

REGIONAL WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RWRAC) MEETING

Water Campus

2955 W. Calle Agua Nueva – Radon Conference Room

Thursday, October 24, 2019

8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Steve Foley, Rob Kulakofsky, Matt Matthewson, Armando Membrila, Scott Oldendorph, Asia Philbin, Ann Marie Wolf, Claire Zucker

Members Absent: Bill Katzel, John Lynch, Corin Marron, Jean McLain, Mark Taylor

Others Present:

Mandy Armenta (FRMD), David Badger (RWRD), Marla Berry (RWRD), Adam Bliven (RWRD), Isai Centeno (FRMD), Jennifer Coyle (RWRD), Jim Dettmer (Carollo Engineers), Mike Gerstenberger (RWRD), Mirela Hromatka (RWRD), Jackson Jenkins (RWRD), Julie McWilliams (RWRD), Pete Mulvey (RWRD), Xavier Rendon (FRMD), Jaime Rivera (RWRD), Lisa Starks (RWRD), Erika Swan (RWRD), Tim Thomure (Tucson Water), Mary Valencic (RWRD), Caroline Vargas (RWRD)

A. Call to Order / Roll Call

Matt Matthewson, Vice-Chair, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC), called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Jennifer Coyle, Special Assistant to the Director, 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, RWRAC Member, reminded everyone to be aware of not only winter visitors on the roadways, but local residents as well. Rob Kulakofsky, RWRAC Member, reminded everyone to be cognizant of children and adults in roadways during Halloween festivities.

E. Approval of Minutes - Meeting Minutes for September 26, 2019

ACTION: Ann Marie Wolf made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 26, 2019. Rob Kulakofsky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Discussion/Action

1. Director's Report – Jackson Jenkins, Director, RWRD

Jackson Jenkins shared the "Top Project" award received by the CIP Group. The Award was for the Sabino Creek Pump Station and was awarded by the *Water & Wastes Digest*. A decline in the RWRAC meeting

attendance was brought to attention. All members were reminded to R.S.V.P. each month and to attend meetings when possible. A phone-in counts towards quorum if a member cannot physically be present.

a. ADOT Interstate 10 / Ruthraff Rd Project Update

Construction is slated to begin early 2020 and will be a two year process. If the RWRAC Committee prefers to change location once construction begins, a group decision can be made to change the meeting location. Mr. Jenkins asks member to please let RWRD know if they wish to do so.

b. FY 2020/21 Budget Preparation

The FY 2020/21 budget is in progress. More budget issues are to be discussed at future Sub-Committee Meetings and in the coming months.

c. Fiscal Year 2018/19: By The Numbers Report

This report was distributed and can be found at www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation.

d. Annual Safety Training and Annual Management Workshop

The management meeting this year focused on emotional intelligence. All management positions were required to read *Emotional Intelligence 2.0*.

e. Living River Report

A Living River was published in partnership with the Sonoran Institute. The report highlights the impact of RWRD's effluent and the benefits for the ecosystem. This report was distributed and can be found at www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation.

f. Tucson Water - Water Line Break Update

An invoice has been sent to the City of Tucson regarding a break that occurred in September. RWRD was required to make emergency repairs on the sewer line as a result of damage caused by the water line break.

g. SOS Program - Potential Water Usage Limitations

Mr. Jenkins shared a recent instance where someone was found to be taking advantage of the SOS Program (A low income assistance program). This customer had extremely high water usage and the department is now looking into the possibility of placing a usage threshold for the discount. RWRD has been talking with Tucson Water regarding this matter and collecting data from various sources. Mr. Jenkins asked for thoughts from the RWRAC members. Several members voiced options. There will be more discussion on the issue in the future if the department decides to implement limits.

2. Long Range Planning – Mirela Hromatka, Planner-Senior, RWRD

Mirela Hromatka gave a presentation regarding long range planning for capacity. Projects under design, projects under construction and the planning of future projects were all highlighted.

3. Odor Control Program Update – Jaime Rivera, Deputy Director, RWRD

Jaime Rivera updated the committee on the Conveyance Division's Odor Control Program. He explained how sewer odors occur and why there is a need to control these odors. The different ways RWRD addresses these odors were also discussed.

4. **CIP Sub-Committee Report** – *Matt Matthewson, RWRAC CIP Sub-Committee Chair*

There has been no recent activity with the CIP Sub-Committee. A meeting will likely be set for early December. Jackson Jenkins stated that typically the committee has focused on the five year outlook, but we will also be looking ten years ahead to stay in sync with the Pima County's Integrated Infrastructure Plan 2019-2029.

5. **Financial Sub-Committee Report** – *John Lynch, RWRAC Financial Sub-Committee Chair*

There has been no recent activity with the Financial Sub-Committee.

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. After Period 3, Finance is projecting \$82.3 million with a savings of \$1.1 million. The overall budget is \$160.3 million with \$158.8 million projected. The revenue budget is \$182.4 million. For this current fiscal year, \$183.8 million is projected, with an overage of \$1.4 million in revenue. Projections are likely to change as they are refined throughout the fiscal year.

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

Tim Thomure, Director, Tucson Water, stated the CWAC met on October 2nd 2019. The main topic of discussion at the CWAC meeting was the 2019 year-end financials for Tucson Water. Water usage continues to decline, but the rate of decline has decreased. Tucson Water's total 2019 budget was \$235.4 million, actuals were \$233 million. Tucson Water is currently working on the budget for next year. It is likely that Tucson Water will be looking at future rate increase, details still unknown.

G. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Due to the holidays, November's RWRAC Meeting will be held on November 21, 2019. December's Meeting will be held on December 19, 2019.

H. Future Agenda Items

November and December items will follow the current Work Plan as scheduled. A draft of the 2020 Work Plan will be distributed at the next meeting.

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

J. Adjournment

ACTION: Rob Kulakofsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Marie Wolf seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.