been identified.

## **5. CIP Subcommittee Report**

The RWRAC CIP Subcommittee will be scheduling a meeting for early December.

**6. Financial Sub-Committee Report**

There were no updates to report.

**7. 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 3 projections is at \$161.1 million for the Operations and Maintenance budget. Projections for the operating expenses are at \$82.3 million. Total revenues is budgeted at \$186.3 million.

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

Mr. Taylor stated CWAC met October 7, 2020. Mr. Taylor stated Deputy Water Director Sylvia Amparano gave an overview of Mayor and Council items and department updates. Other topics of discussion were the Preannexation Developments Agreement and an overview presentation of the Water Service Area Policy. CWAC's next meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

**9. Election of Officers**

Mr. Membrila announced nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Mr. Membrila thanked Ms. Marron and Vice-Chair Matt Matthewson for their leadership.

**ACTION:** Armando Membrila made a motion to nominate Scott Oldendorph as the RWRAC Chair and Claire Zucker as the RWRAC Vice-Chair for Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Matt Matthewson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**G. Future Agenda Items**

- Town of Sahuarita Growth Planning
- PFAS Studies Presentation
- Presentation by Dr. Michael Bogan on Ecology impact along the Santa Cruz River

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

**I. Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.